



# State Violence and Prospects of Transitional Justice in Ethiopia

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## 1. Research Focus:

- Why did transitional justice initiatives fail to deliver justice for victims of state violence in Ethiopia's Somali region?

## 2. Theoretical Foundations of the Study:

- The study Legalism, reconciliatory, and transformative theories to explore the processes employed by the Ethiopian government towards the advancement of transitional justice among the communities of the Somali region.

## 3. Methods:

- The research oral history techniques and semi-structured interviews
- In total, 22 interviews were conducted with Survivors, Civil society, Government officials, and traditional leaders
- Data was transcribed and analysed using thematic analysis methods

## 4. Study Findings:

The study found the following factors challenge the comprehensive provision of Transitional justice packages in the Somali region of Ethiopia:

- As an overarching factor: Conflicting Understanding of TJ by different stakeholders of the process created a legally plural environment, making a consensus on the process difficult.
- Institutional bureaucracy and the complexity of justice institutions, among others, were major hindrances.
- Dual identities, pastoralism, and pastoral culture played a key role in complicating the processes.
- Finally, administrative issues in the justice department and their capacities to deliver holistic packages of TJ were not conducive to compiling impactful TJ processes.

## 5. Conclusion:

- The study concludes that an interplay of social, political, legal, and administrative factors, among others, in a complex and intricate manner challenged the transitional justice efforts of the Ethiopian

