THE PROBLEMS FACING SUDANESE WOMEN REFUGEES IN MIREYI REFUGEE CAMP IN ADJUMANI DISTRICT AND THEIR COPING MECHANISMS

CHOL JACOB GARANG

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SUPERVISOR: PROFESSOR MURINDWA RUTANGA

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NOVEMBER 2018
DECLARATION

I, Chol Jacob Garang Reg. No. 2015/HD03/2734X declare that this is my work and that it has never been submitted to any institution of learning for any academic award.

Sign: ..........................................................

CHOL JACOB GARANG

Date: ..........................................................
APPROVAL

This research paper was written under my supervision and it is for examination with my approval.

Signed: [Signature]

PROFESSOR RUTANGA MURINDWA

Date: 5th November 2018
DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my Father Colonel Gayo Garang Chol and his wife Mrs. Mary Adit Kwir Atem for molding me to what I am today.
ACKNOWLEDGMENT/S

My appreciation goes to my supervisor Professor Murindwa Rutanga for all the guidance he rendered to me while carrying out this research work.

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May the Almighty reward the endeavors of all those who have rendered relevant assistance to me.
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<td>191998LA</td>
<td>the 1998 Land Act</td>
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<td>CRMs</td>
<td>Conflict Resolution Mechanisms</td>
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<td>DEC</td>
<td>District Executive Committee</td>
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<td>DLB</td>
<td>District Land Board</td>
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<td>KM</td>
<td>Kilometer</td>
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<td>LCs</td>
<td>Local Councils</td>
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<td>LG</td>
<td>Local Government</td>
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<td>LG Act</td>
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<td>LSSP</td>
<td>Land Sector Strategic Plan</td>
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<td>MLHUD</td>
<td>Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development</td>
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<td>NPHC</td>
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<td>National Resistance Movement</td>
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<td>OED</td>
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<td>PSCP</td>
<td>Private Sector Competitiveness Project</td>
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<td>RA</td>
<td>Resistance Army</td>
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<td>SC</td>
<td>Sub County</td>
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<td>T/C</td>
<td>Town Council</td>
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<td>UBOS</td>
<td>Uganda Bureau of Statistics</td>
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<td>UCU</td>
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ABSTRACT

This paper examines problems facing women refugees in Mireyi camp, in Adjumani district, of Uganda. The research purpose was to assess the various refugees’ ways of life in the refugee camps around Adjumani District, and the problems facing women. Coping mechanism of women refugees in Mireyi camp to be exact. The main argument is specifically about women refugees’ way of life in the camp and how women managed miserable camp life in Mireyi with in an unequal ratio: to household members. This research interrogates the various causes of camp fights amongst the different social groups. It also, explores other focus fields of the literature such as resolution mechanisms such as the local conflict resolutions and punishing demeanors in regards to their judicial systems commonly adapted in the district, the institutions of local council administration and management, their composition, role could sentence wrong doers to short term imprisonments. The analysis explores that refugees are soft targets by the criminals in Adjumani district. Robbing refugees with their food stuff is such a big problem that makes headlines in Mireyi camp in early July 2017. I mean local people (Madi) are the major suppliers of cereal maize to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR) and some citizens described it as “Abricaako” literally meaning that hunger has not yet reached our village therefore taking back what belongs to us is the order of the day. Refugees though have various negative impacts, effects inflicted on the specific hosting communities, and the end to the means is poverty and witchcraft overshadowed on the other counterparts because of hatred upon land conflicts thus interventions have been adapted through both central and local government and the land committees at respective levels appointed by the honorable district Member of Parliament General Moses Ali to resolve conflicts between the refugees and the local people.
SECTION ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Uganda is one of the East African countries in hosting a huge number of refugee. These are mainly from Ethiopia and Eritrea. Refugee crisis in the world and the concept of migration has been the problem in the past. While increased population density and demand for land can set in motion a virtuous cycle of increasingly precise conflict and forceful migration would come in. Forced migration is not a new phenomenon on the African continent but is probably as old as Human history Mushemeza (2007). Pre-colonial Africa is rich with examples of the rise and fall of empires, states and principalities, these events in history forced people to move from their original homelands to seek refuge elsewhere.

Similarly definition of property rights, investment, growth, and productivity-enhancing exchange of land, failure to respond with the appropriate institutional innovations can lead to a downward spiral of conflict and strife over a rapidly shrinking overall full war.

Land is increasingly becoming a source of conflicts and cause of refugees in Africa, where land access, acquisition, and usage had historically been through clearing of bush and forests, inheritance, gifting, bequeathing, exchange and borrowing in countries such as Libya Chad and South Sudan to mention but just few. These have rapidly been eroded by uncontrolled rapid population growth and explosion which is following the new capitalist system that was imported by the British colonialists.

They have been replaced by land sales and purchases of land settlements and various forms of displacements, land renting, and land trespass and grabbing, state allocation/distributions to individuals, etc. These have in turn given rise to varied land conflicts which had
traditionally been characterized as relatively egalitarian. It has been shown that local land conflicts can erupt into large-scale civil strife and political movements (Andre and Plateau, 1998; Fred-Mensah, 1999; Daudelin, 2002).

Some underlying factors, that may lead to mass movement of citizens to cross borders are factors such as population pressure, agricultural commercialization, and urbanization, have contributed to the increasing number of land conflicts, and the current land tenure systems in Africa may not be well-equipped to resolve such conflicts (Cotula, Toulmin, and Hesse, 2004; van Donge, 1999).

In many African countries, formal institutions for land administration were often simply superimposed on traditional structures without a clear delineation of responsibilities and competencies, implying that they lacked both outreach and social legitimacy (Deininger, 2003).

Despite the increasing incidences of conflicts as major cause of social conflicts also, previous studies on refugees and women refugees coping mechanism in particular have been limited to some specific incidences that are related to large-scale civil strife or politically motivated conflicts in the camps such as Nyimazi, Aleere and Miireyi camps in northern Uganda. A recent study in northern Uganda, however, shows that rural households experience small-scale land conflicts with relatives, neighbors, landlords, or local governments, simply because of refugees land settlements on local people’s land and that such small-scale conflicts may have significant impacts on their agricultural productivity (Deininger and Castagnini, 2005).

The purpose of this study, therefore, is to assess the women coping mechanism in the refugee camps mentioned above in the Republic of Uganda. Prevalence of refugee influxes in to Uganda from the neighboring countries such as Rwanda, Democratic Republic or (DRC) of the Congo, South Sudan.
Land conflicts, examine who suffers from such conflicts, and measure the impacts of refugees in relation to land conflicts on farm input application in Adjumani district. The study further lays emphasis on the various land administrative institutions ranging from the Ugandalands commission to the village councils, their roles, powers and shortcomings while executing their duties to controlling refugees land trespasses.

1.2 Refugees settlement camps in Uganda

South Sudanese women refugees in the camps of Miireyi, Aleere, Agoo, Olwa, Nyamazi in Adjumani district are the corridor camps in Adjumani. Women are much more affected in term of living coping mechanism of refuges and more especially women are much more affected then their counterpart’s men. The most important generator of refugees on pre-colonial Africa was the slave trade raids and kidnappings before the slavery unleashed mass displacement and movement of millions of Africans, especially from west central and east Africa E.D Mushemeza 2007. This mass exodus was due to displacement.
SECTION TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The problem facing women in the camp needs theoretical underpinning. Therefore major exponents of refugee and land conflicts can erupt into large-scale civil strife and violence (Andre and Plateau 1998), especially if “political entrepreneurs” capitalize on the underlying grievances to further their cause (Fred-Mensah 1999, Daudelin 2002).

2.1 Theoretical perspectives

Conflict theories guided by Masiko (2009). The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for fifty nine years ago has massive and sustained crises and conflicts worldwide since its inception throughout it has played a lead role in assisting refugees. Deningner and Castagnini (2004) in a four-region survey, argue that there is weak evidence that ethnicity is the major cause of conflicts and wars are more frequent on sub-Saharan Africa and less prevalent in the developed countries, even though it is evident that the number of households affected by land-related conflicts is between 2.5% and 5% of households.

In Adjumani district the number of the indigenous people affected though is less. This study found that lands under customary tenure are significantly less likely to be affected by dispute; their probability of having conflict was 11% lower than that of ethnic war otherwise.

Other studies have shown that conflicts regarding property rights, access rights, and use of resources, have a higher incidence among communal tenure households than among individualized tenure (Rugadya, 2009).
An initial exploration study on oil discovery in the Albertine Graben (Rugadya and Kamusiime, 2009), drew a clear dual linkage, cause of new conflicts and exacerbating existing conflict between oil discovery and land conflicts in the study district, is identified, although all conflicts are still in incubation stage and are manifested as tensions, discontent and unrest.

2.2 Refuges settlement and government policies regarding refugees in Uganda

The host countries has mandate to guiding both UNCR and land settlement to prevent conflict between the locals and the foreigners. Henry Masiko (2008) in 1986, the political situation in Uganda changed after the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government assumed power.

NRM pursued a policy of repatriation of all the Ugandans who were living as refugees on the neighboring countries.

Despite obstacles posed by a post colonial legacy of neglect at all levels, Uganda has been working strategically to overcome many of the obstacles constraining the repatriation, land sector by undertaking to implement a comprehensive Land Sector Strategic Plan (LSSP) for safe resettlement.

At the core of the LSSP is a search for greater efficiency in a decentralized land administration system and the desire to improve market access and related benefits in Uganda. The first major initiative to implement the LSSP is a pragmatic revision of the existing land policy environment and the drafting of a new National refugee Policy by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).

This process which started in 1987 is still continuing in hosting South Sudanese in northern Uganda. The exercise has not only provided a forum for discussing issues pertaining to land
rights, but is attempting to shift policy emphasis towards land access by the women refugees and development.

The second motivation derives from the Government’s resolve to modernize the land administration infrastructure by supporting the development of a parcel based land information system through the Land Component of the Second Private Sector Competitiveness Project (PSCP II).

Initiated in 2006 with funding from the World Bank, this project is designed to improve access to land and real estate through secure property rights, backed by reliable land information and permitting processes.

This paper draws extensively from these two ongoing LSSP events to identify and evaluate measures to improve land access by foreigners or political refugees in Uganda.

The link between resource scarcity and violent conflict is not a recent phenomenon. According to evolutionary perspectives of conflict, violent encounters and attendant deaths or subtractions are inevitable, a means of redressing imbalance between human populations and their resource base.

Thomas Malthus’s Gloony predictions about the fate of growing human populations in a future physical world originated more than two centuries ago and has since undergone endless revision and reinterpretation, especially from the 1960’s onwards Forrester, (1971), Maedows et al, (1972).

Therefore, the peace and unity that has been restored in Uganda today, originating from the 1986 succession to power of the National Resistance Army (NRA) under HIS Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, a new form of conflict rotating around the struggle to access and
control land resources is rapidly rising not only in Adjumani District between the local residence and the refugees but in the entire country.

Such conflicts like anywhere else in Africa, Asia, America, Europe and the world at large are attributed to the ever increasing population that surpasses the maximum amount of individuals the natural resources including land and water can sustain effectively.

The hope for the return of peace in land access by Ugandans however is enshrined in a number of legally and formally appreciated land administration and management institutions both governmental (at both national and local government levels) and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Among others include the 2016 land inquiry commission that was established by the president of Uganda. The commission is headed by Justice Bamugemereirwe.

This seven-member commission of inquiry was to investigate the effectiveness of the Law, policies and processes of Land Acquisition by the foreigners and local landless, Land Administration, land management and land registration in Uganda.

Such pressure on land has resulted into encroachment of citizens on government reserved land such as forests, game parks and wetlands; this in a long run has a great impact on the Eco systems and its whole cycle.

It has also lead to an increase in physical clashes among various land users such as refugees versus indigenous people, tenants versus tenants, tenants versus land lords, and land lords versus land lords.

By 16th of august 2011, total cases in Northern Uganda had risen to 60% (August, 16 the Independent).
This is closely the case in most regions of the country and including the west. Among others population pressure has been attributed to the insurgency.

A lot though not enough has been put in place including the establishment of the land management and administration institutions such as the District Land Boards on top of the legal framework enshrined in the 1995 Uganda constitution.

The land insurgency continues to spread that the status quo established by the situation is said to eat up the whole nation to conflicts which may affect women refugees to access land to grow vegetables and maize crops.

2.3 Women way of life, coping mechanism and their major problem facing them in Miireyi camp

South Sudanese women life in Miireyi camp is worst then men simply because all care is being left to mothers and little work for men who always spent their hard earned cash on local beers or (Malwa).

Irrespective of the effort put in place through the establishment of various institutions, and, the family conflict insurgency continues to rise and spread throughout the camp.

Various vulnerable categories including women, orphans, widows and female headed families continue to pay the price and suffer the consequence of brutal deaths, physical damage and evacuation from their territories of men’s mistreatment.

It is for such reasons that the essay intends to examine the nature of various women’s refugees coping mechanism in the camps: A case study of Miireyi, their causes and resolution mechanisms.
This review aims to investigate the Sudanese women refugees coping mechanism in refugees camps: A case study of Miireyi camp in Adjumani district.

Analyze the nature of women refugee coping mechanism in the camp in Adjumani District.

Explore the causes of women suffering in Miireyi camp in Adjumani district.

To examine the possible to women problems in the camps and resolution mechanisms in Adjumani district.

The impact of refugee’s presence in northern Uganda and Adjumani district in particular.

Geographically, Adjumani district is found in the West Nile region of Uganda. It includes the district size in square miles, relief of the area, population, socio-economic activities, and types of rain received, climate experienced, drainage and boundaries.

The refugee types, their rights, laws, policies and processes of accepting a refugee, administration management and registration, the legal and policy framework of foreign and refugee land acquisition, disputes overland, their causes, effects and the proposed solutions and other forms of recommendation.

2.4 Historical facts about Sudanese refugees

The period Between 1965-1972 Adis-ababba peace agreement these eras, the time span of crises in Sudan between the first Anya-nya one and Khartoum government started, reports of various studies have shown that the population has almost doubled in south Sudan.

It is a period that maximum pressure has been exerted on to oil fields in south Sudan leading to massive displacement in Bentiu and Abyeie and other natural resources that South Sudanese cannot live peacefully without disputes over the access and management of such resources unless the remedies in place are utilized and shared equally.
Except for knowledge production, the essay aims at how best refugees can live without taking away the land of the bonafide owners.

The study shall be of usefulness to refuges researchers and other users that it shall provide them with proper conflict mechanisms and elaborate their knowledge.

Among other institutions of management the research shall help the UNHCR on how to go about well caring of the refuges through policies and regulations.

2.5 United Nations articulations on refugees

This research reviews the literature that has been written concerning the presence of refugees in Africa and Uganda specifically.

It composes the various institutions that support refugees, management and administration, forms of institutions, general causes of refugee in Africa, conflict and coping mechanisms of women in refugee camps.

2.6 Contextual meaning of refugee

According to the United Nations (UN) Convention on the status of Refugees (1951), a refugee is any person who, owing to a well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of the nationality and is unable or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself to the persecution of that country Wawa (2016).

Asking what a refugee is may seem like an odd and an unnecessary place to start. What could be more concrete and obvious than the ground beneath our feel?

Oxford English dictionary’s definition of a refugee is the person fleeing his country forcefully to cross to another country territory.
According to Mushemeza, (2007), there is something peculiarly abstract about when you stop to think about it if you mere to remove all the ethnicity, political propaganda, you would still have a couples of refugee causes though rather less productive and of rather lower elevation.

Before discussing the case of Uganda as the major refugees host country in East Africa.

In more detail, it will be useful to put a refugee into a broader context of increasing land conflict and values and scarcity, and to identify some of the factors in African continent. Property rights to land are not static but constitute a social construct that responds to broader needs and evolves over time (Sjaastad and Bromley, 2000).

Therefore, boundaries may, at low levels of population density, be defined only loosely, transfers will normally involve only usufruct and not ownership and often be confined to community members, thereby allowing much of the refugees to enter and associated transactions to be defined informally by unwritten “custom”.

Changing economic and social conditions because they import their cultures into the host country that make idle land more valuable and increase the benefits to be obtained from land transfers imply that the value of attributes which have previously been left undelineated may increases sufficiently to offset the transaction costs associated with more precise delineation of land rights (Barzel 2000).

A key variable that underlies the need for better definition of property rights to land is population growth.

Rapid population growth, combined with either limited opportunities for non-agricultural employment or, in other areas, increasing non-agricultural demand for land, is
a key factor that causes foreigners to wrangle over land values, resulting in higher competition for a limited or decreasing amount of land available.

This often leads to conflict across generations or ethnic groups, especially in environments where risk is high and land is a key asset and source of livelihood (Zongo, 2002).

If institutions to define and enforce property rights to land in a way that provides the security needed for higher levels of investment and exchange do not emerge.

There is considerable scope for increased levels of conflict that will not only undermine private investment but can also lead to dissipation of rents, destruction of assets, and social instability (Grossman and Mendoza 1998).

The limited outreach of formal institutions is particularly detrimental for marginal populations who generally do not have the resources that would be needed to secure their property rights through alternative means (Kevane and Gray, 1999).

In fact, well-intentioned interventions to improve land tenure may unintentionally have increased conflict and social polarization instead of providing the basis for sustained growth (Atwood, 1990; Pinckney and Kimuyu, 1994; Platteau, 2000).

Even though many African land tenure systems are characterized by very egalitarian land access within any given group, refugees have rights to lease land and do subsistence farming the relative endowments of different groups, as defined on the basis of ethnicity or gender, can differ sharply from each other.

If land values increase in an environment where access to land across groups is highly unequal or governed by other factors such as ethnicity, it can give rise to conflicts that run along ethnic lines and spread to areas completely unrelated to land.
For example, if, as in much of West Africa, the descendants of migrants can be easily identified as “outsiders”, increased land values provide a strong incentive for “locals” to renege on earlier sales contracts.

In the case of Cote d’Ivoire, land access is interlinked with questions of nationality and the ability of only nationals to own land but land does not belong to outsiders or refugees, which can give rise to conflicts that extend far beyond the area of land (Lavigne Delville et al., 2002).

In Rwanda, where extreme land scarcity coincided with accumulation of land by individuals with access to non-agricultural incomes, this has led to land conflict being one of the principal reasons for refugees in Africa and that finally fed into the outbreak of civil war in 1994 (Andre and Plateau 1998).

Although the consequences may be less noticed by the outside world, similar tensions and clan- or ethnically-based conflicts with devastating consequences for those involved, which are often the poorest of the poor, tend to arise at the boundary between herders and sedentary agriculturalists (Van den Brink et al., 1995; Ngaido and McCarthy, 2002).

Many if not most traditional African land tenure systems put women at a strong disadvantage as far as access to and control of land as well as secure land tenure are concerned.

In view of this, the gender-dimension of inequality in land access is increasingly emerging as a key issue in many countries.

It is of particular importance in view of evidence suggesting that independent asset ownership can considerably improve women’s bargaining power (Schultz, 1999).

A second area of concern relates to widows and in view of the fact that, under customary law, women have no land rights on their own but are instead to be taken care of by the deceased’s
kin, something that could imply considerable insecurity of land ownership by this group. Conflict over land is particularly likely if speculative land acquisition is fuelled by non-agricultural incomes or jeopardizes the function of land as a social safety net and provision for old-age (Lavigne Delville, 2000).

The socially corrosive and economically deleterious impact of land conflicts on governance at the local level has been described for Malawi (van Donge, 1999) as well as Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana (Amanor and Diderutua, 2001, Kasanga and Kotey, 2001). The literature also demonstrates that even apparently trivial land conflicts can be kept alive for generations and may suddenly erupt in seemingly unmotivated acts of possibly ethnically motivated violence and finally forceful exodus (Kuran, 1993; Fred-Mensah, 1999).

To justify action by policy makers, it is necessary to go beyond descriptive evidence and try to quantify the impact of this phenomenon.

Surprisingly, even though many studies deal with causes and consequences of land conflict at a descriptive level, we know of no aiming to quantitatively explore this issue or to explicitly explore whether policy interventions have reduced or increased the level of conflict which is the main reason people cross borders and seek refuge like the case or the Sudanese, Rwandans in Uganda land.

Refugees and land wrangles therefore are the sub-section of this study so for the case of Uganda is the host country and job well done according 1951 UN Convention.

2.7 The Ugandan context regarding refugees land settlements

Uganda is an interesting case to assess the land conflict because of the presence of many of the economic and institutional factors which, according to the literature, provide a basis for
the emergence of land conflicts and because of recent efforts to establish a new legal framework to reduce such conflicts.

While the country shares with other African countries a relatively high level of population growth of 2.9% (World Bank, 2015) that has led to increased land scarcity, it is also characterized by considerable regional diversity.

Population densities vary from 12 per km² in the North to 282 per km² in the West (Mugisha, 1998).

Elimination of many forms of implicit and explicit taxation of the agricultural sector in the early 1990s, together with comparatively high levels of economic growth in recent years that resulted in increased demand for land for non-agricultural uses, made productive use of land more rewarding and force locals to resist the refugee land allocation for resettlements (Blake et al. 2002).

2.8 Women coping mechanism in the refugee camp of Miireyi

This essay analyses the Sudanese women refugees coping mechanism in the camps; case study of Miireyi camp in Adumani District in Uganda.

Their conflict with the local people in West Nile, this is attributed to the ever rising population. It is very important to note that the causes of land conflicts are numerous, and the major reason to refugee problem in Africa, but their nature is largely systemic, meaning that they should be analyzed and addressed in a life mechanism context.

In this way, policy choices can be decided upon by including all stakeholders affected by the conflict.
2.9 Land conflict resolutions mechanisms

According to Zziwa, Kibombo, and Kamusiime (2003) there are 5 Disputes Resolution Mechanisms (DRMs) three of which are basically quasi judicial organs set up under the 1998LA in effort to bring the land sector services closer and more acceptable to the users. They operate at different levels and have been operating haphazardly due to limited logistical support.

None the less as is the ease in all societies, there are traditional avenues for regulating and arbitrating of social problems.

Hence the clans and their leaders or elders always play vital roles in many African societies particularly in the rural areas where the modern legal structures are physically inaccessible and far too expensive for the poor rural households and individuals.

The clan is hence a vital institution in many rural communities in Uganda and it forms the first level of dispute resolution.

In spite the clans’ importance in communities, clan councils have lost community respect and clout in most parts of the country including Moyo, Arua and Adjumani Districts.

Due to number of reasons, there are however a few ethnic groups which still operate within clan rules. In many of these communities; clan ethos is used as a means of oppressing women and the less advantaged (Zziwa, 1998).

The second level according to (Ziwa Kibombo and Kamusiime 2003) is that of the Local Council System which came into existence with the coming to power of the NRM regime in 1986.
These organs (LC courts) were given powers to arbitrate for all issues at the village level, however in matters of land disputes, their role is subject to judicial powers statute of 1988.

LCs therefore has been the lowest legislated quasi litigation entities, though very popular, their role as arbiters in land matters was halted in 1999 following the observation of the clash between the three arms of governance; Executive, Legislation and Judiciary.

However they were later reinstated as Quasi-judicial organs to fill the vacuum created by decentralizing land administration and management structure.

The third level is the magistrate courts, these are historically the lowest judicial courts. They were however stripped of the mandate to arbitrate in land matters and land allocation to the refugees settlement and given to the trusteeship of the Office of the Prime Minster or (OPM) and replaced by land tribunals in the 1998LA.

They never the less continued to handle land cases since land tribunals had not been fully operationalized at the time of the study.

However these courts are such hardly accessed by those facing land challenges due to the bureaucratic procedures, high costs and minimal public image and awareness.

Mediator who served as an alternative before proceeding to higher level of settlement, the mediator is expected to be a neutral individual, respected and commanding mutual interest for the concerned parties.

Their involvement is of a less form nature but with a tangible and probably an authenticated solution by those concerned. Note worthy is the fact that the mediator in avertedly replaces the traditional chief. (Zziwa, Kibombo, and Kamusiime (2003).
Therefore the refugee issue is the toughest uphill facing African population because of war, population pressure, and land conflicts as discussed above.

During the colonial era, the chief was made the key political figure in the immediate lowest administrative structure.

He also therefore assumed the arbitration role almost displacing the elders. The diet therefore forms the second level of arbitration in land matters.

In the operating land law, he is recognized as the “mediator” is can be any other civil individual of approved conduct and integrity.

The fifth level is that of the land tribunals. They have only been operational since 2001 (Zziwa, Kibombo, Kamusiime, 2003).

Conflict theory emphasizes interests, rather than norms and values, in conflict. The pursuit of interests generates various types of conflict.

Thus conflict is seen as a normal aspect of social life rather than an abnormal occurrence. Competition over resources is often the cause of conflict.

The three tenets of this theory are the following, Society is composed of different groups that compete for resources.

While societies may portray a sense of cooperation, a continual power struggle exists between social groups as they pursue their own interests.

Within societies, certain groups control specific resources and means of production. Social groups will use resources to their own advantage in the pursuit of their goals, this often means that those who lack control over resources will be taken advantage of.
As a result, many dominated groups will struggle with other groups in attempt to gain control. (http://www.wow.com/wiki/Social_conflict).

In relation to the theory’s assertions, Adjumani district in northern Uganda is a composition of varying groups including land lords, tenants, herders, farmers, and the government who must all use the available scarce land in pursuit of their goals and hence conflicts and struggles.
SECTION THREE

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATION

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research findings and their interpretation based on analysis and discussions of the researched data.

The chapter among others covers the analysis of the demographic and economic characteristics of the area of the research and, the historic, current and future perspectives of refugee settlements and residents of Adjumani district.

Land use patterns, nature of refugees and the litigation processes as well as the opinion of the locals of Adumani citizenry as the major basic variables that were researched upon.

Adumani district is located in northern part of Uganda. It boarders with Amuru District in the South, Nebi District in the west, Moyo and Yumbe districts in the North.

Adjumani became a District in 2016 when it was curved out of Amuru and Moyo districts. Laropi County was part of Moyo district, then Ziapi and Pakele counties were part of Amuru district. Later, Arinyapi Sub County became part of Atiak in Amuru district in 2006.

The district is now composed of 3 divisions, 5 sub counties, 1 town council, 10 parishes and 46 villages.

The population of Adjumani District in 2005 was 179,987 with an annual population growth rate of 0.9% compared to the national one of 3.2%, the district had a relatively low growth rate which was attributed to migration to other districts and the progressive return of the Sudanese beginning in 1994.
The population density then was 110 persons per square kilometer, 95% of the population was living in the rural areas, Average household size was 7 persons, 20% of the households were headed by females and 51.1% of the population was below the age of 18 years.

3.2 Historical Background of Adjumani

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The district forms part of the plateau whereby the physiographic area is characterized by highlands, flatlands and valleys with underlying rocks.

The District is deeply incised in some areas within the rift ward drainage.
The rise from the West Nile Region to the Northern parts represents a long and continued deformation of the plateau by warping.

This area has been dissected by rejuvenated drainage on gently undulating surface.

The District forms part of the plateaus whereby the physiographic area is characterized by Highlands, Flat lands and Valleys with underlying impervious rocks.

The District is deeply incised in some areas within the rift ward drainage, the rise from the central region in the western parts represents along and continued deformation of the plateau by warping.

Adjumani district lies in the Madi people of Uganda Climatic Zone, the rainfall received is mainly convectional and averages about 500m per annum.

There are two rainfall regimes which are associated with the equatorial trough, one season begins in March to May and the other in August to November which is the largest.

Two dry seasons occur, with a pronounced one in June-July and a less severe one often interrupted by scattered showers between December and April.

Attributed to increasing environmental degradation, the trend has significant implications for current farming practices undertaken in Adjumani district.

The district experiences a mean annual temperature of 27oc and mean annual minimum of 15.5oc. High temperatures are recorded in the months of January - April which are the months that correspond to dry spells.

Adjumani is located in the semi-arid stretch of the Madi people dry corridor, this belt experiences a little pattern of rainfall compared to the central region of Uganda.
However in recent period, Adjumani District experienced severe drought, and the rainfall pattern has been complicated as it has received a uni-modal type of rain fall that ranges from on average 400-700 millimeters.

Two dry seasons occur with the more pronounced ones in September and November.

The relative humidity ranges from 91%-85% in the morning and decreases to 70%-55% in the afternoon depending on the time of the year and other weather conditions occurring at that particular time.

There is an average of 8 hours of sunshine daily, maximum hours occur in June reaching 6 hours that in turn induces high evaporation.

Relative humidity ranges between 60-80 percent in the morning and decreases to between 61 percent and 66 percent in the afternoons during the months of January and May.

Madi soils are varied in nature and are influenced by a number of factors such as parent rock, age of formation and climate especially the amount of moisture and its fluctuations during the process of weathering.

These soils belong to Madi Amba system, they are indeed very old and are in their last stages of development with very little mineral reserves left.

Their productivity, therefore, depends on the nutrient recycling propagated by the vegetation cover and its rooting system and are generally classified as soils of low to medium productivity; supporting few perennial crops like coffee, bananas and other annual crops where they are low in productivity.

The major activity is Agriculture, pastoralism predominated in Ziapi Sub County. Dominant soil types are reddish clay loams, shallow, dark-brown, sandy loams, yellowish red clay
loams, podsolised black sandy loams, stony loams and sandy to plastic clays which are hydromorphic, derived from the weathering sand stones and quartzite, granites and hydroorphic/alluvial soils in areas under permanent water logged or impeded drainage conditions.

Adjumani district is endowed with a wide variety of soil types. There are 5 main soil types as indicated in the table below.

However, soil types rarely correspond with sub-county boundaries hence one Sub County often has several different soil types. Appendix 2 contains a map indicating the different soil types.

3.3 Water for refugees usage

The district is well endowed with water resources and has reliable underground aquifers which have a potential for providing water for human consumption and agricultural use though sustainability is being cast in doubt due to greater demands, partly due to population growth because of refugee influx partly due to more modern activities which require more water.

The amount of water sources which can be protected is nearing capacity resulting in some protected water supplies drying for part of the year.

Rain water harvesting and other water conservation techniques are necessary must to sustain water recharge cycle in the wake of increasing temperature rise and rainfall reduction.

The more pronounced natural water resources in the District include:-river Nile, there are two main rivers in Adjumani district –river laropi and river Nile at the boundary of Moyo.

The district has two minerals, the known ones include Tin and Cobalt deposits in Olwa and Alere.
The vegetation of Adjumani district can be broadly classified into types namely, grassland savannah, wooded savannah, moist Acacia savannah, Swamps and planted/cultivated vegetation.

The most dominant of these is grassland savannah used for livestock grazing, wooded Savannah mainly in Arinyapi and Bibia sub counties is fast disappearing due to charcoal burning.

There is increasing loss of biodiversity especially on hill areas due to bush burning, overgrazing and wetland conversion, cultivated vegetation includes coffee, fruit trees, cassava, and eucalyptus and pine tree.

3.4 Administrative Structure and camp commanders

The District is divided into three sub counties and with five rural Sub-counties, 1 Town Council and 2 Divisions.

The District constitutes of 10 parishes and 46 village councils, Arinyapi County covers most of the district area as it comprises of 6 villages, followed by Pakele County, which comprises of 3-counties and, then other counties.
SECTION FOUR

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

4.1 Introduction

Basing on the essay above, three quarters (¾) of the refugee international cases and deaths people migration as a result of the notion of land conflict probe given the cultural, social, economical and political trends in Africa today.

The research hence recommends for such peaceful and sustainable land use conflict resolution mechanisms.

The framework incorporates institutional arrangements such as emphasizing girl child education in the struggle to control the overwhelming population growth, mass sensitization on various land variables.

4.2 Birth control and family planning mechanisms

To curve the refugee cause of over population, according to UBOS statistics, the annual population growth between 2002 and 2014 was 2.11 percent.

The district had 379,987 persons in 2002 and 489,323 in 2014, the average household size is 4.7. About 87% of the district working population is subsistence farmers.

All these statistics show the risk at which the population is as far as land conflicts are concerned.

The government of Uganda should hence ensure such an effective birth control and family planning mechanisms the same birth control must be adopted by other countries such Chad, Sudan and South Sudan in Africa.
For example the Republic of China adopted certain policies such as the one that restricts parents from having more than a certain number of children such as three.

This can successfully be backed by awareness of the masses about the importance of a small or average family or household size vis-à-vis the dangers of a big population through holding radio and TV talk shows.

Because statistics show that 87% of the district population is rural, emphasis should be on providing education services.

Such services liberate the populations’ mind and can see them adopt birth control and family planning mechanisms such as using condoms, children staying in school and avoiding early marriages.

Such initiatives can when effected reduce the pressure exerted on the land resource and hence reduced refugees numbers in African continent.

**4.3 Enforcement of relevant land laws and regulation**

In the south western point of Adumani district lays Olwa County in the boarder of Nebbi district.

The description of the relief or the physical and geographical set up is identical to that of Nebbi characterized by highlands all over the place.

Generally, the relief is above 600m above the sea level. The county is not only the most mountainous but also among the most populated in the district.

The average altitude is so high is 600 meters above the sea level and this makes the available arable land so minimal to accommodate the ever increasing populated that grows at a rate of 2.11% annually.
The country also has the largest portion of the land reserved in form of government directives that protects governments land, that is to say hills and swamps.

More deserving laws and regulations such as the national environment hilly and mountainous areas management regulations, 2000 have not had a serious impact on such areas since their enactment.

The would be affected citizens by those regulations hardly know about refugee presence and their right to do farming, because of the minimal and sometimes zero levels of formal education attained.

It would rather be these regulations regularly barked by a series of serious monitoring and follow-ups of the planned government activities by the extensional workers.

There is a call upon the local government extensional workers at both high and lower local government levels to publicize such regulations through talk shows on radios and village meetings.

A public opinion is also needful through which the locals are collectively requested to raise their views on the subject of land resource utilization in the hilly areas, this can be through a referendum.

4.4 Enforcing formal educational and specifically the girl child education in the refugee camps

The education process seems to be a serious remedy for the increasing poor living standards of women in refugee camps in Adjumani district and Uganda at large.

Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere among others outlined the importance of not merely formal education but training and informal education inclusive.
Education of a girl child is a huge barrier to early forceful and forceful marriages, early wanted and unwanted pregnancies and it reduces the production cycle of women.

Attainment of school fully from the lower primary level to vocational training and tertiary institutions such as university liberates the girl child’s mind, twists their attitudes towards development programs unlike an uneducated mind that would all the time think of children bearing which in the long run.

It exerts too much pressure on the land resource hence land conflict refugees are created, furthermore, an educated woman unlike the illiterate one spends most of her daily time at work and planning for the future, a very important aspect in reducing the total number of children a woman produces up to menopause.

Education in general ensures that the parties acquire and conceptualize land related uptimes for example through education people come to learn about the land law.

various land regulations, how to acquire their land tittles and certificates as well as the various land management and administration institutions, such as the district land board and land committee at the sub county level, their roles and how they can be accessed.

4.5 Land avocation to refuges in Adjumani district

Like it was adapted in Zimbabwe under President Robert Mugabe, Uganda’s land problem can also be mitigated if all the land is re-titled and managed under the control of the state as the ultimate owner of land.

Private ownership of land is totally out of control by local people that the biggest portion of land is owned by foreign and local capitalists who continue to encroach on to the little land left for the local.
This pushes them into fights they can’t in reality win, through power, various leaders both appointed and directly elected have proved the biggest descendants of opportunism.

Backed by financial and political power, the foreigners and those in authority respectively influence the land ownership patterns.

For example in this study, most informants from the sub county of Zaipi in Adumani district were able to accuse General Moses Ali the current member of parliament of Adjumani district and committee for grabbing both states’ and villagers’ land using his Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to forcefully give away locals people land to refuges and for refuges settlements.

In the process to rectify all these abnormalities in the land distribution patterns, the central government would appoint a right full land committee technical enough to survey all the land, title up all the land.

And guarantee the Ugandans over access, management and usage of land but not ownership. Those with large hectares can be fully compensated to avoid another fight between the capitalists and the state.

4.6 Sensitization of the masses about the land resource and its various variables

However much the biggest 95% of the land owners knows the major essence of land as that for socio-economic production, citizens in Adjumani district have less ideas about the various variables associated with land.

Knowledge about land tenure system and very few have ever heard about the land rights, this could be a serious contributor to the trending land conflicts in the district.
With an initiative by the central government in conjunction with the local government, the population should be sensitized about various land conflicts.

And variables such as the causes, and effects because they are inevitable, remedies present for the resolution of such conflicts, land laws and regulations, various land administration institutions, with a motive to reduce land conflicts.

Such an initiative could be implemented through workshops, village meetings, talk shows on radios and televisions as well as through education in schools.

4.7 Increased land productivity for the improvement of women living standards

With a reduced rural poverty, adequate food supply, reduced encroachment on conserved land such as swamps and hills in Pakele sub county.

Appropriate and authentic sustainable preservation technologies such as terracing, contour ploughing, and micro irrigation should not only be promoted but also the locals supported.

Such initiatives ensure an increased productivity of the minimal available arable land hence a diminished land conflict rate that is most characterized by boundary disputes in the deep villages.

Agro-forestry which is the concurrent growth of cops and trees could ensure an increased land productivity that is sustainable and long lasting.

Tree roots here play a massive role of keeping the soil particles intact which would not be the same in an open land exposed to erosion.

In addition to the continuous leaf drop that ignites decomposition, the deeper tree tap and other roots draw water and other essential minerals and components onto the topper layers for
easy absorption by shallow rooted crops, boosting harvest quantities and reducing land conflicts in the same vein.

The government should also ensure that the “bona fide” owners of arable land are availed with subsidies in form of improved breeds that are fast yielding, harsh condition resistant and heavy breeders.

Fertilizers both organic and inorganic should be an adopted strategy on top of herbicides.

Continuous guidance and supervision of the locals by the appointed local extensional workers such as the agricultural extensional workers should be emphasized.

All this ensures that the various people that fight over the fertile land are minimal since all the land available irrespective of its size can sustain its holders in terms of productivity.

4.8 Women Refugees Should Adopt Micro-Irrigation Schemes

a resident and peasant in Abiirichako village, Pakele Sub County, the area started experiencing extreme temperatures (drought) from early March up to mid September.

In this six months period, the locals’ crops including sisim, maize fields dried up leaving no traits of food in nearly the whole sub county.

This left only valleys and swamps as the only hope for a population of over 35000 in the sub county. The climate accelerated the rate of land conflict in the area.

According to Mr. Drici Odere the chairman of the land committee at the sub county level, in this period the rate of land related cases increased to four every day.

Odere further narrates that it was worsened when government released an order paper that required the locals to vacate swamps and valleys accusing them of causing long drought in the districts.
To him conservation was not a bad initiative but there was no any other hope left for them but die a hunger stricken death and the survivors fight for the little arable land available.

Micro irrigation schemes across the district could be costly for the state through local government projects but the loss of citizen’s everyday to consequences of hunger and land conflicts can cost a state like Uganda a fortune.

Successful projects such as the micro-water conservancy are applicable and successfully works in Biyaya and the same idea could be replicated to the hilly regions of Zaipi such Ariinyapi and Bibia.

Such works of micro-water conservancy include water harvesting ponds, pumping and sprinkler irrigation. Such an initiative would keep local peasant to their rightfully owned land and in the end minimize land conflicts with refuges the corridor of Adjumani district.

4.9 Revising the remuneration of all government workers employed in the land sector

For example including the local leaders such as the camps commanders, land committee members, and extensional workers on a pay roll.

Although they play such as huge role as far as land conflicts are concerned, such local council leaders as those on the land committee at the sub county level are not inclusive on government’s pay roll and neither are there any allowances for their job well done.

This constrains the execution of the duties and responsibilities on their agenda on a periodical basis.

For instance transport fares to the crime scene, lunch and other expenses are all incorporated on their budget unless the parties in the land fight are willing to accommodate them.
This leaves them limited options like serving only those that can accommodate or facilitate their executions.

If the government therefore appreciated the job well done would include them on a pay roll which payment would facilitate them gives refugee peace of mind and relief from land eviction.

4.10 Conclusion

In general, the land conflicts probe is at a high rise of refugee cause in Africa and the rest of the continent.

That if not minded, it may crop up into a more serious uprising, a civil war and divide up the country on various lines.

However much Uganda’s excellent land laws and regulations and land management and administration institutions do exists on paper, they would be implementation mechanisms should be reconsidered and executed/implemented when they can still have an impact soon enough.

Land raggedness as for Pakele County should not in anyways possible be an excuse for land conflicts. More mountainous countries such as South Korea have historically had a minimal land related conflict.

A big population accelerates development through ensuring security, providing market and a rich labour force, however, an unplanned, uncontrolled population growth in Adumani district continues to ignite the land conflict probe between refuges and the indigenous people.
The government of Uganda must ensure controlled birth rates, formal education, mass sensitization and the enforcement of relevant land laws and regulations in the strength to minimize land conflicts.

There are also other causes of refugee in Africa as started above in the Chad or Lake Chad basin there are political refugees, war refugees and epidemics or disease refuges to mention but just few.
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