

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

**MINING AND COMMUNITY CONFLICT: A CASE STUDY OF ANGLOGOLD
ASHANTI AND SANZO COMMUNITY IN THE OBUASI MUNICIPALITY**



JOHN ATAKORA DWOMOH

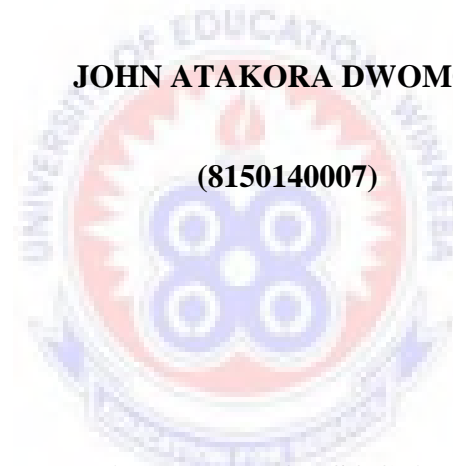
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JOHN ATAKORA DWOMOH

(8150140007)



**A THESIS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION,
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA IN
PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARD OF
MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN SOCIAL STUDIES.**

DECEMBER, 2017

DECLARATION

Student's Declaration

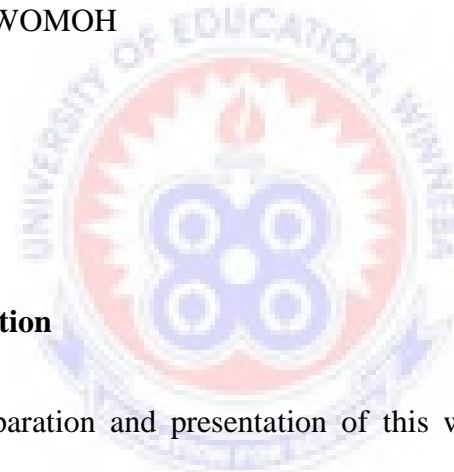
I hereby declare that this thesis with the exception of quotations and references contained in published works which have all been identified and duly acknowledged, is entirely my own work and it has not been submitted either in part or whole for another degree in this institution or elsewhere.

.....

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JOHN ATAKORA DWOMOH

DATE



Supervisor s Declaration

I certify that the preparation and presentation of this work was supervised by me in accordance with the guidelines for supervising thesis laid down by the University of Education, Winneba.

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PROF. YAW OFOSU-KUSI

DATE

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the almighty God who has seen me through all these years and making it possible for me to write this thesis. Also, to my beloved wife, Dwomo Pokua Sarah and my kids, Dwomoh Atakora Blessing, Dwomoh Atakora-Amaniampong, Dwomoh Atakora Tiwaa, Obrempong Atakora Dwomoh Mensah and Dwomoh Antiedu Stacy for the emotional support they gave to me throughout the writing of this thesis.



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
US\$	United State Dollar
GHC	Ghana Cedis
ASM	Artisanal and Small Scale Mining
LSM	Large Scale Mining
NMGM	North Mara Gold Mines
NPC	National Peace Council
ALP	Alternative Livelihood Programme
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
AGA	AngloGold Ashanti
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CHPS	Community Health Planning Station
L. I.	Legislative Instrument
CID	Criminal Investigation Department
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

ABSTRACT

One can not dispute the fact that AngloGold Ashanti (AGA) has contributed to the development of Sanso community. Nevertheless, its activities in the community have been a source of worry and at times have caused clashes between AGA security guards and the people of Sanso especially the youth. The study was all about finding the factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso, knowing the effects of such conflicts on AGA and Sanso, finding out whether AGA has implemented any mining intervention in Sanso and the extent of appreciation by the local people. It also sought to find out some of the measures that are used to resolve conflict situations in the area. The research was a purely qualitative one with case study as its design. The participants selected for the study were 22. The selection of the participants was done using non-probability sampling techniques such as snowballing sampling, purposive sampling and convenience sampling. The data for the study was collected through the use of open-ended questionnaire, semi-structured interview and focus group discussion. Three police personnel and four AGA staffs were given the open-ended questionnaire to answer. Three opinion leaders, two AGA security guards and one person from the Obuasi Municipal Assembly were involved in the semi-structured interviews. The last group the researcher contacted was the galamsey operators and they were nine. They were involved in focus group discussion. Data collected from these participants were analyzed qualitatively using the thematic method. After the presentation and discussion of data, it came out that, AGA not employing the local folks, AGA not performing its social obligations very well towards the people of Sanso, AGA planning to reconnect Sanso community to the ECG power supply for the people of Sanso to pay light bill were some of the factors that have fueled conflicts between AGA and Sanso community. The study also revealed that, injuries and deaths have been recorded in instances where there have been clashes between AGA security guards and the people of Sanso especially the galamsey operators. From the study, during such clashes, the economic activities of the people slow down affecting their livelihoods. It came to light that, the people of Sanso do not appreciate the social interventions implemented by AGA in the community. This has made them to develop negative and unfavourable attitude towards AGA and its interventions. The results from the study showed that, only one means was used to resolve the conflicts and that was dialogue. In general, some of the recommendations made are, creation of jobs for the local folks, establishment of special office at the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to deal with mining related issues that have the tendency of causing serious clashes in the mining communities.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter forms the basis for the entire research. It comprises the background to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study, organisation of the thesis and definition of terms.

1.1 Background to the Study

Mining is the removal of minerals from the earth's crust in the service of man (Acheampong, 2004). It has been one of the major catalysts for economic growth in many developed and developing countries in the world. The mining industry in Ghana has played a significant role in Ghana's development. The Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Report on the Mining Sector (2015) revealed that, Ghana's GDP was GHC 24,101 million in 2010, of which mining and quarrying contributed GHC 690 million. In 2014, total GDP was GHC 33,522 million, of which mining and quarrying contributed GHC 2,834 million. In percentage terms, mining and quarrying contributed 8.0% of total GDP in 2014 having slowed down from 9.4% in 2013. Mining registered the highest growth rate of 3.2% in the industrial sector ahead of manufacturing, construction, water and electricity in 2014. On merchandize export, minerals recorded about 34.7% of the total merchandize export in 2014 having slowed down from 39.4% in 2013.

Total revenue and grants for 2014 was GHC 24.745 billion, of which mining revenue which includes royalties, corporate taxes, dividends and rights fees was estimated as GHC1.25 billion. According to Ghana Chamber of Mines (2015), there were 21,670 Ghanaians and 252 expatriates in employment in large scale mining (LSM) operations in 2014. No precise artisanal and small scale mining (ASM) employment figures were found in Ghana, although, it was estimated that about 200,000 people were found in ASM across the country. It should be noted that, the returns from the mining industry in one way or the other has contributed to infrastructural development in mining communities across the country.

Mining is also crucial to the economies of many African countries. Tanzania's mining industry directly contributed about 3.3% to its GDP in 2013. The sector attracted FDI inflows to the tune of US\$ 460.86 million per year from 1998 to 2011 (Nayopa, 2015). In Botswana, the mining industry is seen as an important engine of growth contributing 24.5% to the country's GDP in 2013 (Honde & Abraha, 2015). According to them, mineral revenue has played a pivotal role in developmental projects scattered across the country and the mining industry has also created jobs for the people.

According to Akabzaa and Darimani (2001), notwithstanding the mining industry's positive contributions to national development, its attendant problems including environmental right violations often lead to violent conflicts which can undermine the country's juvenile democracy and threaten the benefit it seeks to provide. Akabzaa (2009) notes that, the growing incidence of conflict between mining communities and their chiefs on one hand and the mining companies on the other hand echoes the concerns about the effects of mining sector on the population. The mining companies operate with

a neo-liberal capitalist world view whereby maximizing profit is seen as their main objective (Jenkins, 2004). However, the communities place more value on environmental conservation because their livelihoods depend on the environment. Kemp, Owen, Gotzmann and Bond (2010) argue that, mining conflicts are normally concerned about livelihood, security, access to resources, ownership, environmental effects, human right violations, cultural beliefs, distribution of risks and factors that impede development in the community. The relationship between mining companies and the rural communities is seen as a battle ground for contesting the operational activities of the industry (Calvano, 2008). Increase in both large scale and small scale mining activities have led to intensification of conflicts in areas surrounding operations over access to mineral-rich lands (Gamu, Billon and Spiegel, 2015).

In Ghana, almost all the mining communities have experienced mining related conflicts and most of these conflicts have been attributed to struggle over mineral-rich lands, environmental impacts of mining, non-payment or late payment of compensations among others. In 1996, there was a clash between artisanal miners and a contingent of police on the concession of Barnex Ltd. in Prestea (Aubynn, 2009). In the same year, a clash occurred between galamsey operators and state security forces at Obuasi during which properties estimated at about US\$ 10 million were destroyed (Aubynn, 2009). In 2005, there was a clash between galamsey miners operating on Golden Star Resources Ltd. concession and the company in Bogoso (Hilson and Yakovleva, 2007). Between 2004 and 2006, there were disputes between Chirano Gold Mines in the Western Region and landowners as well as farmers over payment of compensations (Aboagye, 2014).

In 2006, the people of Abirem in the Eastern Region protested against Newmont Ghana Gold Ltd. when they realized that their source of livelihood (land) was about to be taken from them by the mining company (Gyapong, 2013). In 2010, artisanal miners attacked and seriously wounded two AngloGold Ashanti Ltd. security personnel in Obuasi who were on patrol duties on the company's concession (Okoh, 2014). In 2011, there was a demonstration against the arrest of one hundred and fifty illegal miners by the police and the military in Obuasi and this turned violent (Okoh, 2014).

Similar cases have occurred in some African countries. Couttenier, Berman, Rohner and Thoenig (2015) revealed that, heavy fighting broke out between the Rizeigat and Bani Hussein, two Arab tribes over the Jebel Amer Gold Mines near Kabkabiya in Sudan's North Darfur Region. This resulted in more than 800 deaths and about 150,000 displaced people in January, 2013. Vibe (2013) also revealed that, mining conflict took place around the North Mara Gold Mines (NMGM) in the North-Western part of Tanzania in the Tarime District of the Mara Region. Mlowe and Olengurumwa (2011) support Vibe's revelation and add that, since the opening of NMGM, at least fifty villagers have lost their lives due to several confrontations and many people were critically injured making it one of the most violent cases of mining conflicts in the world.

Beyond Africa, we have Adatepe gold mining conflict in Bulgaria, Esquel gold mining conflict in Argentina, uranium mining conflict in Brazil, gold mining conflict in Guatemala and gold mining conflict in Costa Rica (Ejolt Report, 2012). From the discussion so far, the issue of conflict in mining communities should be a worry to every individual who believes in peaceful co-existence as an essential ingredient to community development and national development at large. The researcher therefore found it

appropriate to investigate more about this issue to be precise at Sanso, a mining community in the Obuasi Municipality.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Mining and conflict became a social canker in the early part of the 21st century. This issue got momentum in many developing countries where research undertaken by some scholars shown that natural resources such as gold, oil etc. have contributed to instability, war and degradation (Arthur, 2012). In spite of AGA's contributions to the development of Sanso community by providing them with road, free electricity etc., its operation in the area has been a source of worry and tension. Most of the community folks depend on the land for their survival but AGA has taken these lands as concessions for their mining activities without employing many of these local people, in this case depriving the local people of their livelihood. Many of the indigenes have therefore resorted to galamsey activities as a way of obtaining their livelihood. The operations of these galamseyers vis-à-vis that of AGA in the area have frequently sparked clashes between AGA security guards and the galamseyers which have resulted in injuries, deaths and destruction of social amenities in the area. It should be noted that, in most mining communities including Sanso, mining companies think that, so far as the land has been allocated to them, they have full control over them and it is their bonafide property till they finish exploitation or till they are satisfied with the level of exploitation. Community folks on the other hand see themselves as true owners of the land and normally agitate for whole or part of it for agricultural and other activities that will enhance their living. When such agitations become serious in the form of mass demonstration towards the mining

companies, it becomes the duty of the police and the military to ensure peace in the area. This at times make the community folks to see the police and the military personnel as supporters of these mining companies and even increase their agitations with its adverse effects.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

There have been series of conflict situations in Sanso, a mining community in the Obuasi Municipality. The study therefore sought to critically examine the activities of AGA in Sanso community and how these activities fuel conflicts in the area as well as some of the measures that are used to resolve the conflict situations in the area.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives for this study were:

- i. To ascertain the factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community.
- ii. To analyze the effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community.
- iii. To examine the attitudes of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions.
- iv. To examine the measures that are used to resolve conflict situations in Sanso community.

1.5 Research Questions

The following research questions were posed:

- i. What are the factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community?
- ii. How do the mining conflicts affect AGA and Sanso community?

- iii. What are the attitudes of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions?
- iv. What measures are used to resolve conflict situations in Sanso community?

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study will be of great help to the National Peace Council (NPC). NPC is the body set up by the state to promote peace in all spheres of national life. In conflict resolution, knowing the root cause of the conflict is very important and a good ingredient for faster resolution of the conflict. This study when accomplished will help the NPC to know the actual factors that fuel conflicts not only in Sanso but all the mining communities in Ghana so as to adopt appropriate measures to resolve such conflicts.

Also, security agencies will benefit from this study. It will inform the military and the police as to the number of personnel to be stationed in Sanso community and other mining areas in Ghana to avert any conflict situations in those areas.

Again, it will be useful to AGA and other mining companies operating in Ghana. It will help them to acquire much needed information regarding the roles and views of community folks on mining activities. This in the long run will reduce the tensions that normally ensue between mining companies and their host communities in the country.

Moreover, this study will be a public document which will help most Ghanaians to really understand what actually fuel conflicts in Sanso community and in general sense, mining communities across the country so as to avoid inappropriate reportage from some of the media houses which can even increase the tensions in mining areas.

Lastly, it will be of help to academicians and researchers who have interest in conducting research in same or similar issue. They can easily rely on this work as a reference material for their work.

1.7 Delimitations of the Study

Many mining communities across the country have in one way or the other suffered some kind of conflicts before but this study did not take into consideration the broader picture but rather limited itself to Sanso community in the Obuasi Municipality. Even within the community, much emphasis was placed on activities of AGA and how it has fueled conflicts in the area and not on other small-scale mining companies. Much emphasis was also placed on the effects of the mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community neglecting that of the entire Municipality.

1.8 Organisation of the Thesis

The thesis has been organised into six chapters. Chapter one covers the background to the study, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study, organisation of the thesis and definition of terms. Chapter two explores the broad theoretical literature of the study some of which are, large-scale mining companies in Ghana, meaning of conflict, types of conflict, nature of conflict etc. Chapter three forms the embodiment of the study taking into account the research approach, research design, background to the study area, population, sample size and sampling techniques, methods of data collection, validity and reliability, pilot testing of the instruments, data for the study, data analysis and ethical considerations.

Chapter four deals with presentation of data whilst chapter five deals with discussion of data. Chapter six basically talks about the summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations.

1.9 Definition of Terms

For the purpose of this study, the following operational definitions have been given to the following terms.

Host communities: They are specific areas where mining companies operate.

Galamseyers: They are individuals who are found in illegal mining activities.

Expatriates: They are persons who are citizens of other countries but have travelled to live in Ghana.

Mining interventions: They are social and economic assistance that mining companies give to the various communities where they operate.

Mining concessions: They are areas allocated to mining companies by government or other bodies for the extraction of minerals.

1.10 Summary

This chapter has revealed the general outlook of the thesis. It has given a fair idea of mining and community conflict from the local level to the global perspective indicating that, the issue under study is not only peculiar to Ghana. Countries like Tanzania, Bulgaria, Argentina, Brazil and Costa Rica have all faced such problems in their mining communities before.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter of the study reviews related literature to mining and community conflict. It focuses on the existing literatures on the issue under study with special emphasis on the research objectives.

2.1 Definition of Mining

Mining has been defined as the extraction of material from the ground in order to recover one or more component parts of the mined mineral (Lottermoser, 2007). Mining is the extraction of valuable minerals or other geological materials from the earth, from an ore body, lode, vein, seam or reef which forms the mineralized package of economic interest to the miner (Hilson & Banchirigah, 2009). Mining is the process of digging into the earth to extract naturally occurring minerals (Amponsah-Tawiah & Dartey-Baah, 2011). According to Antwi (2010), mining is the extraction of valuable minerals and other geological materials from the earth usually from an ore body, vein or coal seam. Mining is the removal of minerals from the earth's crust in the service of man (Acheampong, 2004). It should be noted that, the main essence of mining is to extract minerals and other materials from the earth. According to Down and Stocks (1977), mining is the world's second oldest and most important industry after agriculture. Mining methods are of two basic types and they are surface mining and underground mining (Hilson & Banchirigah, 2009). Surface mining as the name implies is where extraction of minerals and other

materials are carried out at the surface of the earth with basically no underground exposure of miners (Hartman & Mutmansky, 2002). Underground Mining is digging into the earth crust so as to get to the mineral bearing rocks for extraction to be carried out with the assistance of heavy and sophisticated machines. It should be noted that, mining in itself is not bad at all but some of the methods used in extracting these minerals have always been the problem looking at the side effects of such methods.

2.2 Brief History of Mining in Ghana

Ghana like many other countries on the African continent is naturally blessed with several mineral resources such as gold, diamonds, manganese, bauxite, clay, kaolin, salt etc. (Lawson & Bentil, 2014). According to Ghana Minerals Commission (2010), the chief deposit of minerals especially gold and diamond could be found within the forest area of the southern part of Ghana. This area became one of the most important gold producing areas in the world. Dumett (1998) offers an understanding of gold mining during the pre-colonial times. According to him, gold mining operations during this era could be categorized into three main areas. That is, alluvial, shallow pit and deep shaft. The alluvial mining was practiced along the banks of rivers such as Ankobra, Offin, Tano and Birim. The sediments of gold particles in river beds resulting from years of erosion inspired alluvial mining in Ghana. In this practice, sediments were collected from river beds and panned. They were then scooped, stored and washed repeatedly to remove gold from the sand (Botchway, 1995). Alluvial mining was the most popular even though shallow pit and deep shaft mining were carried out in other parts of Ghana. Galamsey activities in present day Ghana offer us

an understanding of traditional gold mining in pre-colonial Ghana (Hilson, 2002 & Dumett, 1979). The Arabs remained dominant trade partners during this period (Kesse, 1985). The arrival of the Europeans altered the trading patterns and gold mining operations within the West African Sub region and specifically in Ghana. The European arrival was also met with a growing relocation from the disintegrated states of ancient kingdom towards the south (along the coast) in present day Ghana. Carmichael (1993) asserts that by the 15th century, gold had become scarce in Europe and there was a serious problem with the integrity of the currency of gold standard. Therefore, many trips were financed by mining companies with huge gold reserves to explore gold fields of West Africa. The Portuguese, the first to arrive in Ghana took control of the gold trade and slowly ejected the Arab traders. They termed the area 'mina' which was later changed to 'gold coast' by the British.

A Venetian explorer with two voyages in 1455 and 1456 was quoted by Junner (1973) as 'in the 14th and 15th centuries, the gold coinages of Portugal, Spain and Italy were entirely derived from the supplies from West Africa'. Several accounts by the Portuguese and other European early historians point to how gold was treasured along the gulf of guinea and often labelled as precious. It was estimated that, Ghana's gold production during the Portuguese era (1493-1600) was 8,153,426 oz which accounted for 35.5% of the world's output (Addey, 1998). The Dutch and the British later took control of the gold coast after a weakened Portuguese control and revolt by colonial states. Daaku (1970) indicates that, gold trade was highly disorganized until 1618 and was based on a lucky process of 'hit and run'. To him, this period saw the involvement of the British and the Dutch mining companies but no significant improvements were

made in the techniques of mining. He further reiterates that, the slave trade slowed down gold mining operations from the latter part of the 16th century. Notwithstanding this, Addey (1998) highlights that between 1601 and 1800, gold output was 12 million ounces. Attempt at mineral policy can be traced to the era of British control. Tsikata (1997) cites the main features of mineral policy during the colonial period. The first one was to establish a legal and administrative framework to facilitate mining operations in the country. The second had to do with security of tenure for grantees of mineral rights. The third was to effectively manage problems that may arise between mining companies and members of their host communities. The fourth had to do with obtaining revenues for government through the levying of duties or income taxes. The last one was to contribute to the self-sufficiency of the British Empire.

Hilson (2002) points out that, the most significant of these policies was the attempt made to resolve problems between miners and their host communities due to the inevitable nature of conflict in every society. During the end of the 19th century, European interest in Goldfields in Obuasi which has for several decades been controlled by the Asantes grew. The interest was driven by the announcement of large gold deposits at the interior of the gold coast colony. Large amounts of European capital were invested in mining operations and purchase of concessions in the area but several of these failed due to security and transport problems (Rosenblum, 1972). In spite of all these, major attempts at large-scale gold mining were made after the slave trade era. Tarkwa and Prestea gold mining centers became operational points of European attempts at gold exploitation which officially commenced after the British created the gold coast colony.

According to Hilson (2002), the era of independence saw the nationalization of all mining companies except the Obuasi Gold Mines. Under the new State Mining Corporation, all mining operations were taken from the British control but the extreme state control later led to the deterioration in gold output in later years. Several mining centers were neglected for economic and safety reasons. Also, later policies were subjected to the whims and caprices of evolving governments' policies often affected by political instability.

Currently, there are several large-scale mining companies operating in the country, most of which are owned by foreigners. These large-scale mining companies use sophisticated and heavy duty machines in the extraction of minerals unlike pre-colonial era dominated by traditional methods of extracting minerals. Notwithstanding this, there are many small-scale mining companies and galamsey operators across the country still using some of the traditional methods to extract minerals. There have been several policies and reforms in the mining sector after independence. These policies and reforms have really helped to shape the mining industry in Ghana.

The mining industry in Ghana can be said to be one of the best in Africa looking at its contribution to GDP and other economic indicators. For instance, the Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Report on the Mining Sector (2015), revealed the following as the mining industry's contribution to Ghana's growth. Ghana's GDP total in 2010 was GHC 24,101 million. Out of this, mining and quarrying contributed GHC 690 million. In 2011, GDP total was GHC 27,486 million. Mining and quarrying contributed GHC 2,112 million. In 2012, it was GHC 30,040 million and mining and

quarrying contributed GH¢ 2,462 million. In 2013, GDP total was GH¢ 32,237 million. Out of this, mining and quarrying contributed GH¢ 2,747 million. In 2014, GDP total was GH¢ 33,522 million. Out of this, mining and quarrying contributed GH¢ 2,834 million. In percentage terms, mining and quarrying contributed 8.0% of total GDP in 2014 having slowed down from 9.4% in 2013. Mining registered the highest growth rate of 3.2% in the industrial sector ahead of manufacturing, construction, water and electricity in 2014. On merchandise export, minerals recorded about 34.7% of the total merchandise export in 2014 having slowed down from 39.4% in 2013. Total revenue and grants for 2014 was GH¢ 24.745 billion. Out of this, mining revenue which includes royalties, corporate taxes, dividends and rights fees was estimated as GH¢1.25 billion. According to Ghana Chamber of Mines (2015), there were 21,670 Ghanaians and 252 expatriates in employment in large-scale mining (LSM) operations in 2014. According to the report, no precise artisanal and small scale mining (ASM) employment figures can be found in Ghana, although, it is estimated that about 200,000 people are found in ASM across the country.

2.3 Large-Scale Mining Companies in Ghana

According to the Ghana Extractive Industries' Transparency Initiative (2015), there are many large-scale mining companies in Ghana. Some of these mining companies are AngloGold Ashanti, Adamus Resources, Ghana Manganese, Golden Star Resources and Newmont Ghana. Ghana government owns 10% in most of these mining companies. The nation gets 20% from Ghana Bauxite Company and with as little as 1.7% from AGA. Most of these mining companies are into the extraction of gold with few of them in

bauxite and manganese mining. It should be noted that, almost all the large-scale mining companies in Ghana are owned by foreigners and originated from foreign countries such as Australia, Canada, China, USA etc. The positive impacts of these mining companies to Ghana's development cannot be overlooked. Their existence and operation in Ghana has resulted to increase in mineral revenue, created jobs for the people of Ghana, led to massive infrastructural development in mining areas across the country and has expanded mineral related businesses in the country. Table 2.1 highlights some of the large-scale mining companies in Ghana.

Table 2.1: Large-scale mining companies in Ghana

Mining company	Gov't share (%)	Type of product	Location in Ghana	Country of origin	Annual output
Adamus Resources	10	Gold	Teleku-Bokazo and Nkroful	Australia	105,215 ounces
AngloGold Ashanti	1.7	Gold	Obuasi and Iduapriem	South Africa	239,052 ounces
Chirano Gold Mines	10	Gold	Chirano	Canada	274,683 ounces
Ghana Bauxite Company	20	Bauxite	Awaso	China	826,994 tonnes
Ghana Manganese Company	10	Manganese	Nsuta	Australia	1,997,911 tonnes
Golden Star Resources	10	Gold	Prestea and Wassa	Canada	330,807 ounces
Newmont Ghana	0	Gold	Kenyasi and New Abirem	USA	699,366 ounces
Perseus Mining Ghana	10	Gold	Ayanfuri	Australia	198,608 ounces

Source: Ghana Extractive Industries' Transparency Initiative (2015).

2.4 Mining Legislations and Reforms in Ghana

According to the Ghana Chamber of Mines (2015), in 1983 the mining sector in Ghana started with the stages of the Economic Recovery Programme guided by the Structural Adjustment Programme with assistance from World Bank and International Monetary Fund. The policy orientation was to strengthen the value of the domestic currency through the promotion of exports and to increase FDI inflow. The mining sector was identified as a sector that could champion this agenda. To this end, a comprehensive mining law, which was first in the history of Ghana (Minerals and Mining Law, 1986, PNDCL 153) was passed to aid large-scale investment in the sector. In 2006, this law was replaced with the Minerals and Mining Act (Act 703). This Act was meant to bring foreign investment into the country since it offered favourable terms to investors by reducing government interest in new mining firms to 10% and introduced stability clauses. Act 703 was revised in 2010 as Act 794. In 2012, numerous L.Is were passed by the government and these L.Is sought to promote and regulate mining activities in the country. Table 2.2 highlights some of the mining legislations and reforms in Ghana.

Table 2.2: Mining legislations and reforms in Ghana

Legislations/Reforms	Year
Minerals and Mining Law, PNDCL 153	1986
Establishment of the Minerals Commission, PNDCL 154	1986
Minerals (Royalties) Regulations, L.I. 1349	1987
Small-Scale Gold Mining Law, PNDCL 218	1989
Precious Minerals Marketing Corporation Law, PNDCL 219	1989
Establishment of Precious Minerals Marketing Corporation	1989
Establishment of Environmental Protection Agency	1994
Drawing up of Mining Environmental Guidelines	1994
Minerals and Mining Act 475	1994
Divestiture of State-owned Mines	1992-1999
Review of Mining Environmental Guidelines	1999
Minerals and Mining Act 703	2006
Minerals and Mining Act 794	2010
Minerals and Mining (General) Regulations, L.I. 2173	2012
Minerals and Mining (Support Services) Regulations, L.I. 2174	2012
Minerals and Mining (Comp. and Resettlement), Regulations, L.I. 2175	2012
Minerals and Mining (Licensing) Regulations, L.I. 2176	2012
Minerals and Mining (Explosives) Regulations, L.I. 2177	2012
Minerals and Mining (Health, Safety and Technical) Regulations, L.I. 2182	2012

Source: Ghana Chamber of Mines (2015)

2.5 Mining Communities

There is no generally accepted definition of a community. This means that, it has been explained differently by different scholars across disciplines. According to Mintah-Afari (2008), community refers to a relatively large group of people who have common values, interest, enduring ties, frequent interactions, and sense of closeness to one another and living in a locality. It can also be explained as a group of people who are united by common interests, characteristics, associations and behaviour patterns. There are different levels of communities starting from the family to the neighbourhood and expand through the village, town, district, regional and national (Mintah-Afari, 2008).

Dunham, Freeman and Liedtka (2006) proposed a typology of four types of communities. Communities of place, communities of interest, virtual advocacy groups and communities of practice. According to them, communities of place are the geographical locations surrounding corporate facilities or operations. Communities of interest are advocacy groups that share a common purpose driven by a particular agenda. Virtual advocacy groups also share a common purpose but it is usually broader than a particular interest. Finally, communities of practice are professional work groups whose members share a mutual identity and joint obligations. Sanso community is a geographical location where AGA operates and for that matter, fall into the category of community of place.

2.6 Theoretical underpinnings of the study

There are several theories in the literature as far as conflict is concerned. Each of these theories sees conflict and how it originates in our society differently. We have the biological theory, the frustration-aggression theory, the economic theory, the human

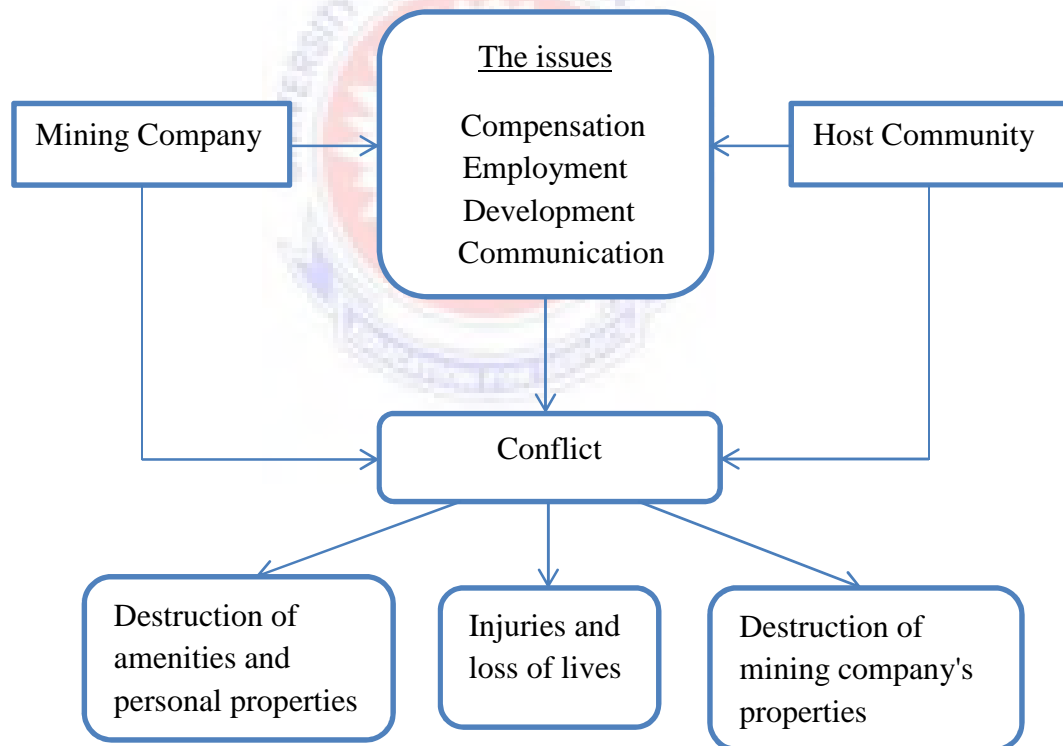
needs theory and the resource conflict theory. Thomas Hobbes and St. Augustine are some of the scholars for the biological theory. According to them, since our ancestors were instinctively violent beings and we came from them, we too must bear destructive impulses in our genetic make-up. According to Obeng (2015), this theory gave rise to the innate theory of conflict which contends that, conflict is innate in all social interactions and among all animals including human beings. In other words, it is believed that conflict is inherent in man and this can be explained from man's inner features and hormonal composition. That is, violent instinct will be provoked when man is endangered and vice versa. The next theory is frustration-aggression theory. The hall mark of this theory is that, violent behaviour stems from the inability of an individual to fulfill his/her needs (Dollard, 1939). In an attempt to explain aggression, he points to the difference between what people feel they want or deserve to what they actually get 'the want-get-ratio'. To him, where expectation does not meet attainment, the tendency for people to confront those they hold responsible for frustrating their ambitions is high. According to Baron and Richardson (1994), aggression is an action done or taken with the sole aim to harm or cause damage and it can be physical or non-physical, direct or indirect. To them, direct aggression is destructive action taken with the sole aim of hurting the agents that caused the frustration and indirect aggression mainly occurs when the agents that caused the thwarting of the goals are out of reach. The third one is the economic theory. Collier (2003) points out that some people commonly called *conflict entrepreneurs* actually benefit from chaos and as much as possible will appreciate the occurrence of chaos at the expense of overwhelming majority of the people in the society who are negatively affected by these chaos. In other words, these *conflict*

entrepreneurs see conflicts as having a functional utility and are embedded in economic disparities. To them, wars have sometimes become a vast private and profit-making enterprise and will always wish there are wars. The next theory is the human needs theory. This theory assumes that, all human beings have basic needs that have to be met in order to maintain stable societies. Universally, some of these needs include security, identity, recognition and development (Burton,1993). The struggle by human beings to gain control of their environment that is necessary to ensure the satisfaction of these needs cannot be curbed. Therefore when policies are discriminatory and people are marginalized, it may fume bitterness which explains why some social groups start using conflicts (Gurr, 2001). The last theory is the resource conflict theory. This theory discusses the relationship between natural resources and civil violence (Collier & Hoeffler, 2004). To them, the relationship is explained through two concepts which are *greed* and *grievance*. Greed is based on the idea that civil wars erupt in resource rich regions because of rebel groups' motivation or desire to get rich quick. The resources provide the rebel groups financial backing for large-scale violence. Grievance is based on a sense of injustice in the way a social group is treated in the mining communities. Since the concept of greed is aimed at large-scale violence and civil war, the concept of grievance is the most interesting. Violence in this case is a manifestation of community agitation over the negative impacts of mining. This means that, the mining companies can only operate in a peaceful environment when their activities do not impact negatively to their host communities and vice versa.

2.7 Conceptual framework for the study

Generally, within the mining communities in Ghana, compensation payments for land have often been negotiated between the mining companies and the traditional authorities represented by the local chiefs. However, the system of compensation is sometimes seen as unfair and subjected to considerable delays. There is also high rate of unemployment, underdevelopment and ineffective communication. These most at times create conflict situations in mining communities. The idea has been put together to design conceptual framework for this study and shown in figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework for the study



Source: Researcher's own construct

From figure 2.1, it is obvious that, non or late payment of compensations to community folks affected by mining activities, high rate of unemployment in mining areas, underdevelopment in mining areas, ineffective communication between mining companies and their host communities among others could easily result to conflicts which may lead to injuries, loss of lives, destruction of personal properties, destruction of mining company's properties, destruction of social amenities etc. It is therefore incumbent on the part of mining companies across the country to see to it that pre-agreements or arrangements between them and their host communities concerning how to better the lives of the local people are implemented as early as possible to avert any conflict situations at where these mining companies operate.

2.8 Concept of Conflict

Conflict situations are unavoidable from one's personal life, between communities, within an organization or among nations. Kinicki and Kreitner (2008) defined conflict as a process in which one party perceives that their interests are being opposed or interest is negatively undermined by another party. Bercovitch (1983) also views conflict as a situation which generates incompatible goals or values among different parties. Nelson and Quick (1997) are of the view that, conflict is any situation in which incompatible goals, attitudes, emotions or behaviours lead to disagreement or opposition between two or more parties. Conflict is an active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles (Procter, 1995). Mankoe (2002) sees conflict as a contest of opposing forces or powers where there is a struggle to resist or overcome.

Conflict is an existing state of disagreement or hostility between two or more people (Nicholson, 1992). According to Jeong (2000), conflict in politics is said to exist when two or more groups engage in a struggle over values and claims to status, power and resources in which the aims of the opponents are to neutralize, injure or eliminate the rivals. Conflict exists when people hold different views about an issue (Barash & Webel, 2002). From the above, conflict can be said to exist when two or more interdependent parties oppose each other with the aim to frustrate the other to the attainment of one's goals.

2.8.1 Types of conflict

Obeng (2015) is of the view that, there are five levels of conflict namely, intra-personal conflict, inter-personal conflict, intra-group conflict, inter-group conflict and intra-organisational conflict. Intra-personal conflict is where conflict occurs within an individual. There are numerous types of intra-personal conflict. They are inter-role conflict, intra-role conflict and person-role conflict. Inter-role conflict arises when a person experiences conflict among the multiple roles in his or her life. Intra-role conflict is within a single role. It often arises when a person receives conflicting messages from role senders about how to perform a certain role. Person-role conflict also occurs when a person is expected to perform a role that clashes with his or her values. Inter-personal conflict refers to the conflict between two or more people. It involves two or more persons who perceive themselves as being in opposition to each other over preferred values and attitudes.

Intra-group conflict can be explained as conflict within the same group due to differences in ideas, values and behaviours. Inter-group conflict arises when there is conflict between two or more groups. Intra-organisational conflict refers to conflict within the same organisation. Obeng (2015) has outlined four levels of intra-organisational conflict namely vertical conflict, horizontal conflict, line-staff conflict and role conflict. Vertical conflict involves clashes between levels in an organisation. It is usually called superior-subordinate conflict. This conflict often arises when superiors try to control subordinates and they also resist. Vertical conflict arises because of inadequate communication, goal conflicts or lack of consensus building over the use of resources, deadlines or performance results. Horizontal conflict refers to clashes between groups of employees at the same rank in an organisation. Line-staff conflict is where there are clashes over authority relationship. Many organisations have line and staff departments. The line department signifies the highest office in an organisation whilst the staff department represents the lower positions which exist in an organisation. Staff departments are usually created to assist the line departments to facilitate the activities of an organisation. What usually generates this type of conflict is where the staff department tries to interfere in the power of the line department. Role conflict can be explained as conflict associated with the performance of one's obligations and may be caused by too much work, less work, role ambiguity, scarcity of resources etc. Nelson and Quick (1997) posit that, there are essentially two types of conflict in an organisation namely functional conflict and dysfunctional conflict. According to them, functional conflict is a healthy and constructive disagreement between two or more people which can produce new ideas, learning and growth among individuals. It is believed that, when individuals engage in

functional conflict, they develop a better awareness of themselves and others. To them, dysfunctional conflict is an unhealthy and destructive disagreement between two or more people. That is, disagreements that involve personalized anger and hatred directed at specific individuals rather than specific ideas are dysfunctional. People involved in dysfunctional conflict normally tend to act before they think and they often rely on threats and verbal abuses.

Jones and George (2008) are also of the view that, there is inter-organisational conflict. To them, it is the type of conflict between different organisations. They categorize the inter-organisational conflict into three types namely substantive conflict, emotional conflict and cultural conflict. Substantive conflict appears when a basic disagreement arises between the two organisations at a fundamental level. Emotional conflict takes place when people from different organisations react on an emotional level-out of fear, jealousy, envy or stubbornness. Cultural conflict is based on cultural needs and desires. These conflicts are often the result of misunderstanding and stereotyping.

Jehn and Mannix (2001) divided conflict into relationship, task and process. Relationship conflict arises from interpersonal incompatibilities. Task conflict relates to differences in viewpoints and opinion about a particular task which one party feels that it ought to be done in a certain way and manner. Process conflict relates to the groups approach to the task to be done by taking into consideration the method used and the group's process. According to Folarin (1998), conflict can be divergent, symmetrical, complementary and parallel. He states that, divergent conflicts occur when every member of a group within a society is practically pursuing individual goals that are different from the

corporate goal of the society and which are difficult to reconcile with the common goals. According to him, symmetrical conflicts occur when co-operation is hindered by the pursuance of the same goal by two or more separate entities or groups. Complementary conflicts are products of a misinterpretation of the goals or intentions of one party by another. Though the goals of one group complement those of the other, they are mistakenly perceived as being contradictory or opposed to one another. Lastly, parallel conflict is a type of conflict whereby each party reserves the right to make its decision and execute it. Parallel conflicts are said to be comparatively harmless. Each of the parties recognizes the limits of its powers and does not go beyond them.

2.8.2 Nature of conflict

According to Obeng (2015), all conflicts are divided into two in terms of nature namely violent conflicts and non-violent conflicts. To him, violent conflicts are conflicts that lead to loss of lives and properties. Such conflicts involve the use of guns, cutlasses and other dangerous weapons. People are usually attacked physically creating fear and insecurity in a particular area. To him, non-violent conflicts are characterized by peaceful demonstrations amidst singing, drumming and dancing, verbal exchanges, withdrawing from one another etc. Obeng (2015) is of the view that, if non-violent conflicts are not managed well, they may become violent conflicts.

2.8.3 Conflict analysis methods

Obeng (2015) discusses five conflict analysis methods. These methods are the mapping method, the onion doughnut method, the attitude, behaviour and context method, the conflict tree method and the pyramid method.

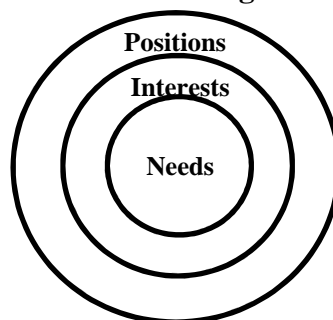
2.8.3.1 The mapping method

According to Obeng (2015), this method of conflict analysis involves the use of indicators that describe what is happening in a given conflict. They range from the parties both primary and secondary, their relative spheres of influence and power. That is, whether some parties are more influential than others or if they are of equal strength, whether the parties are connected and have associations or not. Mapping also highlights the issues in the conflict as well as the things other than people that make an impact on the conflict. It includes the nature of relations among parties such as whether relations are close, fairly close, conflictive etc.

2.8.3.2 The onion doughnut method

This method of conflict analysis is use to show that conflict has several layers and what appears on the surface is only a small component of the conflict (Obeng, 2015). To him, many conflicts are like onions with numerous layers and the conflict analyst is expected to unravel these layers to get to the deepest part of the conflict where the needs and fear of the parties lie. Till one gets to the deepest part or the bottom of the conflict, it may be resolved half-way with the tendency of erupting again. There is therefore the need for all conflict analysts to tackle conflicts from the bottom so as to promote peace co-existence among parties. Figure 2.2 illustrates the onion doughnut method.

Figure 2.2: The onion doughnut method

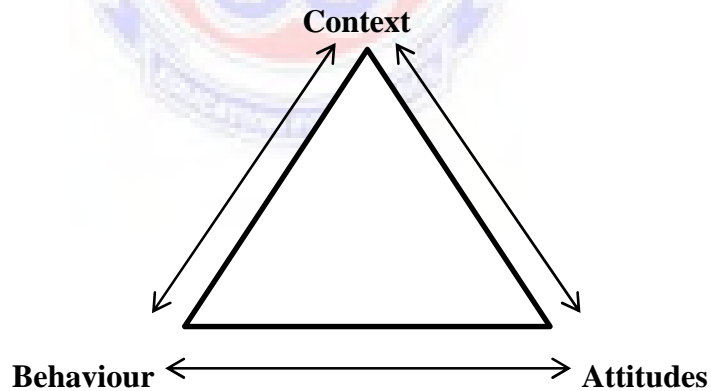


Source: Obeng (2015)

2.8.3.3 The attitude, behaviour and context method

According to Obeng (2015), this method of conflict analysis is in the form of a triangle with conflict behaviour to the left, conflict attitudes to the right and context at the top. Conflict behaviour is the exact actions of parties directed against other parties to stop them from attaining their goals. This method could also be used by conflict analyst to describe the attitudes, behaviour and causes of conflict. In this case, the attitudes of the parties turn into their behaviours and these cause the conflict. If the attitudes are negative, the associated behaviours will definitely be negative leading to a possible conflict situation and vice versa. This method of conflict analysis is good for conflict resolution. The concern of the conflict analyst should be focused on eliminating the basic cause of the conflict which will in turn lead to more positive attitudes and behaviours from parties involved in the conflict. Figure 2.3 illustrates the attitude, behaviour and context method.

Figure 2.3: The attitude, behaviour and context method

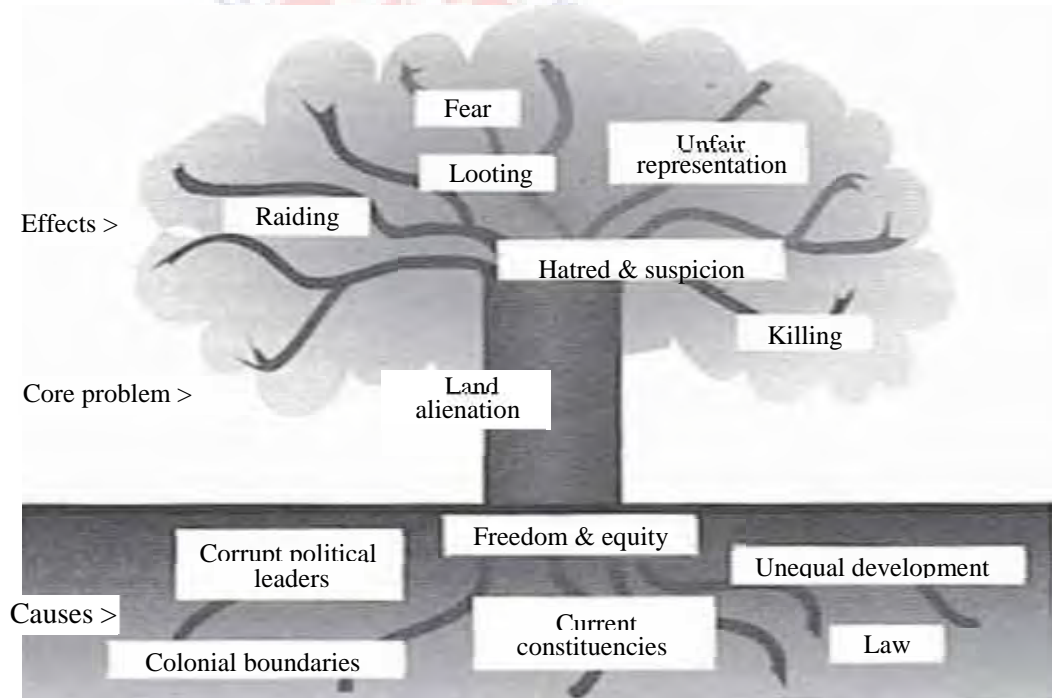


Source: Obeng (2015)

2.8.3.4 *The conflict tree method*

The conflict tree method uses a tree to represent key conflict issues and analyzes conflict by identifying the root causes of the conflict and the effects of the conflict (Obeng, 2015). The sources of the conflict are found at the root of the tree whilst the effects of it are found at the leaves and branches of the tree. Supporters of this method of conflict analysis believe that, before conflict can be resolved permanently, knowing the root causes of the conflict is very important. Other than that, the conflict will be resolved in a half-way and the tendency for it to re-appear again will be high. Figure 2.4 illustrates the conflict tree method.

Figure 2.4: The conflict tree method

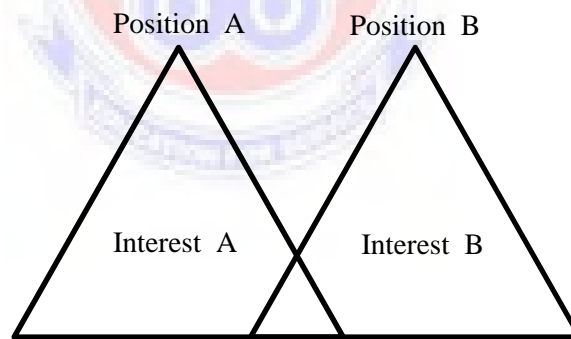


Source: Fisher & Dekha (2000)

2.8.3.5 *The pyramid method*

According to Obeng (2015), this method of conflict analysis is use to separate the causes of conflict usually not noticeable from the positions and interest of the parties. It uses the image of two islands protruding from the sea in the form of a pyramid. The islands are unified under the sea but as they project above sea level, they look separate and the separation expands further as they get higher. At the top of the island is what may be called the 'positions' of the parties and these are parallel to each other. Below the island are the interests which get closer but are still apart. Beneath the sea are the needs and fears of the parties and it is at this point that the common grounds may be found since the parties have much in common that unite them at that point. Figure 2.5 illustrates the pyramid method.

Figure 2.5: The pyramid method



Source: Obeng (2015)

2.8.4 **Conflict management modes**

According to Obeng (2015), conflict management is the process of reducing the negative and destructive capacity of conflicts through a number of measures by working with and through the parties involved in the conflicts. Thomas and Kilmann (2010) identified five

conflict management modes namely avoiding mode, competing mode, accommodating mode, compromising mode and collaborating mode. According to them, when the avoiding mode is used, everyone loses. The avoiding mode is appropriate to use in the situation where there is no chance of winning, when the issue is trivial, not worth the effort and costly, when it takes too much time to deal with it etc. The next one is the competing mode. It is also called the “win-lose” mode. A person seeks to reach his/her own preferred outcomes at the expense of a partner. This mode may be suitable when quick actions are needed, for example during emergencies. The third one is the accommodating mode. This conflict management mode is significant for saving future relations between the parties. It promotes cooperation. Accommodating mode may be suitable in the following ways, when it is important to have a temporary relief from the conflict, when a person accepts that he/she is wrong etc. Fourthly, we have compromising mode which is also called “give-and-take”. This mode can be applied when the goals and the power of both sides are of equal importance and when it is necessary to find a temporary, timely solution to the issue. Lastly, we have the collaborating mode. It is often labelled as the “win-win” situation. Both sides work together to attain the goals and desired outcomes benefiting all involved parties. It can be difficult to implement this mode as the process of collaborating mandates sincere effort by all parties and it may take a lot of time to reach a consensus. Situations where collaborating mode may be appropriate are, in the case when consensus and commitment of other parties is important, when a conflict happened in a collaborative environment, when there is a high level of trust etc.

2.8.5 Conflict resolution techniques

There are many conflict resolution techniques in the literature. Prominent among them are arbitration, negotiation, mediation and adjudication. Arbitration is where disputing parties agree upon a decision by unbiased arbitrator in a formal way. Arbitration can be described as a court-like sitting where witnesses and evidence are provided to aid judgement. Arbitration is normally held in a confidential manner. Judgments are given in a legal way according to the law. Arbitrators more often come from outside agencies (Kinicki & Kreitner, 2008). This technique of conflict resolution requires a leader to organize a discussion on disagreements of two parties in a productive way. After listening to each party and carefully examining written documents and other evidence relating to the case, the arbitrator gives a verdict as to who is right and who is wrong.

Negotiation is also helpful in conflict resolution. Negotiators are interdependent (Brett, 2007). The negotiation method can be explained as a “give-and-take” decision making process which includes interdependent parties with diverse preferences. There are two types of negotiation and these are distributive and integrative negotiation. Distributive negotiation represents a single issue where one person reaches his/her goal at the expense of the other. This type of negotiation uses “win-lose” tactic. With integrative negotiation, there are numerous issues and each party can evaluate them differently. The parties try to find agreement that can please the interests of both parties. This type of negotiation uses “win-win” tactic.

Mediation is where there is a neutral and skilled person who helps disputing parties in search of solutions to resolve their conflict. The aim of the mediator is to look for numerous possible solutions and select the one that is suitable to all parties and satisfies the interests of all parties. A mediator plays an active and powerful third party role in every organisation. Mediators not only lead discussions but they usually decide about structure and process of the discussion which is designed to help the parties to get common understanding and to reach win-win agreements. Mediators cannot impose a solution on the parties but they can suggest a solution which may be accepted by the parties involved in the conflict.

Adjudication involves the use of the courts and litigation processes in settling disputes among parties. Parties to a dispute may choose to take their case to court of law, before a judge of competent jurisdiction. Legal counsels may represent them and at the end of the process, the court gives a judgement. The judgement is lawfully binding on both parties. The judgement will further be enforced where necessary by the law enforcement agencies of the state.

2.8.6 Mistakes to avoid in conflict resolution

Bankovskaya (2012) has suggested some of the mistakes to avoid in conflict resolutions. Firstly, we should avoid discussing differences in a harsh way. Some people just don't say anything to their partner until they are ready to explode. They therefore speak in an angry and harsh manner to the other party.

Also, we should avoid being defensive. Rather than understanding the grievances of a partner and his/her point of view, defensive people continuously deny their wrong doings and this creates long-term problems with their partners. In this case, unsolved conflicts continue to grow.

Again, we should avoid over-generalization. As we address grievances, a person should not use over-generalizations. For instance, he/she should avoid starting sentences with “You always”. For instance, you always come to school late. This may be irritating to the other person.

Moreover, we should not think that we are always right. Several people decide the “right” way to look at things and the “wrong” way to look at things. They always think that, only their views on issues are right. It is important not to demand that your partner should see things the same way you see them. As a person, don’t take differences in opinion as a personal attack but rather see it as a means of arriving at the best decisions for all individuals or groups.

Furthermore, we should avoid playing the blame game. Some people in a conflict situation criticize the other person. They even try to shame the person for being at fault. Instead of blaming the other person for causing troubles, it is important to view conflict as an opportunity to examine the situation objectively and to understand the needs of both parties and come up with a solution that will be helpful to both parties.

Lastly, there is the need for us to also avoid character attacks. Sometimes negative utterances from a person can be blown up into a personality flaw. This can lead to negative perceptions on both sides. It is important to respect the person even if he has bad behaviour.

2.8.7 Essential skills for managing conflicts

Kohlrieser (2007) identifies certain essential skills for managing conflict. According to him, the key to defusing conflict is to form a bond or to re-bond with the other party. We should treat a person as a friend not as an enemy and we should always base our relationship on mutual respect, positive regard and co-operation. Leaders must learn to separate the person from the problem.

Again, it is important to keep the conversation relevant. We should stay focused on a positive outcome and remain aware of the common goal. It is vital to avoid being hostile or aggressive. Also, understanding the causes of the conflict is essential. To be able to create a dialogue aimed at resolving the conflict, we need to understand the root causes of the disagreement.

Moreover, using the law of reciprocity. The law of reciprocity is based on the principle of cooperation and collaboration. What you give out is likely to be what you get back. Mutual exchange allows two individuals to become attuned and empathetic to each other's inner states. Hence a powerful method to master in any kind of dispute is to understand the feelings and views of the other individual by managing what we express both verbally and non-verbally.

Lastly, we need to balance reason and emotion because emotions such as fear, anger, frustration and even love may disrupt otherwise thoughtful actions. We need to understand each other's point of view regardless of whether we agree with it or not. The more effectively we communicate our differences and our areas of agreement, the better we will understand each other's concerns and improve our chances of reaching a mutual acceptable agreements.

2.9 How Mining Negatively Affect Host Communities

Notwithstanding the economic benefits of mining, it has created negative impacts on host communities. The regular blasting in the mines and the resulting ground vibrations has caused cracks in many buildings in mining areas. Inhabitants in mining areas have to incur the cost of re-plastering their buildings in order to avoid total collapse of their buildings. The operations of AGA in the Obuasi Municipality have affected the buildings of Obuasi Secondary Technical School (Akabzaa & Darimani, 2001).

Mining activities also pollutes the air creating health problems for the inhabitants. According to Park (1987), mining activities have resulted in the high incidence of bronchitis, lung disorders and heart disorders in mining communities. The wide land clearance associated with surface mining has also resulted in the destruction of vegetation and some natural water bodies such as streams, ponds and lakes in mining communities. It has as well damaged the home of wildlife and the rich tropical forests which used to serve as tourist attraction for many foreigners.

Mining has also been a source of water pollution. Some of the pollutions that have being identified in mining communities are chemical pollution of ground water and streams. This has led to water-borne diseases in mining areas such as cholera, diarrhea etc. The use of hard substances is very common in many mining communities across the country. Many galamsey operators take these hard drugs as a means to stimulate them to work harder. According to Kasanga (2002), the galamsey work which involves excessive physical effort has made most of the galamseyers to take in marijuana and cocaine.

It is noted that, there is a high incidence of prostitution in mining areas across the world. According to Akabzaa and Darimani (2001), usually there are two main types of sex workers in mining areas and they are mobile sex workers and resident sex workers. To them, the mobile sex workers come mainly from the big cities like Accra, Kumasi and Tema. They sleep with the expatriates working with the mining companies and wealthy galamsey operators as a means of making money. Some of these mobile sex workers had primarily come to mining areas with the hope of trading or getting a decent job but soon lose hope and take to prostitution as a survival measure. The resident sex workers are mostly within the mining communities and have permanent stations where they can be located for business.

2.10 Factors that Fuel Conflicts in Mining Areas

A study by Slack (2009) on mining conflicts in Peru revealed that mining has been the major driver of Peru's impressive growth since 2006. This assertion is across all mining countries in the world. Despite natural resources potential of contributing to the socio-economic development of the people living closer to them, it has resulted to numerous

conflict situations. According to Wehrmann (2008), conflicts are likely to erupt in natural resource areas when there are real or perceived restrictions by the state or conservation agencies. Poor coordination and participation of local people in decision making is a major cause of conflicts over natural conserved areas (Nang, Khiev, Hirsch & Whitehead, 2011). Political and institutional factors have also been seen as sources of conflict in natural resource areas. Krishnarayan (2005) indicates that policies, institutions and processes governing the access, use, ownership and management of natural resources can be critical drivers of conflicts in resource rich areas. Violent conflicts have their roots in disputes over access to lands (FAO, 2005). Hilson (2002) attributed the primary cause of land conflicts partly to poor communication between the mining sector stakeholders.

Slack (2009) argues that, mining activities have led to rising conflicts resulting from frustration by locals, not benefiting from huge profits of the companies, deterioration of living conditions, poor communication and the fear that mining may contaminate local land and water sources. Lawson and Bentil (2014) are of the opinion that, mining induced degradation, violation of human rights, forceful evictions and demolitions affect the way mining is perceived and contributes in intensity the conflictual aspect of mining.

According to Hilson (2002), mining activities can be potentially destructive and cause irreversible damages and it is this very nature of mining operations that carry with it the inevitable phenomenon of conflict. Okyere (2013) analyzed Ghanaian cases of company-community disputes over gold mining and revealed that, most of the disputes centered on compensation payment, resettlement packages, unfulfilled promises, mistrust and lack of alternative livelihood programmes.

Twerefou, Aryeetey and Osei (2007) elaborates on the different sources of conflicts in most African countries to include conflicts on royalties, land use, resettlement and survival of small scale mining. Badu-Nyarko (2013) opined that, another area of potential conflict is the influx of non-indigenes into the areas of mining operations. According to Badu-Nyarko (2013), the success of the non-indigenes and service to the industry at the expense of the indigenes that lacked such skills may gradually develop into hatred. This becomes even worse when they begin to acquire properties like buildings, commercial ventures and become highly prosperous.

Badu-Nyarko (2013) asserts that, long histories of poor corporate environmental practice and weak state regulations have left mining communities distrustful of the central government and mining companies. Burke (2006) stated that, the process of mining operations affect the environment of the mining communities negatively and that has also been a source of conflict in mining areas. This view is supported by Barnett (2010) when he said that, mining is one of the most environmentally harmful practices on the planet because of the way in which it disturbs the land and the chemicals it uses to extract minerals from the rock ore.

According to Armstrong (2008), mining activities in Ghana have caused widespread ecological degradation and Ghana's EPA has since its inception in 1994 lacked the necessary capacity in terms of both human and financial resources to carry out its job. To him, this has also generated conflict situations in some mining areas in the country. For instance, the concerned farmers association at New Abirem in the Eastern region of Ghana protested against Newmont's mining plan and its compensation in 2006. They claimed that, the compensation offered by the mining company was not enough to pay for

the destructions done to their lands. They therefore gathered over 200 petition signatures and presented the petition to the government at that time. Lastly, when people become frustrated due to increased competition for scarce natural resources and social inequality, involvement in violent conflict becomes the only viable means through which they demonstrate their resents. It has become glaringly difficult for mining companies who rely on extensive tracts of land to operate to coexist with indigenous communities whose livelihoods are intrinsically connected to the land they live on (Hilson, 2002; Mensah & Okyere, 2014).

2.11 Effects of Mining Conflicts

Mining conflicts have serious effects on the community where these mining activities are going on as well as the mining companies. UNEP (2006) has identified displacement of people as a major social and economic cost of serious conflict. The relocation of community folks leads to loss of social ties, psychological problems and disturbances to communal way of life (Amankwah & Enim-Sackey, 2003).

Mining and community conflicts normally result in unwarranted tension within the mining communities since the aggrieved parties may want to take their pound of flesh (Hilson & Yakovleva, 2007). Mining and community conflict usually result in businesses in the community slowing down since the workers of the mining companies as well as the community folks are afraid to come out and purchase goods and services freely (Hilson & Yakovleva, 2007).

Hilson (2002) also argued that, mining and community conflict normally result in mistrust among stakeholders since the conflict come about as a result of one of the parties not fulfilling his part of the agreement and this is normally put at the doorstep of the mining companies who are seen not to uphold to the contractual agreement to the latter. Environmental problems associated with conflicts include habitat degradation, reduced access to water points and other vital resources (UNEP, 2006). Thousands of animals including antelopes and elephants fell prey to landmines conflicts in Angola and Mozambique (UNEP, 2006).

The costs incurred by mining companies as a result of mining related conflicts with communities are loss of time spent by staff on managing risk and conflict, costs of disruption to production, costs associated with discontinuation of operations, costs of injuries and deaths among others (Davis & Franks, 2011). It should be noted that mining conflicts across the world have resulted to destruction of mining companies properties and communities social amenities as well.

2.12 Interventions Expected by Mining Communities

All mining communities across the country expect certain interventions from mining companies operating on their lands. The issue of resettlement package has been at the heart of the local people in mining areas. A major problem associated with resettlement package is the estimation of property. For buildings affected by the mining operations, some of the mining companies prefer using the market value which is low because most of the rural houses are made of local materials. Rural people on the other hand prefer the user value of their houses which amounts to the provision of bedroom for bedroom in the

case of resettlements (Twerefou, 2009). Also, provision of different farmlands for farmers is very vital to the local people. There are instances where farmers have received substantial compensations to settle themselves but fail to do so and resort to legal and civil agitation for more compensation sometimes characterized by violent confrontation with mining companies (Tsekpo, 2002). Kumi (2014), writing on land compensation and community expectation in mining sought to explore the legal provisions in land acquisition and compensation in relation to community expectations in the Ahafo area of Ghana and noted that, Ghana's statutes on compensation lags behind international standards. Kumi (2014) documented that, there is no mutual understanding on the means of measuring assets for compensation payments because sometimes the local people are not skilled enough to negotiate for themselves during compensation negotiations. It should be noted that, as communities see their compensation and resettlement expectations as reasonable, mining companies see such expectations as irrational.

Small-scale mining is one of the recently proposed interventions expected by mining communities. The local people would also like to engage themselves in the extraction of minerals on their own land as a means of gaining their livelihood. It is rather unfortunate that, the operations of these small-scale miners have resulted to unhealthy competition and clashes between them and the major mining companies in the area. Hilson and Yakovleva (2007) examined the dynamics of ongoing conflict where small-scale mining groups are operating unlawfully on a concession given to a mining company. Despite being issued firm orders by the authorities to abandon their activities, leaders of the small-scale miners maintain that there are few alternative sources of employment which is why they are mining and that where they are mining are of little interest to the mining

company. Amankwah and Enim-Sackey (2003) looked at the developments in the small-scale gold and diamond mining industry in Ghana. In terms of development of the small-scale mining, their study observed that, since the passage of the small-scale mining law in 1989, the small-scale gold and diamond mining firms have received financial and technical support from local and international organizations. In terms of how the concept of sustainable development could be applied to the mining industry in Ghana, their study recommends a good network and continuous financial assistance to the key organizations in the mining sector.

Another intervention expected by mining communities is the alternative livelihood programme. A study undertaken by Hilson and Banchirigah (2009) criticized the assumption by Ghanaians concerning ALP which states that, the alternative activities are more attractive than ASM and that individuals are willing to take up these activities than ASM. The authors found out that, these assumptions were not correct and that most of the economic activities being promoted proved highly unpopular with the target groups. The authors recommend the re-design of ALP for mining communities. In terms of skills acquisition under ALP, Nyame (2002) observed that in 61 villages of the Western region, the youth were more interested in acquiring skills in the areas of masonry and carpentry than farming which was the suggested alternative.

2.13 Attitude of Mining Communities towards Mining Interventions

According to Twerefou, Tutu, Owusu-Afriyie and Adjei-Mantey (2015), attitudes are evaluative statements related to a person, object or event either favourable or unfavourable and reflect the disposition of people to react and behave in a certain way

towards people and situations. To them, attitude has mainly three components namely the cognitive component, affective component and behavioural component. According to them, the cognitive component is the belief segment of an attitude that allows someone to form an opinion or perception about a person, an object or a situation. The affective component is the feeling segment of an attitude that allows someone to attach his/her emotions to the opinion that has been formed about a person, an object or a situation. The behavioural component allows a person to attach a desire to behave or act in a certain way based on the emotions he/she attaches to the opinion about a person, an object or a situation.

Attitudes are rooted in genetics even though environmental consideration plays a key role in the formation of one's attitude (DeAngelis, 2004). It should be noted that communities have various attitudes towards mining interventions. Twerefou et al. (2015) in their study revealed that, economic challenges were the most pressing issues in mining communities that forced the people not to pay heed to mining sector interventions and policies, followed by environmental issues and social issues. The study also revealed that, majority of the local people did not have favourable attitude towards mining interventions and policies. Opoku-Agyemang (2002) found out that some of the local communities have uncompromising attitude with respect to compensation payments and have therefore resorted to unqualified demonstrations especially when their grievances are not handled very well.

2.14 Possible Ways of Promoting Peace in Mining Communities

Mensah and Okyere (2014) have suggested the following as possible ways of promoting peace in mining communities across the country. According to them, the arena within which the mining company and community interrelates is not a level playing ground. There exists a vast power inequality as mining companies wield economic, legal and political powers as compared to local communities who are normally considered marginal in the process and often have to resort to advocacy groups and civil societies. According to them, there is the need to adopt certain minimum guarantees from a political, legal and economic perspective that protects the interest of the weaker mining communities in Ghana.

Also, there should be intensification of mining company and community engagement. The first contact between mining companies and their host communities are critical to the way perceptions, expectations and demands will be shaped with time. The communities form the immediate recipients of mining impacts and should therefore be actively engaged in the decision making process. Most often mining discussions are held at a very political and centralized level with the involvement of government agencies and multinational companies. Community engagement becomes only relevant when these actors begin to localize their activities. However, the higher level decisions are often translated to the local level (host communities). It is therefore important to ensure that the decision making process actively engages host communities at all levels and their views should frame the way things are localized. Deeper and stronger community engagement will reduce conflicts and maximize mining's impact to the host community.

Moreover, mining and community issues need to be integrated into local planning. Local development plans have treated mining conflicts as a peripheral issue in their developmental frameworks. There is therefore the need to envision mining into a broader framework of the mining communities developmental plans across the country.

Furthermore, mining companies need to embark on ALPs in the mining communities. Most of the mining communities in Ghana are often based on primary production mainly subsistence agriculture activities which also serve as a source of livelihood for the local people. Displacement, resettlement or pollution implies a loss of these traditional means of livelihood. There is therefore the need to consider sustainable alternative livelihoods for these local people.

Mining companies normally cite small-scale businesses, training schemes and enterprises as the main means of supporting the local people economically. However, in several instances, these schemes are not sustainable and tend to collapse in few years. It is important to help affected people to get jobs and incentives to encourage businesses in the mining areas. Much effort should be put in place to determine the individualities of each mining community across the country when implementing ALP schemes and community members should also be part of the designing and implementation of such schemes to ensure that it is responsive to local conditions and self-sustainable.

2.15 Breaking the Cycle of Conflict in Mining Communities

Slack (2009) recommends the following actions for stakeholders as a way of promoting peace between mining companies and their host communities.

2.15.1 The role of government

The government must double its efforts of regulating the mining industry in Ghana. It has to ensure that community's rights are respected and the environment is protected. It should monitor the implementation of agreements between mining companies and their host communities and publish information when agreements are not fulfilled. Social and environmental regulations relating to mining must be enforced by the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology. To this end, the government should strengthen the independence of the ministry and ensure that it can operate without any political interference. Non-violent opposition to government backed mining projects should be allowed as part of the democratic process. The government should demarcate areas where mining may be acceptable and areas where for social, environmental or other reasons mining cannot take place. The zoning of the country will help mining companies to avoid operating in areas where conflicts are likely to arise.

2.15.2 The role of mining companies

Mining companies must only operate in areas where they can obtain the approval of the local people in the mining areas. Attempting to force themselves in mining communities will be a recipe for disaster. Mining companies should respect the rights and views of the local people and see them as partners in their mining projects. As partners, the local people should be given adequate information about the potential costs and benefits of a mining project as well as sufficient time to decide if they support a proposed project or not. Mining companies should establish trust funds for mining areas which they can use to employ their own experts and consultants to advise them so that they can effectively

take part in decision making process. In some situations, the attitudes of mining company employees have worsened the tensions between mining companies and their host communities. Mining companies should therefore screen applicants to ensure that they employ only those who are fully committed to building positive relationships with mining communities. Mining companies should openly condemn any intimidation, threats and other forms of harassment against organizations that seek to use non-violent means to protect the rights of mining communities.

2.15.3 The role of international donors

International donors should support government efforts to employ and train adequate staff to ensure compliance with social and environmental regulations in mining areas across the Ghana. They should also support government efforts to strengthen its capacity to manage and resolve mining-related conflicts. They should help government to diversify its economy in order to reduce the country's dependence on resource extraction. The donors need to invest in agriculture, manufacturing and other sectors that can create greater opportunities for employment and increase income levels of the local people.

2.15.4 The role of civil society

Civil society groups should work with the mining communities to strengthen their capacity to participate effectively in dialogue with mining companies. Also, NGOs should develop technical expertise on mining, environmental and social impact issues. This would enable them to better interpret technical information that mining companies

produce and advocate more effectively for mining related reforms and regulations. Again, civil society groups should educate the public about the costs and benefits of mining and the need to work towards conflict free communities in Ghana. This education could be done on radio, television, on the internet among others.

2.16 Summary

This chapter has sufficiently discussed the issues relating to mining and community conflicts. The discussions were made bearing in mind the research objectives. Poor coordination and participation of the local people in decision making, compensation payment, unfulfilled promises and resettlement packages were seen as some of the causes of conflicts between mining companies and their host communities. From the literature, mining conflicts really affect the mining companies as well as the community folks. It revealed that, mining conflicts have resulted in injuries, loss of lives, displacement of people, unwanted tension within the mining communities, slowed down economic activities etc. The literature also revealed that, the attitude of community folks towards mining interventions could be favourable or unfavourable. Arbitration, mediation and adjudication were seen as some of the methods that could be used in conflict resolution in mining communities. Some scholars in the literature have suggested unique ways of promoting peace in mining communities and some of these ways are involvement of the local people in decision making mostly relating to mining issues, the mining companies embarking on alternative livelihood programmes etc.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the general approach and specific procedures that the researcher used to address the research objectives. It deals with a discussion of the research approach, research design, background to the study area, population, sample size and sampling techniques, methods of data collection, validity and reliability, pilot testing of the instruments, data for the study, data analysis and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Approach

Basically, there are three major research approaches namely qualitative research approach, quantitative research approach and mixed method approach. Qualitative research explores attitudes, behaviours and experiences and it attempts to get an in depth opinion from participants (Dawson, 2002). Quantitative research reaches many people but the contact with those people is much quicker than it is in qualitative research (Dawson, 2002). Mixed method approach integrates the qualitative and quantitative research approaches in a single project (Bryman, 2004). The researcher adopted the qualitative research approach in this study. This helped him to uncover trends in thoughts, experiences and opinions from the participants selected for the study.

3.2 Research Design

According to Brian (2004), research design is the overall plan used by a researcher which articulates what data is required, what methods are going to be used to collect and analyze this data and how all of these can help in answering the research questions. Yin (2003) considers research design as an action plan for getting from here to there. Where here is regarded as the initial set of questions to be answered whilst there is some set of conclusion about the questions. Bryman (2004) outlined five prominent research designs and these are experimental design, cross sectional design, longitudinal design, case study design and comparative design. For the purpose of this study, the researcher adopted case study design. Case study is a specific instance that is frequently designed to illustrate a more general principle (Cohen, Manion & Morrison, 2007). According to Stake (1995), case study is a strategy of inquiry in which the researcher explores in depth a programme, event and activity.

Cohen et al. (2007) emphasized case study hallmarks suggested by Hitchcock and Hughes. These hallmarks are, it is concerned with a rich and vivid description of events relevant to the case, it provides a chronological narrative of events relevant to the case, it blends a description of events with the analysis of them, it focuses on individual actors or group of actors and seeks to understand their perceptions of event, it highlights specific events that are relevant to the case, the researcher is integrally involved in the case and an attempt is made to portray the richness of the case in writing up the report. The adoption of case study design is justifiable in the sense that, the study was conducted in a specific community (Sanso) in the Obuasi Municipality with emphasis on AngloGold Ashanti

only. The case study design helped the researcher to acquire firsthand information and fairly truthful reportage of the issues under study.

3.3 Background to the Study Area

The study area which is Sanso community is found within the Obuasi Municipality. It is therefore prudent to give a description of the Municipality as well. The background to the study area has therefore been categorized into two namely background of Obuasi Municipality and background of Sanso community.

3.3.1 Background of Obuasi Municipality

The Obuasi Municipality was established by L. I. 1795 of 17th March, 2004 with Obuasi as its capital. The Municipality is divided into five zonal councils and further subdivided into 38 electoral areas. It has two constituencies namely Obuasi East and Obuasi West constituencies (Obuasi Municipal Assembly Report, 2014). The Municipality is 64 km from Kumasi, the regional capital and bounded on the south by Upper Denkyira District, East by Adansi South, West by Amansie Central and North by Adansi North (Ghana Statistical Service District Analytical Report, 2014). The population of Obuasi Municipality according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census was 168,641 representing 3.5% of the region's total population. Males constituted 48.0% and females represented 52.0% (Ghana Statistical Service District Analytical Report, 2014). According to the Obuasi Municipal Assembly Report (2014), the annual population growth rate in the Municipality is 4.0%. It further explains that, the high population growth rate is as a result of large influx of migrants who come in search of jobs in the mining and related industries in the Municipality. With a population growth rate of 4.0%

per annum, it can be estimated that, the population of Obuasi Municipality as at 2017 is 215,860. Gold mining is actively done in the Municipality and it is operated largely by AGA. The health facilities in the Municipality consist of seven hospitals, two health centers, eight clinics, four maternity homes and one Community Health Planning Station (CHPS). All these are privately owned except one hospital, two health centers and one CHPS compound. There are 121 public educational institutions and 220 private schools in the Municipality ranging from KGs to SHS (Obuasi Municipal Assembly Report, 2014).

Figure 3.1: Map of Obuasi Municipality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service (District Analytical Report, 2014)

3.3.2 Background of Sanso Community

The study was conducted in Sanso, a mining community where AGA operates. As at 2010, the total population of Sanso was 1,788. Males constituted 889 representing 49.7% and females were 899 representing 50.3% (Ghana Statistical Service District Analytical Report, 2014). By estimation and using the annual population growth rate of 4.0% of the Municipality, the population of Sanso as at 2017 can be said to be 2, 289. AngloGold Ashanti has a concession in this community and has been operating in the area for many years. Until recently, Sanso was highly dominated by farmers with few people going into trading. Currently, most of the youth are into small scale mining and the ageing population is engaged in farming. Sanso used to have 22 streams but these streams have been highly polluted due to the mining activities in the area. The community can only boast of free electricity, one primary school, one junior high school, one biogas w.c and few boreholes. The community lacks hospital, maternity home, bank, senior high school, police station, fire service station, market and lorry station (Field Data, 16th July, 2017).

3.4 Population of the Study

According to Anastas (2009), population in research is any set of people or events from which the sample is selected and to which the study results will be generalized. The population for the study comprised of the people of Sanso community, police personnel, workers of AGA and workers of the Obuasi Municipal Assembly.

3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

Sample size is the actual and manageable number of people deduced from the population to serve as participants in a study whilst sampling techniques are the methods used in selecting participants for a study to represent the larger group from which they were selected. Based on the researcher's selected design (case study), only one mining community (Sanso community) where AGA operates in the Obuasi Municipality was considered with a sample size of 22. The justification for the sample size was based on the fact that, the researcher wanted to spend more time with each participant so as to get much information from them concerning the issues under study. The selection of 22 participants for the study was done using non-probability sampling techniques such as snowballing sampling technique, convenience sampling technique and purposive sampling technique. These sampling techniques were appropriate since it helped the researcher to select and get in touch with the actual people involved in the issues under study.

Snowballing sampling is where the researcher identifies small number of individuals who have the characteristics he/she is interested in and later use them as informants to get to others (Cohen et al., 2007). In some situations too, the researcher may contact only one person for information and asks him/her about other individuals who might have more information relating to the issues under study. Snowballing sampling technique helped the researcher to get in touch with the three opinion leaders. The researcher first of all interviewed the former Assembly man since the new one was not in town, asked of other people who might have information concerning the issues under study. The researcher visited two of such individuals for more information.

Convenience sampling technique also known as accidental sampling technique involves choosing the nearest individuals to serve as respondents (Cohen et al., 2007). It can also imply choosing individuals who will be available and accessible at the time you may need them. The researcher used this sampling technique to select three police personnel, two AGA security guards and four AGA staff. The residence and duty schedules of these personnel were taken into consideration and only those who were closer to the researcher and could make time for the researcher were contacted.

Purposive sampling is where the researcher handpicks the cases to be included in the sample on the basis of his/her judgement of their typicality or possession of the particular characteristics being sought (Cohen et al., 2007). According to Neuman (2000), purposive sampling is used when the researcher wants to select respondents with a specific purpose in mind. The bottom line is that, the researcher handpicks participants that he/she thinks will give him/her the needed information. The researcher used this sampling technique to select the nine galamseyers and one respondent from the Obuasi Municipal Assembly.

3.6 Methods of Data Collection

Yin (2003) outlined four main methods for data collection namely interview, questionnaire, focus group discussion and observation. The researcher used three of the methods suggested by Yin and these were interview, focus group discussion and questionnaire.

3.6.1 Interview

Interviewing is a useful way of collecting qualitative data because the technique allows respondents to report on themselves, their views, their beliefs, practices, interactions and concerns (Freebody, 2003). There are basically three types of interviews namely structured interview, unstructured interview and semi-structured interview. Structured interview is where the interviewer asks the interviewees series of questions and ticks boxes with their answers (Dawson, 2002). With this instrument, the interviewees are not given much opportunity to explain further concerning their responses but rather, they are supposed to give straight forward responses. Unstructured interview is where the interviewer attempts to achieve a holistic understanding of the interviewees' point of view or situation (Dawson, 2002). The duty of the interviewer is to remain alert, recognize vital information and probe for more details. According to Dawson (2002), it is the favoured approach for life history research but its analysis is difficult due to the voluminous data collected. Semi-structured interview is neither fully fixed nor fully free and is perhaps best seen as flexible (O'Leary, 2005). In this study, semi-structured interview was employed. It was used to gather data from three opinion leaders, two AGA security guards and one person from the Obuasi Municipal Assembly. Appointments were booked with the respondents before the actual day of the interview. The researcher went with a field assistant on the interview day and he helped in recording the conversation between the researcher and the interviewees with the permission of the interviewees. With the exception of AGA security guards, the rest were audio recorded and it was played back for the interviewees to listen before the researcher left the interview venue.

3.6.2 Focus group discussion

Focus group discussion is where a number of people are asked to come together in order to discuss a certain issue for the purpose of research (Dawson, 2002). According to Bryman (2004), the focus group discussion method represents a form of group interview where there are several participants including the interviewer in which questions emphasizes on fairly tightly defined topic and focus centered on interaction within the group and joint construction. It is therefore a means to achieve some form of joint opinion of a group of people on their experience of an issue. The study was interested in determining the feelings and experiences of the local people and hence the focus group discussion was adopted by the researcher. The rationale was to know whether there exists a general consensus about the issues listed for discussions. The focus group discussion was conducted with nine participants who were all galamsey operators. They were given prior notice as to the time and venue for the discussions. It started in the evening since they told me that, they will not get time for me during the day due to their busy schedules. The participants did not allow me to record them using audio recorder but the researcher was able to make some notes as the discussions unfolded.

3.6.3 Questionnaire

The questionnaire is one of the most widely used methods for gathering data in research. The appeal of the questionnaire partly stems from its cheapness and quickness in terms of administration (Bryman, 2004). There are three types of questionnaires namely open-ended questionnaire, closed-ended questionnaire and a combination of the two which some scholars called semi-structured questionnaire. With the open-ended questionnaire,

the respondents are provided space for them to write their own responses to the questions whilst with the closed-ended questionnaire, the respondents select from answers attached to the questions by way of ticking. The semi-structured questionnaire has some of the questions open for the respondents to provide their own answers to them and others strictly attached with answers for the respondents to select from. Open-ended questionnaires are used in qualitative research, although some researchers will quantify the answers during the analysis stage whilst closed-ended questionnaires are used to generate statistics in quantitative research (Dawson, 2002). Taking in consideration the research approach, the researcher adopted the open-ended questionnaire and it was used to gather information from four AGA staff and three police personnel. The questionnaire was given to the respondents for one week and that gave them enough time to think through the questions and brought out vital and more information relating to the issues or questions asked.

3.7 Ensuring Validity and Reliability

The quality and trustworthiness of every research work depends on validity and reliability. Reliability refers to the ability of research results to be replicated or repeated (Merriam, 1998). Reliability is consistency of measurement (Bollen, 1989). According to Nunnally (1978), reliability refers to the stability of measurement over a variety of conditions in which basically the same results should be obtained. Validity is the ability of a research instrument to measure what it intends to measure. In other words, it can be explained as the appropriateness and accuracy of a research instrument. The researcher ensured validity and reliability in this work. On validity, the researcher ensured that, all the

questions which were asked were based on the objectives for the study. Also, after developing the instruments, they were given to a PhD. student who has experience in research to review and comment on the structure and content of the instruments. Lastly, the instruments were given to my supervisor who made important suggestions and provided useful advice which helped to improve the quality of the instruments. On reliability, the researcher ensured that the questions asked were clear and could be understood by all the respondents. Also, the characteristics of the respondents were highly considered. Finally, the researcher did a pilot test of some of the instruments to ascertain their reliability and validity before the actual administration of the instruments.

3.8 Pilot Testing of Instruments

The pilot testing of the instruments was done three weeks before the actual data collection started. That is, with the exception of the instruments for AGA security guards and the Deputy Director at the Obuasi Municipal Assembly, the rest of the instruments were pilot tested. For instance, a friend of mine who has stayed in Obuasi for many years linked me to two police personnel, two AGA staff, three galamseyers and one opinion leader at Anyinam, another mining community with similar challenge. The galamseyers and the opinion leader were interviewed using the semi-structured interview method whilst the police personnel and the AGA staff were given open-ended questionnaires to answer. The researcher compared the responses obtained from these respondents with the research questions and realized that, the instruments were valid since they yielded accurate responses. The researcher could not pilot test the instruments for AGA security

guards and the Deputy Director due to their busy schedules. The researcher struggled a lot before getting them during the actual data collection exercise.

3.9 Data for the Study

Both primary and secondary data were gathered for the study. Primary data are first-hand information got from respondents from the field. The researcher collected primary data from the field using semi-structured interview, focus group discussion and open-ended questionnaire. Secondary data are data which are already in existence and might have been used before by scholars or other researchers. The researcher gathered the secondary data from related articles and thesis.

3.10 Data Analysis

The primary data gathered from the field through the use of semi-structured interview, focus group discussion and open-ended questionnaire were analyzed qualitatively using thematic analysis. Thematic analysis is a highly qualitative data analysis method (Dawson, 2002). The analysis started with the transcription of the audio-tape recordings. The researcher listened to each of the audio tapes repeatedly as he wrote down exactly what the respondents' said. The researcher then determined the analytical themes that will be used for the analysis. The determination of the themes was guided by the research questions. Related data was categorized accordingly. The responses made were not attached to individual names but rather they were attached to codes already assigned to them by the researcher. The researcher used relevant quotations from the field and the

literature to support respondents' views. The focus group discussion and the open-ended questionnaires were analyzed in the same way except that transcriptions were not done since they were not audio recorded. Documentary analysis was done for the secondary data that was available to the researcher. Documents are good places to search for answers and they provide useful check on primary information gathered through interviews and questionnaires (Miller & Brewer, 2004). In this study, related articles and thesis were gathered by the researcher, read, summarized and compared with the primary data collected by the researcher.

3.11 Ethical Considerations

To ensure confidentiality, the researcher assured the participants of keeping potentially injurious information revealed by them and that none of such information would be disclosed to anybody. This made participants to freely share their thoughts, feelings and experiences concerning the issues under study. Also, to ensure anonymity, personal data such as names and addresses of respondents or participants who answered the open-ended questionnaires were left out in the design of the instrument. This made it impossible for anyone to trace any information to a particular respondent. Again, participants were not forced to take part in the research. They were contacted, briefed about the research and appropriate approval was given before the researcher engaged them in the research. Moreover, the researcher ensured that, the dignity of all the respondents or participants was respected. They were made to understand that, they were at liberty to opt out if at any point in time they felt uncomfortable. Their consent was sorted before voice recordings were made. Whatever was recorded was played back for them to listen before

leaving. They were not forced to answer all the questions asked by the researcher. The researcher ensured that other people's work were not copied or reprinted as his own. Articles, books, thesis etc. which the researcher got information from were duly acknowledged and these could be seen from the references.

3.12 Summary

This chapter has critically looked at the overall approach to the study. The work was a purely qualitative one with case study as its design. Non-probability sampling techniques such as snowballing, convenience and purposive sampling were used to select 22 participants for the study. Open-ended questionnaire, semi-structured interview and focus group discussion were used to collect primary data from the field. The primary data collected were analyzed qualitatively using the thematic method of analysis. Critical attention was also given to research ethics such as confidentiality, anonymity etc.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF DATA

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the data collected from the respondents. The respondents in the study were 22. This comprised of three opinion leaders, two AGA security guards, four AGA staff, three police personnel, one personnel from the Obuasi Municipal Assembly and nine galamseyers. The presentation of data has been done in five sections. The first section talks about the background information of all the 22 respondents. The second section presents the data relating to factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The third section highlights the data relating to the effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso. The fourth section presents the data obtained from the field in relation to the attitude of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions implemented by AGA. The fifth section deals with the data concerning the measures that are used to resolve the conflict situations in Sanso.

4.1 Background Information of Respondents

The background information of the respondents focused on the gender, age, marital status, highest level of education, occupation and number of years on the job. The information gathered from the field in relation to the stated issues have been arranged in a tabular form for easy comparison and discussion.

Table 4.1: Background information of respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
A. Gender		
Male	20	90.9
Female	2	9.1
Total	22	100
B. Age		
50 years and above	5	22.7
41 years – 50 years	1	4.5
31 years – 40 years	7	31.8
21 years – 30 years	6	27.3
10 years – 20 years	3	13.6
1 year – 9 years	0	0
Total	22	100
C. Marital status		
Single	8	36.4
Married	14	63.6
Divorced	0	0
Total	22	100
D. Highest level of education		
University	7	31.8
Senior High/Technical School	3	13.6
Middle School Leaver	2	9.1
Junior High School	9	40.9
Primary School	1	4.5
Total	22	100
E. Occupation		
Farming	1	4.5
Mining	15	68.2
Self employed	2	9.1
Others	4	18.2
Total	22	100
F. Number of years on the job		
26 years – 30 years	1	4.5
21 years – 25 years	1	4.5
16 years – 20 years	0	0
11 years – 15 years	2	9.1
6 years – 10 years	8	36.4
1 year – 5 years	10	45.5
Total	22	100

Source: Field data (July, 2017)

Table 4.1 has given a breakdown of the respondents' background. It could be observed from the table that, majority of the respondents were males. That is, 20 out of the 22 respondents representing 90.9% were males whilst two of the respondents forming 9.1% were females. On the age structure, majority of the respondents were found between the ages of 21 and 40. That is, six of them were between the ages of 21 and 30 whilst seven were between the ages of 31 and 40. The respondents between the stated range sum up to 13 representing 59.1%. Three of the respondents forming 13.6% were between the ages of 10 and 20 whilst five respondents representing 22.7% were found within the range of 50 and above. Only one respondent was found within the range of 41 and 50 which represents 4.5%. It should be noted that, none of the respondents was found within the age range of 1 and 9. On the issue of marital status, 14 of the respondents forming the majority and representing 63.6% were married whilst eight of the respondents forming 36.4% were single. None of the respondents reported of divorce. The table also shows that, majority of the respondents were JHS leavers, followed by University graduates. Nine of the respondents representing 40.9% had completed JHS whilst seven of the respondents forming 31.8% were University graduates. Apart from that, three of the respondents forming 13.6% were SHS leavers and two of them representing 9.1% were middle school leavers. From the table, only one respondent representing 4.5% had completed primary school and was not able to further his education. On occupation, the data collected revealed that majority of the respondents were involved in mining or its related activities. As many as 15 respondents forming 68.2% were found in the mining category whilst others (police, traders etc.) were four representing 18.2%. Two of the respondents representing 9.1% said they were self-employed whilst one respondent

forming 4.5% was a farmer. When the respondents were asked the number of years they have spent on their respective jobs, the following information came out as it can be seen from the table. Majority of the respondents have spent between 1 year and 10 years on their respective jobs. That is, 18 of the respondents forming 81.9% have spent between the stated range of years on their respective jobs. Two of the respondents forming 9.1% have spent between 11 years and 15 years on their respective jobs. The rest of the respondents have spent between 21 years and 30 years. One of them has spent between 21 years and 25 years on the job whilst the other one has also spent between 26 years and 30 years on the job. The subsequent sections deal with the actual presentation of data collected from the respondents which are in line with the research objectives.

4.2 Factors that Fuel Conflicts between AGA and Sanso Community

After the data collection, the researcher deduced four questions relating to the above issue. The questions were, has compensation payment been a source of conflict between AGA and the people of Sanso? Have galamsey activities caused conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso? What other issues might have resulted to the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso? Which of the stated issues is more critical and has often fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso? All the opinion leaders (OPLs) stated that, compensation payment has fuel conflicts in the area. They said that AGA does not factor the life expectancy of their crops in the calculation of their compensation but they only multiply the unit cost of the crops by the number of crops on the land. OPL-1 (male & 52 years) for example remarked:

The compensation paid by AGA should be $70 \times 100 \times 40$ where 70 is the unit cost, 100 been the number of crops and 40 been the life expectancy of the crops but AGA only pays 70×100 of the whole compensation.

The responses of the galamsey operators (GOs) were not different from that of the opinion leaders. They said that, indeed the issue of compensation payment has resulted to conflicts in the area. They added that at times AGA delay in paying the compensation and that has also resulted to conflict between them and AGA.

Apart from AGA not calculating the compensation very well, AGA does not pay the compensation on time and this has created problems between us and AGA (GO-6, male & 26 years)

The Municipal Director (MD) agreed that some of the conflict situations in Sanso have revolved around compensation payment but as to how the calculation is done, he was not aware of it. The responses of the police personnel (PP) were not different from that of the MD. They attested to the fact that, they have no idea of how the compensation is calculated but confirmed that it has been a source of conflict in the area. According to AGA security guards (SGs), the farmers have always been paid what they deserve but they always ask for more. The SG-2 (male & 51 years) for instance had this to say:

AGA pays these farmers their compensation accurately and on time but yet they complain and always ask for more.

AGA staff (AS) shared similar views to that of the SGs. According to them, they don't know why these farmers agitate on the grounds of compensation because they normally sit down with them, do the necessary calculations and pay them accordingly. Majority of the respondents agreed that galamsey activities have fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. All the security guards stated that, the galamsey operators normally encroach onto AGA concession using different routes they have created for themselves and this has created conflicts between AGA and these galamseyers.

The galamsey operators have identified several routes to AGA fence, they use sophisticated tools to cut some part of it. They enter into AGA concession, do their illegal mining activities, pass through the same routes and seal their routes nicely to prevent any suspicion (SG-1, male & 53 years)

SG-2 (male & 51 years) also had this to say:

The galamseymen normally dig holes underground to link AGA tunnels. They pass through such holes till they get to AGA tunnels where the fine rocks are found. They do their illegal mining activities after which they run back through the same means.

All the AGA staff (AS) supported the views shared by the SGs. They attested to the fact that at times some of the galamseymen encroach onto AGA concession after being warned several times and this has resulted to conflicts between their security guards and some of these galamseymen. For instance, one of them had this to say:

The galamseymen most at times encroach onto AGA concession and that has resulted to clashes between our security guards and them (AS-3, male & 35 years).

All the galamsey operators (GOs) agreed with the assertions made by AS and SGs on the issue of encroachment but they gave reason for encroaching onto AGA concession. According to them, they encroach onto AGA concession because where AGA has allocated to them is not as rich as where AGA operates. The GO-4 (male & 18 years) for example had this to say:

AGA has allocated some portion of their concession to us at 'Kotere Face' which was somehow rich but want us to relocate to a different place which is not as rich as where we were.

Two of the opinion leaders (OPL-1 & OPL-3) said that at times the galamsey operators' trespass onto AGA concession and that has generated clashes in the area. The OPL-2 on

the other hand denied the assertion made by her colleagues. To her, the galamsey operators have never gone closer to where AGA operates before.

I haven't heard of any galamsey operator trespassing onto AGA concession before since I came to this town (OPL-2, female & 68 years).

The response from the Municipal Director (MD) was in line with that of the SGs and AS. He confirmed that, some of the galamsey operators in Sanso have dug holes to link the main tunnels of AGA concession and through those holes, they go there to do their illegal mining activities. Two of the police personnel (PP-2 & PP-3) shared similar views with that of SGs, AS and MD. According to them, there have been several reported cases of some galamsey operators intruding onto AGA concession in the area. For instance, PP-2 highlighted that at times they are called upon by AGA to help sack these galamseyers from their lands. The PP-3 supported the view shared by PP-2. He added that, moving these galamseyers from AGA concession has been one of the tedious jobs embarked upon by the police in the area. The other respondent (PP-1) did not give any opinion on the issue. On the issue of other factors that might have fueled conflicts between AGA and Sanso community, the six sets of respondents made the following assertions. Two of the opinion leaders (OPL-2 & OPL-3) said that, inability of AGA to employ the local folks, destruction of streams and rivers due to AGA's activities were some of the factors that have fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The OPL-3 (male & 30 years) for example remarked:

AGA does not employ we the local people not even the labourer work even though some of our people have gone to school and have good certificates.

The OPL-1 on the other hand was of the view that, AGA not providing the people of Sanso essential social amenities has resulted to conflict situations in the area. He expressed this view as follows:

AGA has benefited from Sanso community a lot meanwhile they haven't provided us with enough boreholes, schools and KVIP's (OPL-1, male & 52 years)

Responses from the Municipal Director (MD) support the views shared by OPL-2 and OPL-3. According to him, destruction of streams and rivers, AGA not complying with the local content policy have all been sources of the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. For instance, MD (male & 52 years) had this to say:

AGA has failed to employ the young men and women of Sanso meanwhile a lot of them have attended school and some are even engineers.

The MD added that, AGA wanted to reconnect Sanso community to ECG power supply so that the people of Sanso will now pay light bills but this issue was not taken likely at all by the people of Sanso and has also resulted to some demonstrations in the area.

Responses from the galamsey operators (GOs) were not different from that of OPLs and MD. They highlighted the same factors that have fueled conflicts in the area. To them, AGA not employing the local folks, AGA not providing them with social amenities and the issue of AGA trying to reconnect them to ECG for them to pay light bill have been some of the sources of conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso.

AGA has benefited a lot from us and yet they want us to pay light bill. We the people of Sanso will never pay (GO-8, male & 27 years).

All the security guards (SGs) stated unemployment as a source of conflict between AGA and the people of Sanso. To them, the local people have it in mind that the minerals

belong to them since it is on their land and for that matter they should be employed in AGA and not outsiders. For instance, according to SG-1 in a conversation with one of the local people, he told him that, the minerals belong to them and not AGA. He reported what the man said and I quote ‘‘Our gold and not your gold’’. The views shared by AS and PP were not different from what the other respondents have highlighted. On the issue of which of the factors has frequently fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso, all the OPLs indicated that, AGA not employing the local folks has been the most critical factor that has fueled conflicts between AGA and Sanso community folks. This assertion was supported by the rest of the respondents. They all agreed that, most of the conflicts between AGA and Sanso community folks have revolved around the inability of AGA to employ the indigenes of Sanso. The various statements made by the respondents in relation to unemployment already captured by the researcher supports this view.

4.3 Effects of Mining Conflicts on AGA and Sanso Community

Four questions emerged in relation to the above issue. These questions were, have the conflicts resulted to injuries and deaths? If yes, how many injuries and death cases have been recorded since 2005?, how does the conflict affect the daily activities of the people of Sanso?, which group of people is highly affected by the conflict?, has there been any destruction of community and AGA properties? If yes, what are some of these properties? On the issue of injuries and deaths, OPL-1 stated that there have been several injuries and at least four deaths as a result of the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The OPL-2 indicated that there have been about six injuries and at least one death as a result of the conflicts. The OPL-3 on the other hand said that there have been numerous injuries

but nobody has lost his/her life as a result of the conflicts. The MD supported the view of OPL-3. He indicated that even though the conflicts have resulted to several injuries, death cases have not been recorded. The SGs also supported the view of OPL-3 and MD. They stated that, they are aware of the conflict situations resulting to several injuries but not death cases. The GOs also denied the assertion made by OPL-1 and OPL-2. According to them, they haven't heard of any reported case of death as a result of the conflicts but were quick to admit that, the conflicts have resulted to many injuries. According to PP-1, to the best of his knowledge there have been two reported cases of deaths and numerous injuries as a result of the conflicts. The PP-2 also shared similar view with PP-1. He indicated that at least two people have lost their lives and many have been injured as a result of the conflicts. The PP-3 on the other hand said that only one person has lost his life as a result of the conflicts but she agreed that there have been several reported cases of injuries. The AS-1, AS-2 and AS-4 confirmed that the conflict situations have resulted to one death case and several injuries. This opinion was debunked by AS-3. He indicated that, the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso have not resulted to any death case in the area. In relation to the injuries, he indicated that they are not many but was not sure of the exact number. On the issue of effects of the conflicts on the people of Sanso, all the OPLs indicated that the conflicts have really affected their economic activities. The OPL-2 (female & 68 years) for example remarked:

During the clashes, we are always in our rooms and cannot go to our farms since we are afraid that we may be injured or killed.

The MD supported the opinion shared by the OPLs. He indicated that the community folks are unable to go about their normal activities during the conflicts and to him, this has affected their livelihood. The MD (male & 52 years) expressed this view as follows:

The people of Sanso are afraid to go about their small-scale mining activities during the clashes between them and AGA. This has affected the livelihood of the people.

The responses from SGs and AS were different. The two sets of respondents indicated that their concern was not on the effects of the conflicts on Sanso but rather on their work. For example, SG-1 (male & 53 years) had this to say:

The frequent clashes between us and the people of Sanso have impeded the smooth running of our duties.

SG-2 (male & 51 years) also added:

The clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso affect our work. We are unable to monitor certain parts of our concessions due to fear. These parts of our concession are declared as unsafe zones.

All the GOs supported the view shared by OPLs and MD. According to them, during the conflict situations, they are unable to go about their galamsey activities since they are afraid to be injured or killed and that has really affected their livelihood.

Since we are afraid to be shot by the military men, we don't go about our galamsey activities during the clashes and this has also affected our livelihood (GO-6, male & 26 years).

Two of the police personnel commented on this issue. They indicated that the frequent conflict situations in the area have affected the economic activities of the people of Sanso and this was also in line with the responses shared by the OPLs, MD and GOs. On the issue of which group of people is highly affected by the conflicts, the respondents made these revelations. The OPL-1 mentioned the youth as those who suffer most during the conflicts. The OPL-2 stated children, women and the aged as those who suffer most during the conflict situations. The OPL-3 said that, all the people in the community suffer during the conflict situations. The MD supported the view shared by OPL-3. According

to him, everybody in the community in one way or the other suffer from the conflict situations. This view is again supported by SGs and AS. They added that, the conflicts affect not only the people of Sanso but even all the workers of AGA living in and around Sanso community. The galamsey operators (GOs) argued that, they suffer most since they are unable to go about their activities that put food on their table. The PP-1 and PP-3 indicated that, the youth suffers most whilst PP-2 was of the view that not only the youth but rather everybody in the community. On the issue of destruction of community and AGA properties, the following findings came out. The OPLs indicated that at times the youth of Sanso during the clashes destroy AGA vehicles, AGA machines and AGA offices. They added that, nothing has been destroyed in Sanso community as a result of the clashes. The MD also highlighted that, nothing has been destroyed in Sanso but much damages have been done outside the community. He gave specific examples as destruction of AGA equipment, AGA offices, AGA vehicles and billboards. The SGs shared similar opinion to that of the OPLs and MD. They confirmed that, the clashes have led to the destruction of AGA vehicles and AGA offices. The SG-2 (male & 51 years) for instance had this to say:

During the clashes, the youth of Sanso normally come here with weapons and destroy our cars, machines and offices. They quickly run away after the destructions have been done.

The responses from the police personnel were not different from what the other respondents have already shared. They agreed that, the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso have resulted to the destruction of AGA offices and vehicles. The PP-3 added the destruction of police vehicles to the list of things destroyed by the youth of Sanso during the clashes. The AS-1 mentioned the destruction of AGA equipment and

AGA offices whilst AS-2 talked about destruction of AGA electrical installations and heavy duty machines during the clashes. The AS-3 supported the other respondents by stating destruction of AGA vehicles whilst AS-4 mentioned destruction of AGA fence, bursting of pipes that supply water to AGA during the clashes. All the galamsey operators (GOs) debunked the assertions made by the rest of the respondents. According to them, they haven't destroyed anything belonging to AGA and will never do such a thing.

We have embarked on several demonstrations against AGA but we have never destroyed any of their properties before (GO-3, male & 18 years).

4.4 Attitude of Sanso Community Folks towards Mining Interventions

Two questions emerged from the above issue. The first one had to do with whether AGA has implemented any mining intervention in Sanso or not and the second was to ascertain the level of appreciation by the people of Sanso concerning the mining interventions implemented by AGA in Sanso if any. All the six sets of respondents agreed that AGA has implemented mining interventions in Sanso and they gave similar examples of such interventions. The OPLs for instance highlighted construction of mechanized boreholes, building of school, construction of a 20 seater biogas w.c and free electricity as some the interventions implemented by AGA in Sanso. The MD agreed with what the OPLs outlined but added that, AGA has provided the people of Sanso 60% of its concession and has also given their children scholarships to further their education. The GOs and SGs shared the same views to that of the OPLs. They highlighted construction of mechanized boreholes, free electricity and building of school as some of the interventions

implemented by AGA in Sanso. The AGA staff (AS) supported the views on construction of mechanized boreholes, building of school and free electricity but went beyond that and added that, AGA has engaged the people of Sanso in alternative livelihood training. According to them, AGA has trained the women in Sanso in baking, bead making etc. According to the PP, it was AGA that constructed the main road in Sanso and also built the chief's palace in the community. On the issue of whether the people of Sanso appreciate these mining interventions implemented by AGA, four sets of the respondents (AS, SGs, MD and PP) all said that, they don't think the people of Sanso appreciate the mining interventions implemented by AGA and to them, this is evident in the series of demonstrations they have held against AGA. The researcher asked the galamsey operators (GOs) and the opinion leaders (OPLs) who were the immediate beneficiaries of the interventions to rate their level of appreciation or attitude towards the mining interventions implemented by AGA in their community using a scale of 1-3 (1-unfavourable, 2-indifferent and 3-favourable). Out of the 12 respondents (9 galamseyers and 3 opinion leaders), 10 of them selected 1. This implied that majority of them have unfavourable attitude towards the mining interventions implemented by AGA in the community. Only two people selected 3 indicating that, they have favourable attitude towards the mining interventions implemented by AGA in Sanso. When the respondents were interrogated further to ascertain why they have developed that unfavourable attitude towards the mining interventions implemented by AGA in their community, they made several submissions. For instance, GO-4 (male & 18 years) expressed his view as follows:

AGA has taken over our lands. They have made enough money from these lands and in return, has given us little.

OPL-1 (male & 52 years) also had this to say:

What AGA has gotten from our community cannot be compared to what they have given to our community. Thus, they have not treated us fairly at all.

OPL-3 (male & 30 years) again added this:

AGA thinks that it has provided Sanso community with mechanized boreholes but the quality of these boreholes is below standard. Test shows that, the iron content in the water is 2.0% which generally should be 3.0%.

The above expressions by the various respondents showed their dissatisfaction towards what AGA has done for them and that has made them to develop such unfavourable attitude towards AGA and its interventions in the community.

4.5 Measures Used to Resolve the Conflict Situations in Sanso Community

Four questions emerged from the data concerning the above issue. The first one had to do with the institutions that come on board to help resolve the conflicts. The second was in relation to the measures that are used to resolve the conflicts. The third was to ascertain the effectiveness of the measures used in resolving the conflicts and the last one dealt with suggestions as to how to minimize the occurrence of the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. Relating to the first question, all the six sets of respondents agreed that, during the conflicts, AGA, Obuasi Municipal Assembly, Police, Military, Minerals Commission, Small-Scale Mining Associations as well as leaders of Sanso community come together to help resolve the conflict situations in the area. The responses from all the six categories of respondents also indicated that, only dialogue was used to resolve the conflicts that normally ensue between AGA and the people of Sanso. The views

shared by each of the respondents indicated that, when the conflict arises they are not sent to court but rather all the stakeholders come together, have a round table discussion and settle the matter amicably. From the responses gathered from the field, 18 out of the 22 respondents forming the majority agreed that, the use of dialogue in resolving the conflicts has been very effective. Only four of the galamsey operators denied that assertion and said that, nothing good has come out the various meetings held by the stakeholders during conflict situations in the area. On the last issue which had to do with making suggestions as to how to reduce the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso, several views were shared by the respondents. The PP-1 said that, AGA should keep to their promises to the people of Sanso. The PP-2 on the other hand highlighted the need for AGA to secure all their concessions whilst PP-3 said that, AGA should be honest and fair when dealing with the people of Sanso. The AS also made the following suggestions. According to AS-1 and AS-4, there should be frequent engagement between AGA and the people of Sanso concerning mining related issues. The AS-2 also added that, AGA should enforce the mineral and mining laws of Ghana in the area whilst AS-3 talked about the need for AGA to manage the community's expectations very well. The SG-1 suggested that, the local content policy should be complied with by AGA so that majority of the people of Sanso can be employed in AGA. According to him, this will go a long way to prevent the illegal mining activities in and around AGA concessions which has normally resulted to clashes in the area. The SG-2 also suggested that, AGA should continuously engage the opinion leaders of Sanso in matters relating to compensation payment, land allocation and resettlement packages.

The MD supported the view shared by SG-1 on the application of the local content policy by AGA. For instance, MD (male & 52 years) expressed his view as follows:

AGA should implement the local content policy so that majority of the youth of Sanso can be employed in AGA which will make them part of the company.

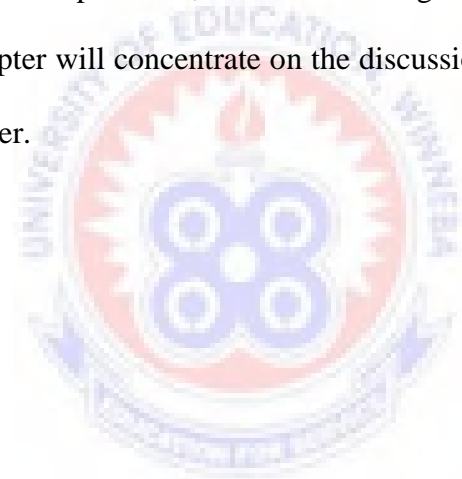
The MD added that, AGA should re-survey their concessions and give the people of Sanso richer portion of it so that the youth can use it for their small-scale mining activities without trespassing onto AGA concessions. He again raised the issue of social amenities and said that, AGA should provide the people of Sanso with essential social amenities which will be fit their status as a mining community. The suggestions made by the OPLs were not different from what the other respondents have said. The OPL-1 suggested that, AGA should provide the people of Sanso clinic, market and more schools. The OPL-2 said that, AGA should create jobs for the youth of Sanso whilst OPL-3 suggested that, AGA should be fair in compensation payment. He added that, the people of Sanso should be involved in the calculation of the compensation to be paid to them so that there will always be peace between them and AGA. All the galamsey operators (GOs) raised the issue of employment as the surest way to minimize the conflicts between them and AGA.

All that we need is employment. If they give us employment, we will stop these galamsey activities and we will not intrude onto their concession again (GO-6, male & 26 years).

4.6 Summary

This chapter has adequately presented the data collected from the field. The presentation was done in five sections. The first section dealt with the background information of all the respondents taking in consideration their gender, age, marital status, highest level of education, occupation and number of years on their respective jobs. The four sections left were allocated to the four main themes highlighted by the researcher which were all in line with the research questions. The first theme examined the factors that normally fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. According to the data collected, AGA not employing the people of Sanso, issues relating to compensation payment and galamsey activities were seen as some of the factors that have fueled conflicts in the area. The second theme examined the effects of the mining conflicts on Sanso community and AGA. The data revealed that, there have been several reported cases of injuries during the clashes between AGA security guards and the people of Sanso. On the issue of deaths, different figures were given by the respondents. Some said one, others said two whilst others said that, they haven't heard of any reported case of death during the clashes. Majority of the respondents agreed that, the conflict situations have really affected the economic activities of the people of Sanso. The data again revealed that, all individuals in and around Sanso are affected by the clashes and not specific group of people. From the data, AGA offices, AGA vehicles, AGA equipment, police vehicles among others were normally destroyed by the people of Sanso during the clashes. The third theme ascertained the attitude of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions implemented by AGA. According to the data, the people of Sanso had negative and unfavourable attitude towards mining interventions implemented by AGA. The last

theme dealt with the measures that are used to resolve the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. It came to light that, only dialogue was seen as effective conflict resolution technique by the stakeholders and was used to resolve most of the conflict situations in the area. The respondents however made several suggestions as to how to minimize the occurrence of conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. Some of these suggestions were, AGA should apply the local content policy, AGA should provide Sanso community with essential social amenities, AGA should regularly engage the opinion leaders in Sanso especially on issues relating to compensation payment among others. According to the respondents, when these things are done there will be peace in the area. The next chapter will concentrate on the discussion of data which has been duly presented in this chapter.



CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION OF DATA

5.0 Introduction

This chapter critically discusses the data collected from the field with reference to relevant literature in an attempt to explore deeper understanding of the issues under study. The discussion of data has been put into four categories namely factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community, effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community, attitude of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions and measures that are used to resolve the conflict situations in Sanso community.

5.1 Factors that Fuel Conflicts between AGA and Sanso Community

It is clear from the data presentation that, all the respondents in one way or the other admitted that issues relating to compensation payment have resulted to conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The indigenes of Sanso who were the opinion leaders (OPLs) and the galamsey operators (GOs) were seriously annoyed with how AGA calculates the compensation package as well as the delay in paying the compensation. This was evident in the statements made by OPL-1 and GO-6. The finding confirms the study by Okyere (2013). He analyzed Ghanaian cases of company-community disputes over gold mining and revealed that, most of the disputes centered on compensation, resettlement packages, unfulfilled promises, mistrust and lack of alternative livelihood programmes. This is to say that, issues relating to compensation payment in mining communities need to be critically looked at so as to minimize some of these disputes in

mining areas. Apart from the compensation issues resulting to conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso, galamsey activities in the area was also seen as a contributing factor to the conflicts. Most of the respondents agreed that at times the galamsey operators intrude onto AGA concession and this has resulted to clashes between AGA security guards and the galamseyers. As to how they manage to get to AGA concession, the data indicated that the galamsey operators normally create their own routes either by cutting the fence or digging directly to AGA tunnels through which they get to AGA concession and do their illegal mining activities. This is evident in the comments made by SG-1 and SG-2. This finding corroborates Twerefou, Aryeetey and Osei (2007) assertion on the potential causes of conflicts in mining communities. According to them, one of such causes of conflicts is the survival of small-scale mining. The small-scale miners in Sanso see AGA as a threat to their survival due to the large tract of land they have taken from the community for their operations. In situations where the small-scale miners are unable to concentrate on their allocated concession and trespass onto AGA's concession, clashes normally erupt between the small-scale miners and the company's security personnel. The data presentation has also made it clear that the issues that fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso go beyond compensation payment and galamsey activities. According to the OPLs, inability of AGA to employ the people of Sanso, destruction of streams and rivers due to AGA's activities, AGA not providing Sanso community enough social amenities were some of factors that have fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The views shared by the OPLs were supported by many of the respondents after which some of them made additions. For instance, the MD added that AGA wanted to reconnect Sanso community to ECG power supply so that the

people of Sanso will begin to pay light bill and the people were also not ready to accept that. According to him, this has been a source of conflicts in the area. On the issue of which factor is more critical and has frequently fueled conflicts between AGA and Sanso community folks, all the respondents agreed on AGA not employing the people of Sanso as the major factor that has caused conflicts in the area. Slack (2009) argues that, mining activities have led to rising conflicts resulting from frustration by the locals not benefiting from the huge profits made by the mining companies, deterioration of living conditions, poor communication and the fear that mining may contaminate land and water sources. The statements made by OPL-1 and OPL-3 endorse the position shared by Slack (2009). OPL-1 statement was in relation to inadequate social amenities whilst OPL-3 statement was about unemployment. The two respondents' views suggest that AGA has benefited a lot from Sanso community meanwhile little has been done for the community. According to majority of the respondents, AGA has made enough money from Sanso community but the people are still poor, a condition that at times make them frustrated and embark on series of demonstrations as a way of fighting for equity in jobs, social amenities and above all better standard of living. The opinions shared by OPL-1 and OPL-3 are also in line with the frustration aggression theory propounded by John Dollard in 1939. According to Dollard, violent behaviour emanates from inability to fulfill ones needs. In an attempt to explain aggression, he points to the difference between what people feel they want or deserve to what they actually get "the want-get-ratio". According to him, when expectation does not meet attainment, the tendency for people to confront those they hold responsible for frustrating their ambitions is high. It should be noted that, the people of Sanso perceive AGA as their main source of growth and development.

According to the local people, AGA has to provide them all their needs since they have benefited from their land and in cases where their needs are not met, they agitate or demonstrate against AGA.

5.2 Effects of Mining Conflicts on AGA and Sanso Community

From the data presentation, all the six sets of respondents indicated that the clashes between AGA and Sanso community folks have resulted to several injuries in the area since 2005. On the issue of death, diverse opinions were shared by the respondents. Few of them agreed that the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso have led to loss of precious lives in the area. However, when they were asked to mention the number of people who have lost their lives as a result of the clashes since 2005, the respondents gave different answers. Some of them said only one person has lost his life whilst others said two people have lost their lives. One of the respondents also said that four people have lost their lives due to the clashes. Only few of the respondents debunked this view and said that, the clashes between AGA and Sanso community folks have not resulted to any death case in the area. This finding corroborates the assertion made by Davis and Franks (2011). According to them, the costs incurred by mining companies as a result of mining related conflicts are loss of time spent by staff on managing risk and conflict, costs of disruption to production, costs associated with discontinuation of operations, costs of injuries and deaths. The last part of what Davis and Franks said confirms the finding from this study. This is to say that, the tendency for people to be injured or die as a result of clashes between mining companies and their host communities is high and for that matter serious attention need to be given to the issue under study.

It also emerged from the data presentation that, the conflict situations in the area have affected the economic activities of the people of Sanso. For instance, this was evident in the comments made by MD. According to him, the people of Sanso are afraid to go about their normal activities during the conflict situations in the area and that has affected their livelihood. The SGs and AS agreed to the view shared by the MD but were quick to add that, the conflicts do not only affect the people of Sanso but seriously affect their operations too. This finding confirms the view shared by Hilson and Yakovleva (2007). According to the scholars, mining and community conflicts usually result to businesses in the community slowing down since the workers of the mining companies as well as the community folks are afraid to come out to purchase goods and services freely. This implies that, most of the people in mining communities cherish life than their needs and for that matter will remain indoors till the conflict is resolved. According to the data, many things are destroyed during the clashes and most of these things belong to AGA and not Sanso community. The data revealed that, AGA vehicles, AGA offices, AGA equipment, AGA electrical installations, billboards and police vehicles were some of the things destroyed during the clashes between AGA and Sanso community folks. According to all the respondents, nothing has been destroyed in Sanso community as a result of the clashes. Different views came out when the respondents were asked to state the group of people that suffers most during the clashes. The OPL-1, PP-1 and PP-3 were of the view that, the youth suffers most during the clashes whilst OPL-3, MD, SGs, AS and PP-2 also indicated that, the clashes affect everybody in and around Sanso community and not only the youth of Sanso. The OPL-2 on the other hand stated children, women and aged as the vulnerable group of people highly affected by the

clashes. The GOs identified themselves as the group that suffers most during such clashes. It can be concluded that, everybody in and around Sanso community whether old or young, male or female, worker or non-worker etc. may be affected by the clashes that normally erupt between AGA and Sanso community folks.

5.3 Attitude of Sanso Community Folks towards Mining Interventions

Two questions emerged from the above issue. The first question had to do with whether AGA has implemented any mining intervention in Sanso community or not and the second one was in relation to the level of appreciation by the people of Sanso towards AGA interventions implemented in the area. On the first question, the data revealed that AGA has implemented several social interventions in Sanso. Some of these interventions as indicated by the respondents were one primary school, boreholes, 20 seater biogas w.c, free electricity, road etc. According to the data, the people of Sanso do not appreciate these mining interventions at all and it is evident in the series of demonstrations they have held against AGA. It emerged from the data that, on a scale of 1-3 (1-unfavourable, 2-indifferent and 3-favourable), majority of the OPLs and GOs selected 1 indicating that they have unfavourable attitude towards AGA interventions in the community. This finding confirms the study by Twerefou et al (2015). Their study revealed that, majority of the people in Kenyasi, Tarkwa, Bibiani etc. did not have favourable attitude towards mining interventions and policies in their various communities. However, the people mentioned economic challenges, environmental issues and social issues as some of the pressing issues that have forced them not to pay heed to the mining sector interventions and policies in their respective communities.

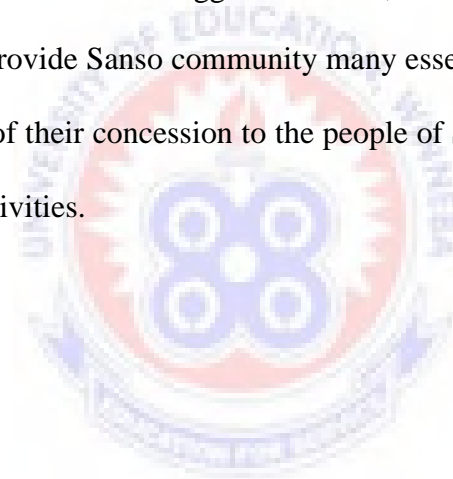
5.4 Measures Used to Resolve the Conflict Situations in Sanso Community

From the data presentation, it is clear that institutions like Police, Military, AGA, Obuasi Municipal Assembly, Minerals Commission and Small-Scale Miners Association in Sanso normally come together to help in the resolution of most of the conflicts that have erupted between AGA and the people of Sanso. All the six sets of respondents indicated that, only one conflict resolution method has been used by these institutions and the method given by the respondents was dialogue. The respondents admitted that, the use of dialogue in resolving the conflicts has been very effective and helped in resolving most of the conflicts between AGA and Sanso community folks. The respondents made several suggestions as to how to minimize the occurrence of the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso. Some of these suggestions were AGA should apply the local content policy, AGA should allocate some of their concessions to the indigenes of Sanso and AGA should engage the opinion leaders on compensation payment. This issue confirms the statement made by Mensah and Okyere (2014) when they said that, deeper and stronger community engagement will minimize conflicts in mining areas and maximize mining impacts on community development. The respondents believed that, when these measures are put in place the issue of clashes between AGA and Sanso community folks if not eliminated would be minimized drastically in the area.

5.5 Summary

This chapter has discussed the data presented in the previous chapter. The discussions were done in relation to the literature review and in line with the research questions. It is clear that, compensation issues, galamsey activities etc. have been some of the causes of

the clashes between Sanso and AGA. It also came to light that, during the clashes many people are injured and only few people lose their lives. From the discussion, AGA vehicles, AGA offices, police vehicles etc. are normally destroyed during the clashes. It should be noted that, the clashes have also affected the economic activities of all individuals living in and around Sanso. The data again revealed that, majority of the local people have developed unfavourable attitude towards AGA interventions implemented in Sanso. Dialogue was found to be an effective technique in resolving most of the conflicts between Sanso and AGA. As a way of curbing the situation, the respondents made several suggestions. Some of these suggestions were, AGA should apply the local content policy, AGA should provide Sanso community many essential social amenities and AGA should allocate some of their concession to the people of Sanso so that they can use it for small-scale mining activities.



CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Introduction

This is the final chapter of the study and it has been categorized into five sections namely summary, conclusion, recommendations, challenges and suggestions for future research. The summary is categorized into four main themes which are in line with the research objectives. The first theme is in relation to the factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The second theme has to do with the effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community. The third theme is about the attitude of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions implemented by AGA and the last theme has to do with the measures that are used to resolve the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso. The researcher has also categorized the recommendations into themes namely the role of Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, the role of Mining Companies, the role of District/Municipal Assemblies, the role of Security Agencies and the role of Community Leaders.

6.1 Summary

The findings of the study have been presented in relation to the research objectives that were outlined by the researcher. It has been done in themes and presented as follows.

6.1.1 Factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community

- i. The issue of compensation payment has been a source of conflict between AGA and the people of Sanso. According to the local people, there is no fairness in how the compensation is calculated and at times too, there is delay in the payment of the compensation.
- ii. The galamsey operators in Sanso community most at times intrude onto AGA concessions through their own routes they have created and this has resulted to conflicts between AGA security guards and the galamsey operators.
- iii. AGA not employing the indigenes of Sanso community, AGA not allocating some of their richer concessions to the people of Sanso, AGA not providing Sanso community with enough essential social amenities and AGA planning to reconnect Sanso community to ECG power supply for them to pay light bill were seen as some of the factors that have fueled conflicts between Sanso community folks and AGA.
- iv. Among all the factors stated by the six sets of respondents, AGA not employing the indigenes of Sanso community was seen as the most critical factor that has frequently fueled conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso.

6.1.2 Effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community

- i. The clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso have resulted to several injuries and few death cases in the community.
- ii. The economic activities of the people of Sanso normally slow down during the clashes since many of the people are afraid to come out to purchase products or render services. This according to some of the respondents has affected their livelihood.
- iii. The clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso have resulted to destruction of AGA vehicles, AGA offices, AGA fences, AGA equipment, police vehicles and billboards. According to the respondents, nothing has been destroyed in Sanso community.
- iv. From the data collected all individuals in and around Sanso community are seen to be highly affected by the conflict situations and not one group of people.

6.1.3 Attitude of Sanso community folks towards mining interventions

- i. It is clear that, AGA has indeed implemented some mining interventions in Sanso. Some of these interventions are construction of road, building of one primary school, construction of a 20 seater biogas w.c, construction of mechanized boreholes and free electricity to the entire community.

- ii. The people of Sanso do not appreciate the mining interventions implemented by AGA in the area. They have therefore developed negative and unfavourable attitude towards these mining interventions.

6.1.4 Measures used to resolve the conflict situations in Sanso community

- i. The minerals commission, AngloGold Ashanti, police, military, municipal assembly, small-scale mining association and community leadership are some of the agencies that normally come together to help resolve the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso.
- ii. The only conflict resolution technique used in resolving the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso was dialogue.
- iii. As to the effectiveness of the dialogue, majority of the respondents agreed that indeed it has been very effective and has helped in resolving many of the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso.
- iv. The following suggestions were made by the respondents as some of the measures that can be put in place to reduce the occurrence of the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso.
 - AGA should allocate some of its richer concession to Sanso community.
 - AGA should provide Sanso community enough social amenities.
 - AGA should apply the local content policy.

6.2 Conclusion

It is an undisputable fact that mining has played significant role in the development of most communities across the country and beyond. However, the operations of some of the mining companies have led to clashes and permanent conflict situations in most mining communities across the country of which Sanso community is not an exception. The study has revealed several factors that have resulted to clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso. Some of these factors are, AGA not complying with the local content policy, AGA not performing their social obligations very well towards Sanso community, AGA planning to reconnect Sanso community to the ECG power supply for the people to pay light bill among others. From the study, it is clear that the clashes have affected AGA and Sanso community folks in one way or the other. The study has also revealed that, the people of Sanso have developed unfavourable attitude towards AGA interventions implemented in Sanso. It came to light that, dialogue has been the main conflict resolution technique used to resolve most of the conflicts between AGA and Sanso community. To this end, the researcher has made several suggestions as means of minimizing the conflicts not only in Sanso but in all mining communities across the country and it is his prayer that, all stakeholders involved will attach some kind of seriousness and urgency to the suggestions made. It is only through peaceful coexistence that we can develop us a community because where there is peace, there is development and vice versa.

6.3 Recommendations

The recommendations seek to provide the overall measures that can be used if not to prevent at least to minimize the occurrence of clashes between AGA and Sanso community folks. In general sense, they are to be applied in all mining communities across the country in order to promote peaceful coexistence between mining companies and their host communities. The recommendations have been done in themes and presented as follows.

6.3.1 The role of ministry of lands and natural resources

Firstly, the Ministry has to monitor the implementation of agreements between mining companies and their host communities. It has to ensure that these agreements are fulfilled. Again, the Ministry should establish a separate office with experienced and qualified team, well versed in conflict management so that, these people can easily resolve most of the conflict situations in mining communities as early as possible. Lastly, some of these conflicts result from environmental degradation due to the operations of the mining companies and so, the Ministry should regularly monitor the activities of the mining companies and punish those who do not comply with the environmental protection laws. Those who comply with the environmental protection laws should be applauded publicly (on television) for the entire nation to see, as that will boost their morale and make them continue with such good deeds.

6.3.2 The role of mining companies

Firstly, the mining companies should regularly engage the local people on compensation payments and other related issues to avert any conflict situation between them and the local people. Also, the mining companies should adhere to the local content law. That is, they should employ many of the local people in their company. When this is done, the indigenes will feel that, they are part of the company and will even help in protecting the company's concession. Again, the mining companies should perform their social obligations towards their host communities. That is, they should provide them with vital social amenities such as portable drinking water, markets, schools and good roads. Lastly, the mining companies should provide their host communities alternative livelihoods. That is, they should give the people in those communities some kind of skills development and give them initial capita to establish themselves after the skills acquisition. The skills development may be in carpentry, bead making, shoe making, basket making etc. The most important thing is that, they should be given financial assistance to start their own enterprises. When they benefit from the mining companies this way, they will see them as engines for personal and community transformation. This will go a long way to promote peace in the mining communities.

6.3.3 The role of district/municipal assemblies

Firstly, the executives at the districts/municipalities where these mining companies operate should regularly visit mining communities within their jurisdiction to assess any potential conflict situation and find a way of resolving it as early as possible. Again, the districts/municipalities should have an office mandated to receive complains from only

mining communities. This will go a long way to help mitigate most of the issues that have the potential of causing conflict within the mining communities. Lastly, the executives at the districts/municipalities should serve as supervisors and monitor the activities of the mining companies very well bearing in mind the environmental protection laws to reduce the rate of environmental degradation by some of these mining companies which have the tendency of causing conflicts in mining communities.

6.3.4 The role of security agencies

Firstly, there should be police and military barracks in all the mining communities across the country to help avert any mining related conflict in those areas. Also, the security agencies should not take side but rather engage both the mining companies and the local people in a dialogue when potential conflict situation arises in the area of their operations. Lastly, the security agencies presence in the mining communities should not be static but rather, they should regularly patrol their respective communities. Anything heard or seen as potential cause of conflict should be dealt with as early as possible.

6.3.5 The role of community leaders

Firstly, the chief being the custodian of all lands in the community should be cautious of how lands are given out to mining companies. He should therefore make sure that, all rules and regulations in relation to land acquisition are complied with by the mining companies. Also, the chief together with the assembly man, unit committee chairman and other opinion leaders in the community should frequently meet the people and listen to

their grievances relating to the activities of the mining companies. After that, they should meet the executives of the mining companies and dialogue with them as a way of finding solutions to the problems raised by their people. Lastly, the community leaders should continuously educate the local people on the need to use dialogue rather than violence in resolving mining related conflicts. This type of education can be done on one-one basis, one-group basis, on radio etc.

6.4 Challenges of the Study

The tendency to face certain challenges in research cannot be overlooked. One major challenge that the researcher faced was uneasy access to information from the local people. They complained of been involved in same or similar works before but haven't seen any positive results in the community and for that matter, there was no need for them to share their thoughts and experiences with me. As a result, the local folks were reluctant to give out vital information. The researcher had to spend much time to identify himself, convinced the local people of the usefulness of the study before they gave out the information needed. This was not different from the researcher's encounter with the police personnel. The researcher was directed and re-directed by several police personnel before later a CID officer and his friends decided to help me. Again, what happened at the AGA office nearly made me to regret choosing such a topic. I was asked to bring a research proposal on the issue with introductory letter attached either through mail or in person, call them for confirmation of approval before a day and time could be scheduled for the interviews and the administration of the questionnaires. I did just that since the issue under study was of much interest to me. Getting the approval from AGA took me three weeks. Moreover, it was very difficult to get the AGA security guards and the

Deputy Director for the interviews because of their busy schedules. As a result, the interviews were conducted in the evening from 3:00pm-4:00pm. Furthermore, I was nearly attacked by some galamseyers since they thought I was working for a radio/television station or their former assembly man whom they have problem with. To them, the former assembly man was working against their new assembly man who was among the competitors and the likely person to be nominated by the President of Ghana as Municipal Chief Executive for Obuasi. I was rescued by the Unit Committee Chairman. He later on organized nine galamseyers for me and I engaged them in the focus group discussion outside the community. Lastly, the researcher did not get it easy at all combining teaching with the study. At times, the researcher has to leave the school after his lessons to the study area to collect data since there was nothing like free day for him on his personal teaching time table.

6.5 Suggestions for Future Research

Firstly, the present study covered only Sanso community within the Obuasi municipality meanwhile there are other mining communities within the same municipality with similar challenge. It is therefore suggested that, future research should be conducted in all the mining communities within the municipality so that the findings can easily be generalized. Also, future research should go beyond AGA. The activities of other small-scale miners and how they fuel conflicts should be looked at since they all operate within the same municipality. Lastly, the effects of the conflicts as can be observed from this study concentrated mainly on AGA and Sanso community. It is therefore suggested that, future research should tackle the effects of the mining conflicts on a broader scale.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Semi-structured interview

Dear Sir/Madam,

Request for interview

I am a Social Studies student of the University of Education, Winneba undertaking a study in this community on the conflict between AGA and the people of Sanso. I would be very glad if you could grant me an interview on the issue under study. Sir/Madam, I would like to assure you that, the information you would provide to me would be treated confidentially. Kindly fill the appointment slip beneath this letter if you would be able to honour this request. Thank you.

Researcher

John Atakora Dwomoh

[Tel: 0240153466](tel:0240153466)

Email: atakoradwomoh@gmail.com

Appointment slip

Preferred venue:.....

Contact:.....

Preferred date:.....

Preferred time:.....

Appendix 2

Open-ended questionnaire

Dear Sir/Madam,

Letter of introduction

I am pursuing MPhil. Social Studies in University of Education, Winneba. As part of the requirement for my award, there is the need to undertake a research and that is what has brought me to this community. The research basically sought to examine the factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community and how these conflicts could be minimized. Sir/Madam, your views to the above issue are very important and would be very glad if you could answer the attached questionnaire for me. I promise that the information you would provide to me would be treated confidentially and would be used only for the purpose of this research work. Thank you.

Researcher

John Atakora Dwomoh

Tel: 0240153466

Email: atakoradwomoh@gmail.com

Appendix 3

Semi-structured interview guide for AGA security guards

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Questions

1. Has payment of compensation been a source of conflict between AGA and Sanso community? If yes, how?
2. Have the activities of galamseyers in the area fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community? If yes, how?
3. What other issues have caused conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso community?
4. Which of the stated issues is more critical and has often fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso?
5. Have there been reported cases of injuries and deaths during the clashes since 2005? If yes, how many?
6. Has there been any instance of destruction of AGA properties? If yes, what are some of these properties?
7. How do the clashes affect your daily activities?

8. Which group of people suffers most during such clashes?
9. Has AGA implemented any mining intervention in Sanso? If yes, what are some of these interventions?
10. Which institutions come on board to help resolve the conflict situations in Sanso?
11. What measures are used to resolve the issue?
12. Are the measures used effective? If no, Why?
13. As a security expert, what do you think should be done to minimize the occurrence of clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso community?



Appendix 4

Semi-structured interview guide for opinion leaders

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Questions

1. What are some of the compensation packages given to the local people whose lands have been captured by AGA?
2. Have these compensation packages been a source of conflict in the area? If yes, how?
3. Do the activities of galamseyers fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso? If yes, how?
4. What other issues have fuel conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso?
5. Which of the issues already stated is more critical and has frequently fuel clashes between AGA and your community?
6. How do the clashes affect your daily activities?
7. What are some of the things destroyed during such clashes?

8. Have there been any reported cases of injuries and deaths since 2005? If yes, how many?
9. Which group of people in the community is highly affected by the clashes?
10. What are some of the interventions AGA has implemented in the area?
11. On a scale of 1-3 (1-unfavourable, 2-indifferent and 3-favourable), how will you rate your attitude towards AGA interventions in your community?
12. Which institutions normally help in resolving the clashes?
13. What measures are used in resolving the clashes?
14. Are the measures effective? If no, why?
15. What should be done to reduce the clashes between AGA and your community?



Appendix 5

Semi-structured interview guide for Deputy Director

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Questions

1. Have the activities of galamseyers and payment of compensations been a source of the clash between AGA and the people of Sanso? If yes, how?
2. What other factors have fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso?
3. Among the factors stated, which one had frequently caused clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso?
4. Have there been reported cases of injuries during the clashes since 2005? If yes, how many?
5. How many people have lost their lives as a result of the clashes?
6. How do the clashes affect the Obuasi Municipal Assembly?
7. Which group of people is highly affected by the clashes in the area?
8. Has AGA implemented any mining intervention in Sanso community? If yes, what are some of these interventions?
9. Do the people of Sanso appreciate these mining interventions? If no, why?

10. What measures are normally used to resolve the clashes?
11. Are these measures effective? If no, why?
12. What should be done to reduce future occurrence of the clashes?



Appendix 6

Guide for focus group discussion for galamseyers

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Questions

1. Why have you resorted to galamsey activities?
2. Have you been allocated some concessions where you do these galamsey activities? If yes, at where?
3. Has AGA employed some of the local people? If yes, how many?
4. Have you encroached onto AGA concessions before? If yes, why?
5. What are some of the issues that lead to clashes between you and AGA?
6. Which of the issues already stated frequently fuel clashes between you and AGA?
7. Have there been instances of injuries during the clashes since 2005? If yes, how many?
8. Have you lost any of your friends as a result of the clashes? If yes, how many?
9. Which group of people is highly affected by the clashes?

10. How will you describe your relationship with AGA after the clashes?
11. Has AGA implemented social interventions in your community? If yes, what are some of these social interventions?
12. How will you rate your attitude towards AGA interventions in your community on a scale of 1-3 (1-unfavourable, 2-indifferent, 3-favourable)
13. When the clashes occur between you and AGA, how are they resolved?
14. Which institutions normally come in to resolve such clashes?
15. What do you think should be done to minimize the future occurrence of such clashes?



Appendix 7

Open-ended questionnaire for AGA staff

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community

1. Has AGA employed the local people? If yes, how many?

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2. Has AGA given the local people especially the galamsey operators some concession? If yes, at where?

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3. What issues fuel the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso?

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Section C: Effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community

4. Have there been instances of destruction of social amenities in Sanso as a result of the clashes?.....

5. What are some of these social amenities if the answer to Q. 4 is yes?

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6. Have there been instances of injuries and deaths in the community as a result of the clashes since 2005?

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7. If the answer to Q. 6 is yes, how many?.....

8. In what ways have AGA been affected as a result of the clashes?

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9. Have you been directly affected by the clashes? If yes, how?

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Section D: Attitude of the local folks towards mining interventions

10. Has AGA implemented interventions in the community?.....

11. What are some of these interventions if the answer to Q.10 is yes?

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12. Do the people like the interventions implemented by AGA in Sanso? If no, why?

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Section E: Measures that are used to resolve conflict situations in Sanso community

13. What measures are normally used to resolve the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso?

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14. What do you think should be done to minimize the occurrence of clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso in future?

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Thank You

Appendix 8

Open-ended questionnaire for police personnel

Section A: Background information

- i. Gender
- ii. Age
- iii. Marital status
- iv. Highest level of education
- v. Occupation
- vi. Number of years on the job

Section B: Factors that fuel conflicts between AGA and Sanso community

1. How many times have there been clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso since 2000?.....
2. What account for the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso?

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Section C: Effects of mining conflicts on AGA and Sanso community

3. How many injuries and death cases have been recorded during such clashes since 2005?.....
4. Have there been any destruction of properties in the community during such clashes?.....

5. What are some of the properties destroyed if the answer to Q. 4 is yes?

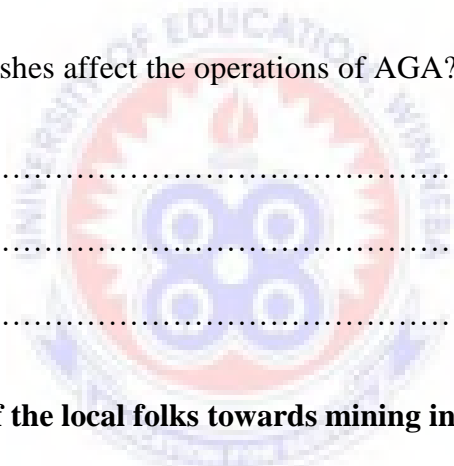
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6. Do the clashes affect the activities of the people of Sanso? If yes, how?

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7. How do the clashes affect the operations of AGA?

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.....
.....



Section D: Attitude of the local folks towards mining interventions

8. Has AGA implemented interventions in the community?.....

9. What are some of these interventions if the answer to Q. 8 is yes?

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10. Do the local people appreciate these mining interventions? If no, why?

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Section E: Measures that are used to resolve conflict situations in Sanso community

11. What role has the police played in resolving the conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso?

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12. What other institutions have been involved in the management of conflicts between AGA and the people of Sanso?

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13. What do you think should be done to minimize the clashes between AGA and the people of Sanso in future?

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Thank You