

# **Social Solidarity And Community Development Among The Jopadhola, Tororo District: Eastern Uganda.**

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## **Abstract**

**Key words:** social solidarity, community development

## **Introduction**

The study was about social solidarity and community development among the Jopadhola, Tororo District: Eastern Uganda. The study contained eight chapters, one is on introduction, chapter two reviewed the literature, chapter three is on methodology, four is on philosophical and historical grounding, while chapters five, six, and seven focus on the findings; nature of traditional forms of social solidarity, the contribution of traditional forms of social solidarity towards community development and the contribution of other factors towards community development respectively. Chapter eight concludes the study.

Study Objectives

The study was based on the following objective; to explore the nature of traditional forms of social solidarity among the Jopadhola Eastern Uganda, to examine the contribution of traditional forms of social solidarity towards community development among the Jopadhola, Eastern Uganda and to examine the contribution of other factors towards community development among the Jopadhola Eastern Uganda.

### **Methodology**

A sample of 301 respondents availed data for this study, which used qualitative and quantitative approaches. The questionnaire, interview guide, observation, focus group discussion, group discussion and documentary review were the main instruments and tools used to collect data. Qualitative data were analysed using frequency counts, means and percentages while quantitative data was analysed using Pearson correlation. Data editing and coding, cleaning was done after data has been collected to ensure that all mistakes from respondents then entered the data into computer for analysis and summarizing data.

### **Findings**

The study on the nature of traditional forms of social solidarity revealed that communal work, group work, community meetings, food support and financial help were the traditional forms of social solidarity among the Jopadhola.

On the contribution of traditional forms of social solidarity towards community development, the study found out that among the Jopadhola increased community development relates positively to the strength and presence of traditional forms of social solidarity.

The study further found out that other factors like government policies and programmes, foreign policies, urban influence, technology and global dynamics have now undermined the role of traditional forms of social solidarity rendering them dormant compared to the 1960s when these traditional forms of social solidarity were a great resource towards rural and community development

### **Recommendations**

Through its vast analysis of data, comparison and scrutiny of facts, the outcome of this study contributes to community development. The study invested much in discovering the gaps and weaknesses of the prevailing policies that lacked the down-top approach to development and also linked to grass-root participation. Grass root participation can be promoted through culture and social solidarity; hence the study recommends as follows;

Since traditional forms of social solidarity existed among the Jopadhola over time and have been significant in accumulating social capital, it is possible that if revived through policy inception, community development can be increased. Intensifying the magnitude of traditional forms of social solidarity also means the increase in community development, the case in point.

Traditional community development should be utilised in implementing the new government policies and programmes for better results.

This study has added more information to the literature on community development by reviewing different forms of international community development and livelihood frames works. In addition, the discovery of the contribution of social solidarity towards community development shall be a mile-stone in drawing new and effective policies on community development among the Jopadhola, the whole Ugandan communities and the entire countries of the developing world.

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