



THE IMPACT OF POLITICAL CORRUPTION ON SOCIOECONOMIC OF SOMALI GOVERNMENTS IN MOGADISHU - SOMALIA

Mohamed Salad Siad

*Master of Public Administration (MPA), Graduate School, University of Somalia (UNISO)
Mogadishu - Somalia*

ABSTRACT

Political Corruption, which is normally defined as an abuse of public power for private gain, is a global issue that has received a lot of attention from the political sector, private industry, and academics around the world for many decades, especially in developing countries. Research population and research instrument to be used for data gathering. It also will discuss data gathering procedure, data analysis, and ethical consideration as well as expect limitations of the study. The researcher was used self-administered questionnaire in this study to collect the required information. I was first obtained an authority letter from the student Affairs and Registration department of University of Somalia to authorize the researcher to carry out a research about political corruption and socio – economic development. The findings on respondent's characteristic analysis using frequencies and percentage distribution showed that majority of respondents were male, high portion respondents were the age younger than thirty two years, most of respondents were degree bachelor holders. Nepotism is one of the factors contributing political corruption and thus remains a big challenge Nepotism increases appointment of family member to positions. Political Corruption as the "diversion of public resources to nonpublic purposes." In Africa many people see corruption as a practical problem involving the "outright theft, embezzlement of funds or other appropriation of state property, nepotism and the granting of favors to personal acquaintances, and the abuse of public authority and position to exact payments and privileges.

KEYWORDS: *Political Corruption, Bribery, Nepotism, Fraud, Embezzlement, Favoritism*

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The global research was indicated Political corruption has become a shame in the American states especially in the decade of 1990s. Political corruption is expected to undermine the legitimacy of the democratic system, support for the incumbent and even interpersonal trust (Morris 1991, Mishler and Rose 2001). (1966). Corruption is now recognized as a global phenomenon, which has to be addressed coherently and consistently. Corruption is not a contemporary social phenomenon, but rather has existed as long as human society has. Moreover, corruption is not limited to the political and public arena, but present in virtually all human interactions (e.g. family and community relations and business transactions) in different forms (bribe, kickback, stealing, nepotism, misappropriation, etc.) (Nye 1989)

In African political history, the commission of Africa (2005) noted that most African countries

suffered from the governments that have looted the resource of the states with personal exchange. And also most African countries are more corrupted than other continents in the world for instance in 1996 and 1997 Transparency International ranked Nigeria as one of the three most corrupt nations in the world (Agbibo, 2010). In the absence of functional central governments Somali transitional governments perceived as a weak, highly corrupted and weak leadership structures state. According to International Crisis Group (2011), confirmed that both petty and massive corruption is prevalent in Somalia, with wide spread misuse of state resource and disregard for ethical conduct by public offices such as poor book and recordkeeping, unclear internal procedure that may create many opportunities for misusing public resource for private gain.

Corruption, which is normally defined as an abuse of public power for private gain, is a global issue that has received a lot of attention from the political



sector, private industry, and academics around the world for many decades, especially in developing countries, excessive bureaucratic control and regulations creates serious uncertainty for entrepreneurs. So the bribery can help bureaucrats to get around excessive regulations and minimize uncertainty over enforcement corruption becomes an integral and normal part of almost every activity performed by bureaucrats and politicians. The economic and social impacts of corruption can be devastating to the development of a nation (Rose-Ackerman, 1999; Tanzi, 1998). Studies using international data suggest that corruption has a negative effect on economic growth (Mauro, 1995). One of the possible paths by which corruption may exert a damaging negative influence on economic growth is through its effect on human capital. Corruption may take many forms within a given society. Politicians have incentive to distribute public resources to special interests, and simultaneously have an expectation of receiving personal resources in exchange to such distributions. In addition, public employees may claim benefits to which they are not entitled or provide preferential treatment in exchange for personal resources (Leff, 1964). Political corruption may be detrimental to the quality of educational human capital for two reasons. First, corruption is likely to distort incentives. Such corruption could lead to misappropriation of funds, resource misallocation, and inefficiency. Second, corruption reduces the rate of return of investment in legitimate productive activities (Mo, 2001). Somalia has been plagued by political corruption since the 1960s and is still struggling in 2021 but I would like to point out in my study that since the fall of Mohamed Siad Barre's dictatorship in 1991, Somalia has been plagued by two decades. Civil war, large-scale internal displacement, recurrent droughts and widespread inflation, turned the country into one of the world's worst humanitarian crises as well as corruption. Therefore, the researcher will examine the impact of political corruption on Somalia's economic growth.

3.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Political corruption is general term that refers to instance where appointed or elected government officials, from judges to legislators and police fail to uphold the law in fair and balanced manner, this can include such activities as supporting legislation through bribery providing favorable or unfavorable judicial and legal treatment to select minorities in the population or other abuses of power (Ray wark, 2003.) According to Carl (1972). Defines political Corruption as a kind of behavior which deviates from the norm actually prevalent or behaved to prevail in a given context, such

as the political. It is deviant behavior associated with a particular motivation, namely that of private gain at public expense. In this study adopted the definition of Amundsen (1999) which defines political corruption as deviation of national legal system which may cause weak transparency, accountability and also misuse of public resource for personal gain. Political Corruption in developing countries is often believed to arise from the clash or conflict between traditional values and the imported norms that accompany modernization and socio-political development. Bureaucratic political corruption is seen by some researcher, then, as an unavoidable outcome of modernization and development (Alam 1989, Bayley 1966). David Bayley (1966: 720) argues that "corruption, while being tied particularly to the act of bribery, is a general term covering the misuse of authority as a result of considerations of personal gain, which need not be monetary. Herbert Werlin (1973: 73) defines political corruption as the "diversion of public resources to nonpublic purposes." In Africa many people see corruption as a practical problem involving the "outright theft, embezzlement of funds or other appropriation of state property, nepotism and the granting of favors to personal acquaintances, and the abuse of public authority and position to exact payments and privileges" (Harsch 1993: 33). Joseph Nye (1967: 419) argues that corruption involves "behavior which deviates from the normal duties of a public role because of private-regarding (family, close clique), pecuniary or status gain; or violates rules against the exercise of certain types of private-regarding influence. The biggest loser from corruption is society as a whole. Corruption allows inefficient producers to remain in business, encourages governments to pursue perverse economic policies, and provides opportunities to bureaucrats and politicians to enrich themselves through extorting bribes from those seeking government favors. Thus, corruption distorts economic incentives, discourages entrepreneurship, and slows economic growth (Mbaku 1992, Gould 1980). Corruption is now recognized as a global phenomenon, which has to be addressed coherently and consistently. Corruption is not a contemporary social phenomenon, but rather has existed as long as human society has. Moreover, corruption is not limited to the political and public arena, but present in virtually all human interactions (e.g. family and community relations and business transactions) in different forms (bribe, kickback, stealing, nepotism, misappropriation, etc.) (Nye 1989).



3.1 CONCEPT OF SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Socio economic development like the definition of development adapted here, emphasis process in term of economic and social factor with in geographic unit. Economic development is the process of raising level of prosperity through increased production, distribution and consumption of goods and service (Jan Marie Fritz, university of Cincinnati, Ohio USA). Socio economic development means the improvement of people's lifestyles through improved education, incomes, skills development and employment. It is the process of economic and social transformation based on cultural and environmental factors. Economic development is the development of economic wealth of countries or regions for the well-being of their inhabitants. Economic growth is often assumed to indicate the level of economic development. The term "economic growth" refers to the increase (or growth) of a specific measures such as real national income, gross domestic product, or per capita income. The term economic development on the other hand, implies much more. It is the process by which a nation improves the economic, political, and social wellbeing of its people (MODULE - Socio-economic Development and Empowerment of Disadvantaged Groups Contemporary India: Issues and Goals). According to Benard Okun and Richard W, Richardson, "Economic development may be defined as a sustained secular improvement in well-being, which may be considered to be reflected in an increasing flow of goods and services". Prof. Colin Clark defines economic development from the angle of economic welfare. In his own words, "Economic progress can be defined simply as an improvement in economic welfare." Economic welfare, following Pigou, can be defined in the first instance as an abundance of all those goods and services which are customarily exchanged for money. Leisure is an element in economic welfare and more precisely: "We can define economic progress as the attaining of an increasing output of those goods and services for a minimum expenditure of effort, and of other scarce resources, both natural and artificial (Rogan, 2010)".

Socio-economic development is the process of social and economic development in a society. Socio-economic development is measured with indicators, such as GDP, life expectancy, literacy and levels of employment. Changes in less-tangible factors are also considered, such as personal dignity, freedom of association, personal safety and freedom from fear of physical harm, and the extent of participation in society. Causes of socio-economic impacts are, for

example, new technologies, changes in laws, changes in the physical environment and ecological changes (Ghent, 2008).

3.2 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POLITICAL CORRUPTION SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

There is an ambiguous relationship between political corruption and economic development. The two are interrelated, and probably also mutually explanatory. Some researchers (and many practitioners) have argued that corruption may be a good thing because it can smooth rigid bureaucratic systems and help get things done. There is indeed some truth in this, as excessive red tape and immoderate resource extraction can make businesses unprofitable and entrepreneurship impossible. Political Corruption may ease the squeaky wheel of state bureaucracy, unlock doors, and enable private entrepreneurship and promote businesses (Ghent, 2008). In economic terms, corruption is not always bad. This is seen for instance in the level of economic growth and the level of direct foreign investment, in highly corrupt nations. In some countries the growth rate does not seem to suffer, as it has been kept on a high level for years despite the existence of systemic political corruption (Aidt, 2010). Thesis mainly the case of some Southeast Asian countries. In other countries, mainly in Africa, high levels of corruption have been inhibitive to growth. Also in terms of foreign direct investment (FDI), some countries have been able to attract huge investments even when they are corrupt, but in other instances corruption is indeed inhibitive to foreign investments (Ghent, 2008). The general notion, substantiated by much empirical data, is that political corruption is detrimental to economic development because it is detrimental to foreign investments and foreign aid, local private investments, taxation, entrepreneurship, planning, etc (Rogan, 2010). The economic effects of political corruption is nevertheless dependent on the type of political Corruption in each country, on the way political corruption is organized or disorganized (Ghent, 2008). The economic effects of political corruption are nevertheless dependent on the type of political corruption in each country, on the way political corruption is organized or disorganized (Amundsen, 1999). Centralized, coordinate and disciplined political corruption exists in some countries at the same time as decentralized, disordered and irregular political corruption exists in others. In general terms, the difference is between controlled and uncontrolled political corruption, and thus between calculable and unforeseeable political corruption



(Rogan, 2010). The prevalence of informal networks, weak indigenous business, and a strong state can explain the high levels of political corruption that have co-existed with economic growth. After the Second World War, the extensive role of the state in creating, and augmenting markets, as well as controlling investment and the role of exports was invaluable to their initial growth and success. The legitimacy of these managed and fragile democracies was dependent on securing economic growth. Pei suggests that the, "...emphasis on growth in East Asia had a political origin: authoritarian regimes ruled in all high-performance East Asian economies ...maintaining high growth rates was and is regarded as essential for building not just industrial economies, but the political legitimacy of the ruling elites." Poor performance was typically concealed by large government loans so that what appeared to be growth was often simply recycled state capital (Rogan, 2010). Most of the empirical research on the consequences of political corruption at the economy-wide level uses Real GDP per capita to measure development. Ultimately, development is concerned with sustainable improvements in human welfare. It is widely recognized that GDP per capita is not Necessarily a good measure of such improvements. In a nutshell, the problem is that GDP per Capita is a flow variable. It records, at market prices, the value of the goods and services produced by an economy in a given year (Aidt, 2010). The main determinant of inter-temporal social welfare is an economy's productive base. This base consists of all the economy's capital assets, including manufactured and natural capital, as in the Model, but, more generally, it also includes human and social capital. The change in the Productive base can be expressed as the sum of the values of investment or disinvestment in the Underlying capital assets, where the assets are priced at their social opportunity cost (Amundsen, 1999).

4.1 METHODOLOGY

In this study, the researcher used explanatory research design or cause relationship variables because to consideration time and cost of data gathering a correlation is data collection method that determines whether, and to what extent an association exists between two or more paired and quantifiable variables (Omen and Oso, 2008). The targets of this study will be politicians: parliamentarians, ministers and the mayor of Mogadishu, Somalia, so they will consist of 70 politicians who have held positions in Mogadishu, Somali

A sample is part of the target (accessible) population that has been procedurally selected to present it. The sample will consist of 60 participants

selected from Selected Politicians in Mogadishu. These participants have been chosen according to the possibility of getting accurate information. To determine the ideal sample size for a population, the study will use Slovene's formula which is $n = N / (1 + (N * e^2))$, where n = sample size, N = population size, 70 and e = margin of error of 5 %. $n = 70 / (1 + (70 * 0.0025)) = 60$ participants. this study non probability sampling procedure especially judgment technique, the researchers will use judgmental sampling techniques of non-probability sampling because the researchers cannot find the list of Authorities of target population. So, data is collected from those people who are expediently available and willing to co-operate. Purposive sample will also suitable because the sample select will small and the ideas of the population will need in a shorter period. The researcher was used self-administered questionnaire in this study to collect the required information. Self-administered questionnaire are used for data collection because they can be administered personally to a group of individuals or mailed to them which saves time and money in travel. The researcher develop self-Administered questionnaire.

This study was applied qualitative methods especially correlation design for analyzing collected questionnaire. An item analysis was illustrated the strengths and weaknesses based on the indicators in terms of mean, standard deviation and rank. From these strengths and weaknesses, the recommendation was derived. the researcher was used both individual and institutional data. Thus, the data collected was kept confidential and the information gathered for these organization was only be used for an academic purpose. The respondents was informed the content and aim of the research before administration of any instrument as we maintained the above sections.

5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The discussion leads to varying conclusions and a number of recommendations that will be presented later. It states major study findings relate on the impact of political corruption on socioeconomic development in Mogadishu – Somalia It also presents the conclusion and recommendations of the study arising from the study findings. The first section presents the summary of findings. This is followed by a presentation of the conclusion and recommendations in relation to the study research objectives. The study investigated the impact of political corruption on socioeconomic development in Mogadishu – Somalia. Further, the study would also test the impact of political corruption on socioeconomic development in Mogadishu – Somalia. To achieve these objectives, the respondents



were asked to react the several items by ticking according to their perceptions. Data on these objectives was analyzed using SPSS descriptive statistics tool. The findings on respondent's characteristic analysis using frequencies and percentage distribution showed that majority of respondents were male, high portion respondents were the age younger than thirty two years, most of respondents were degree bachelor holders. Nepotism is one of the factors contributing political corruption and thus remains a big challenge Nepotism increases appointment of family member to positions. Bribery contributes corruption to poor governance.

6.1 CONCLUSION

The study investigated the states of the impact of political corruption on socioeconomic development in Mogadishu – Somalia. Political corruption is general term that refers to instance where appointed or elected government officials, from judges to legislation and police fail to uphold the law in affair and balanced manner, this can include such activities as supporting legislation through bribery providing favorable or unfavorable judicial and legal treatment to select minorities in the population or other abuses of power. Defines Corruption as a kind of behavior which deviates from the norm actually prevalent or behaved to prevail in a given context, such as the political. It is deviant behavior associated with a particular motivation, namely that of private gain at public expense. In this study adopted which defines political corruption as deviation of national legal system which may cause weak transparency, accountability and also misuse of public resource for personal gain. Corruption in developing countries is often believed to arise from the clash or conflict between traditional values and the imported norms that accompany modernization and socio-political development. Bureaucratic corruption is seen by some researcher, then, as an unavoidable outcome of modernization and development. Corruption as the "diversion of public resources to nonpublic purposes." In Africa many people see corruption as a practical problem involving the "outright theft, embezzlement of funds or other appropriation of state property, nepotism and the granting of favors to personal acquaintances, and the abuse of public authority and position to exact payments and privileges".

7.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, it has been recommended that:

1. To avoid Bribery and corruption exist across all government agencies.

2. Nepotism increases appointment of family member to positions.
3. Nepotism is one of the factors contributing political corruption and thus remains a big challenge to effective governance
4. Bribery creates misuse of resource allocation in public institutions

REFERENCE

1. Almond, Gabriel A. and Sidney Verba. 1963. *The Civic Culture*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Banfield, Edward C. 1958. *The Moral Basis of a Backward Society*. Glencoe, IL: Free Press.
2. Baumgartner, Frank R. and Jack L. Walker. 1988. "Survey Research and Membership in Voluntary Associations." *American Journal of Political Science* 32,4:908-928. (Bhalla, Surjit S , 1997) "Freedom and Economic Growth: A Virtuous Circle?" In Axel Hadenius, ed.
3. Ztory and Crisis. New York: Cambridge University Press, 195-241. Bianco,
4. (William, 994) *Trust: Representatives and Constituents*. Ann Arbor, MI.: University of Michigan Press. Braithwaite, Valerie and Margaret Levi. eds. 1998. *Trust and Governance*. Adeyemo, M.A. (2003), *Development and underdevelopment in a comparative perspective*. PortHarcourt: Anethyst and Colleagues Press.
5. Arvind, S. and Everett, M.R. (1989), "India's information revolution", New Delhi, Sage; in *Evolution of Development and Development Administration Theory; The Indian Journal of Public Administration*, Vol. xxxv, No. 4.
6. Chilcote, R.H. (1984), *Theories of development and underdevelopment*. London: West View Press. UNDP (1990). *The 1990 Human development report of the United Nations Development programme (UNDP) for Africa*.
7. Brehm, John and Wendy Rahn. 1997. "Individual-Level Evidence for the Causes and Consequences of Social Capital." *American Journal of Political Science* 41,3: 999-1923. Whiteley, and Gary Zuk. 1992. *Controversies in Political Economy*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press. Coleman, James S. 1990. *Foundations of Social Theory*. Cambridge.
8. Dasgupta, Partha. 1988. "Trust as a Commodity." In Diego Gambetta, ed. *Trust: Making and Breaking Cooperative Relations*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 49-72 Diamond, Larry. 1999. *Developing Democracy*.
9. *Annual Survey of Political Rights and Civil Liberties, 1997-1998*. New York: Freedom House. Fukuyama, Francis. 1995. *Trust: The Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity*. New York: Free Press. Fukuyama, Francis. 1999.
10. *Power and Discontent*. Homewood, Il: Dorsey Press. Gustily, Raymond D. 1987. *Freedom in the World: Political Rights and Civil Liberties*. New York: Greenwood Press. 30 Gunther, Richard,



- P1995. The Politics of Democratic Consolidation: Southern Europe in Comparative Perspective. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. Hankies, Elmer. 1990.*
11. *East European Alternatives. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Hedland, Stefan. 1999. Russia's "Market" Economy: A Bad Case of Predatory Capitalism. London: UCL Press. Hetherington, Marc J. 1998. "The Political Relevance of Political Trust." American Political Science Review 92, 4: 791-808.*