

**UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA**

**EFFECTS OF CHIEFTAINCY CONFLICT ON THE PROVISION OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES: THE CASE STUDY  
OF BAWKU, GHANA.**



**MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

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**A thesis in the Centre for Conflicts Human Rights and Peace Studies,  
Faculty of Social Sciences Education, submitted to the School of Graduate  
Studies in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Award of Degree  
Master of Philosophy  
(Human Rights, Conflict and Peace Studies)  
In the University of Education, Winneba.**

**SEPTEMBER, 2023**

## DECLARATION

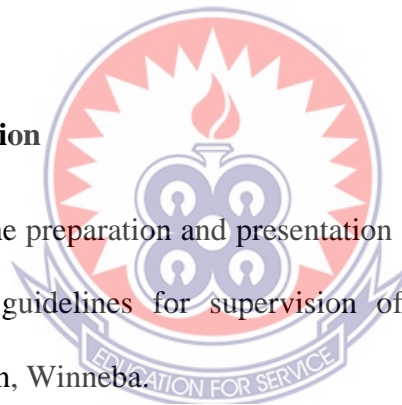
I, Benjamin Duku, hereby declare that this thesis is my own work and that to the best of my knowledge, it contains neither material previously published either in part or whole for another degree in any other University. All quotations and references have been identified and duly acknowledged.

Signature.....

Date.....

### Supervisor's Declaration

I hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of this work were supervised in accordance with the guidelines for supervision of thesis as laid down by the University of Education, Winneba.



Dr. Michael Doggu (Supervisor)

Signature.....

Date.....

## **DEDICATION**

Affectionately dedicated to my family who had supported me in every way.



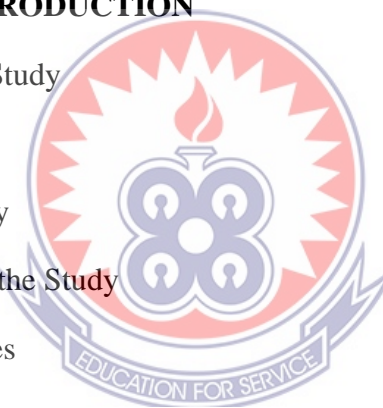
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

God has indeed been my shield and hope in times when there seem to be no hope. He indeed gives us people who do not just stick with us but supports us throughout the difficult journey. One of such people who deserve an immense appreciation is Dr. Michael Doggu, who has helped me in immeasurable ways. Dr. Maxwell Acheampong, thank you very much and may the good Lord bless you as always.



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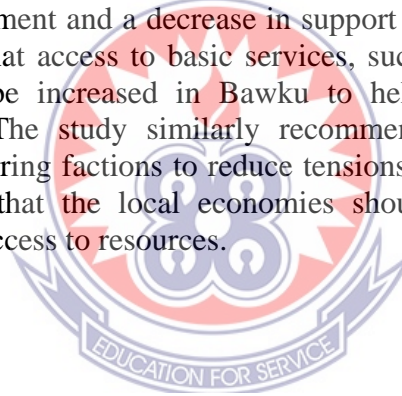
## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BECE	Basic Education Certificate Examination
GES	Ghana Education Services
JHS	Junior High School
MCE	Municipal Chief Executive
MP	Member of Parliament
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SHS	Senior High School
UN	United Nation



## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the availability and quality of social services as well as the prevalence of human rights abuses in the Bawku area. The research aimed to improve the understanding of how the chieftaincy conflict has created difficulties in providing basic social services, such as health, education, and water, to the affected population in the area and the rights of those affected by the chieftaincy conflict. The study employed the qualitative research approach. The researcher interviewed twelve (12) respondents including nurses, teachers, assembly members, police officers, chief, religious leader and residents of Bawku. The study revealed that healthcare services, education and water supplies have been severely affected by the chieftaincy conflict, resulting in a decrease in their availability and accessibility. Human rights abuses such as extrajudicial killings, torture, and gender-based violence have been reported during the chieftaincy conflict, with civilians, particularly women and children, being the most affected. The chieftaincy conflict has further had a negative impact on the socio-economic activities, infrastructures and political development. The region has experienced increased tensions between ethnic groups and has seen a decrease in political participation. This has led to a lack of representation for certain groups, making it difficult for them to have their voices heard. A notable case to make is the lack of trust in government and a decrease in support for government initiatives. The study recommended that access to basic services, such as healthcare, education and clean water, should be increased in Bawku to help mitigate the effects of the chieftaincy conflict. The study similarly recommended that dialogue should be promoted between warring factions to reduce tensions and promote peace. The study again, recommended that the local economies should be strengthened to reduce poverty and increase access to resources.



## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background to the Study

Chieftaincy conflict, it is argued, is an inevitable feature of the human existence. And Ghana, just like any other society has experienced quite a number of chieftaincy conflicts. The popular notion has been that, the problem of chieftaincy conflicts in Ghana is a predominant factor bothering the Northern sector of Ghana especially the Bawku area in the Upper East region (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018). These scholars noted that, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has been an ongoing ethnic chieftaincy conflict between the Kusasis and Mamprusis and has lingered on for over two decades posing serious security threats within the Bawku enclave.

Addai-Dapaah & Boamah-Kaali (2018), noted that, the prolonged nature of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused major destructions such as loss of lives and properties, general economic hardships and displacement of people. And has had a significant effect on the availability and quality of social services in the area.

Furthermore, Alhassan (2019), stated two major concerns on the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. One, he suggested that, this chieftaincy conflict has hampered the efforts of government officials to oversee campaigns and elections which has severely limited the ability of local officials to effectively implement policies and programs that can help to improve political administration, to reduce poverty and improve the region's developmental trajectory. Two, the chieftaincy conflict has impacted the security and stability of the region. That is, it has caused an increase in the presence of armed groups and an increase in the number of civilian casualties which has exacerbated existing tensions among communities, leading to an erosion of trust and an increase in the potential for further violence and chieftaincy conflict.

In all these impacts, a key area of concern to most scholars is the human rights related implications of these chieftaincy conflicts that affects health care delivery and education. Ahmed (2019), posited that, the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts has precipitated a wide range of human rights abuses, including attacks on civilians, indiscriminate use of force, and arbitrary arrests and detention. Again, he argued that, this chieftaincy conflict has severely destroyed infrastructure and placed a number of effects on the availability and quality of social services in the area including access to education, health care, water, and other basic services. In addition, people living in some of area have been displaced, leading to a significant decrease in the population of social services providers in Bawku, which in turn has resulted in a reduction in the availability and quality of services in the area (Ahmed, 2019).

Bawah (2016) reiterated the human rights implications involved in the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts by raising three key concerns. One, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has resulted in a rise in human rights abuses in the area, including restrictions on freedom of movement, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and a lack of access to justice systems. Two, the violence has caused a deep sense of insecurity among residents of the area, leading to a situation in which people are afraid to speak out about their rights or seek redress for abuses. Three, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had immense effects on the availability and quality of social services and the prevalence of human rights abuses in the area, and it is essential that efforts are made to address the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict and to improve the social services and human rights situation in the area.

To cement the human rights implications involved in the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts and its impacts on the provision of social services, Hashim (2007), observed that the Bawku area has attracted limited resources in educational infrastructure as compared

to other parts of Ghana. According to him, in the Northern Territories of Ghana, there is substantiation that students' performance is relatively abysmal. Significant number of students in the Bawku area have incessantly failed to succeed from the end of Junior High School (JHS) examinations also known as Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) to the Senior High School (SHS) for three consecutive years. Gyan, Mabefam and Baffoe (2014) disclosed that students performed worse in the communities in the Northern Territories including Bawku than other parts of the country since 2009 to 2011. Moreover, Gyan et al. (2014) revealed that out of 132 students who were presented as candidates for St. Joseph JHS in 2010 to the BECE, 116 students representing 87.9% failed. On the contrary, a significant number of students in the rural urban part of the southern Ghana had a performance rate of 100% and a minimum performance rate of 48% in the BECE within the same period.

Gyan, Mabefam and Baffoe (2014), therefore made a clarion call for urgent and collaborative efforts among all major stakeholders in the region including the ruling government, opposition parties, various organizations in the Bawku area and the entire citizenry to find a lasting solution to these chieftaincy conflicts. It is in the spirit of this that the study sought to look at the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts and its impacts on the provision of social services as well as the human rights implications. This study is considered to be guided by the belief that every person in Bawku is entitled to certain social services and basic human rights to emphasize their inherent human dignities, and that any chieftaincy conflict-related disruptions or abuses are violations of these rights.

## **1.2. Problem Statement**

The problem statement of this study revolves around the pressing issue of the provision of social services and the occurrence of human rights abuses in the context



of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The study aims to address the gaps in existing literature by comprehensively examining the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the availability and accessibility of essential social services, such as healthcare and education. By identifying the specific challenges faced by affected communities, the study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the gaps in social services provision in chieftaincy conflict-affected areas. Furthermore, the study aims to shed light on the extent and nature of human rights abuses that have occurred during the chieftaincy conflict, thereby highlighting the need for increased attention and intervention in this regard. Inclusively, the study aims to bridge the meaningful gaps in knowledge and understanding of the impact of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on social services provision and human rights abuses, providing a valuable foundation for future research and policy interventions.

The study seeks to identify the gaps in the Bawku chieftaincy conflict, which has been ongoing since 1994, has resulted in numerous deaths and displacement of thousands of people from the area, and has had a catastrophic effect on the provision of social services and human rights violations in Bawku. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict is a long-standing chieftaincy conflict between the Kusasi and Mamprusi ethnic groups in the Upper East Region of Ghana. This chieftaincy conflict created a devastating effect on the availability and quality of social services and poses great human rights abuses in the Bawku area (Olayiwola, 2018).

Yobi (2015) opined that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict resulted in the loss of numerous lives and destruction of properties over the years. Tourism, business investment and other economic ventures have been affected because of fear of violence. The chieftaincy conflict also deepened the divisions between the Kusasis and the Mamprusis which increased distrust and hostility between the two groups.

This broadly has had implications for social cohesion and community relationship, previous studies done by Agyeman, Owusu-Ansah and Ayeltige (2022) revealed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has created social mistrust and fear as well as economic and physical insecurities with negative implication on education, investments, farming and trading activities.

Dongo (2018), researched that a significant number of individuals have been deprived of the basic necessities of life, such as education, health care, adequate housing and sanitation, and access to water and sanitation services. Moreover, numerous reports of cases of unlawful killings, arbitrary arrests, torture, and other forms of severe human rights violations have been documented throughout the Bawku chieftaincy conflict (Dongo, 2018). Effects of Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and the smooth enjoyment of human rights in Bawku is alarming, and it is essential that the local government and international community take immediate action in order to address these issues.

Aside the numerous bodies of researchers exploring the impact of chieftaincy conflict on social services and human rights abuses, there is still a notable research gap in understanding the nuanced ways in which chieftaincy conflicts of varying intensities affect specific vulnerable populations especially women and children accessing the vital social services and experiencing a range of human rights abuses (Owusu-Ankomah, 2017). Existing studies done by (Issah, 2021; Olayiwola, 2018 and Awedoba, 2009) provide general insights into the overall disruptions caused by the chieftaincy conflict. However, little studies have been done to comprehensively address the differentiated impacts on the vulnerable within the chieftaincy conflict-affected communities.

The research gap is centered on the deficiency of detailed investigation into the differential effects of chieftaincy conflict on vulnerable groups such as women and children in terms of both their exposure to human rights abuses and the terms of their access to essential social services. Addressing this gap could lead to a deeper understanding of how chieftaincy conflicts disproportionately affect different segments of the population, contributing to more targeted interventions, policy recommendations and a more holistic comprehension of the chieftaincy conflict's consequences. The study therefore seeks to investigate effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku.

### **1.3. Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of the study was to examine the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the availability and quality of social services in the Upper East region especially the prevalence of human rights abuses in the Bawku area. The research aimed to improve the understanding of how the chieftaincy conflict has created difficulties in providing basic social services, such as health, education, water, and infrastructure to the affected population in the area. Additionally, the study looked into the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on the quality of the services provided and the rights of those affected by the chieftaincy conflict. The findings of this study could inform policies and strategies to effectively address the issue of social services and human rights implications in the Bawku area.

### **1.4. Main Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study was to investigate the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of Social Services and Human Rights Abuses in Bawku.

#### **1.4.1. Specific Objectives**

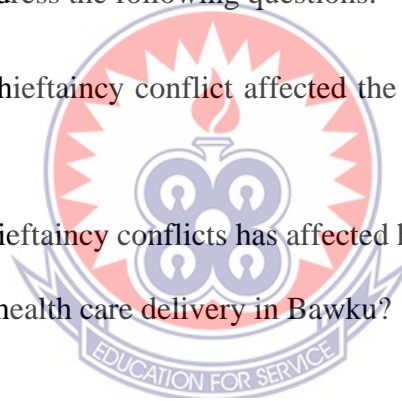
The specific objectives are as follows:

1. To explore the effects of Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of Social Services
2. To examine how the chieftaincy conflicts has affected human rights abuses in relation education and health care delivery in Bawku.
3. To examine the extent to which the chieftaincy conflict has affected the socio-economic and political developments in Bawku.

#### **1.5. Research Questions**

The study sought to address the following questions:

1. How has the Chieftaincy conflict affected the provision of Social Services in Bawku?
2. How has the chieftaincy conflicts has affected human rights in relation to education and health care delivery in Bawku?
3. To what extent has the chieftaincy conflict affected the socio-economic and political development of Bawku?



#### **1.6. Scope of the Study**

The scope of this study delves into the intricate dynamics surrounding the provision of social services and the prevalence of human rights abuses in the context of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The study aims to comprehensively examine the multifaceted impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the availability and accessibility of vital social services, including healthcare and education. Additionally, it seeks to meticulously investigate the extent of human rights violations that have occurred during the chieftaincy conflict. Furthermore, the study endeavors to analyze the

profound ramifications of the chieftaincy conflict on the socio-economic and political development of the Bawku region. Ultimately, the study aims to propose evidence-based recommendations to effectively address the far-reaching consequences of the chieftaincy conflict on the socio-economic and political landscape of Bawku area in the Upper East region served as the focal point.

### **1.7 Limitations of the Study**

The first limitation of this study is that, qualitative research is mostly influenced by the researcher's beliefs, perspectives and biases. The interpretations and the development of the themes could be influenced by the study's preconceived notions, potentially leading to a lack of objectivity.

Correspondingly, the sample size of the qualitative research typically entails a smaller number of respondents compared to quantitative studies. This allows for in-depth exploration but the results might not be applicable or easily generalizable to larger populations and other settings. This limits the broader applicability of the research findings.

Additionally, the resource intensiveness and time required in qualitative research is significant. Qualitative research involves conducting interviews, transcribing data and analyzing the data and this could be labor-intensive and time-consuming.

Also, the respondents were skeptical in giving out information regarding the research since they were afraid of escalating the chieftaincy conflict in the community. Some of the respondents considered the study as a security concern and therefore proved difficult to offer their views. This affected the time taken to solicit data for the study and the quality of the data required for the study. The face-to-face explanation of the purpose of the study offered a remedy to the identified limitations of the study.

### **1.8 Significance of the Study**

The significance of this study lies in its potential to contribute valuable insights into the complex interplay between chieftaincy conflict, social services provision, and human rights abuses in the specific case of Bawku. By examining the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the availability and accessibility of social services, such as healthcare and education, the study can shed light on the challenges faced by affected communities. Additionally, by investigating the extent of human rights abuses, the study can help raise awareness and advocate for the protection of human rights in chieftaincy conflict-affected areas. Moreover, the study's analysis of the socio-economic and political development of Bawku can provide a comprehensive understanding of the long-term consequences of chieftaincy conflict on the region. Ultimately, the findings and recommendations of this study can inform policymakers, practitioners, and researchers in their efforts to address the impact of chieftaincy conflict on social services provision and human rights in Bawku and similar contexts. In summary, the study can be significant to these area policy maker, researchers, government, peace strategist, literature, NGO's and knowledge on the problem topic.

### **1.9. Organization of the Study**

This study is organized into five main chapters. Chapter one captures the introduction to the study and entails the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, scope of the study and significance of the study. Chapter two deals with the literature review. It provides the theoretical framework upon which this study is premised, presents empirical studies on existing literature on the topic and gives a conceptual framework on the study. Chapter three captures the methodology and presents the techniques, approach and research design, sample and sampling techniques and research instrument. It also discusses the

validity, reliability and trustworthiness associated with the research instruments used. Chapter four touches on the analysis of the data based on parametric techniques and thematic analysis. Finally, chapter five summarizes the findings of the study. It further developed a context-based conclusion and suggestions/recommendations.

### **1.10. Definition of Terms**

**Chieftaincy conflict:** It is a state of disagreement, struggle or discord between individuals, groups or entities often rising from differing interests, opinions, goals or values. This can manifest in various forms ranging from interpersonal disputes to large-scale international tensions (Lambert & Rheingans, 2019).

**Social services:** This is the state of range of government and community-based programs, initiatives and support systems designed to promote the well-being, quality of life and social functioning of individuals and communities. These services meet the basic needs of individuals and address various social challenges in the society. These are usually provided by government agencies, non-profit organizations, community groups and other institutions (Talley, 2015).

**Social services provision:** Social service provision refers to the delivery and implementation of various social services to individuals and communities. It involves the planning, coordination, and distribution of resources, programs, and support systems aimed at meeting the social needs of people. This can include services such as healthcare, education, housing assistance, employment support, welfare programs, and mental health services. The goal of social service provision is to enhance the well-being and quality of life of individuals, promote social inclusion, and address societal challenges and inequalities.

**Human right abuses:** This refers to the actions or behaviors that violate the fundamental rights and freedoms to which all individuals are entitled, ethnicity, gender, regardless of their nationality, religion or other characteristics. Typically, these rights outlined in international human rights instruments and national laws (Ahmed, 2019).





## CHAPTER TWO

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.1. Introduction

This chapter consists of the elaboration of collation of related literature by other authors on the topic under study. It entails the introduction, theoretical reviews, empirical reviews on related literature from different authors, conceptual framework and a summary of the chapter. The effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and its human rights abuses in Bawku is an important topic that has been echoed in several studies done by other researchers from around the world as stated below in order to come to a conclusion regarding its impacts.

#### 2.2. Theoretical Review

In this introduction, I have provided the theories used in exploring the theoretical foundations and concepts that underpin the topic understudied. By examining these various theories and their implications, I have gain more valuable insights into the subject and its broader significance. This theoretical review aims to shed light on the key concepts, identify gaps in existing knowledge, and propose avenues for future research. By delving into the theoretical framework, it provides better understanding into the underlying principles and assumptions that shaped the understanding of the topic. This exploration helped the researcher to build a solid foundation for the subsequent analysis and discussion. The theoretical framework of this topic was based on these three known theories, that is, conflict Theory, Social Contract Theory, and Human Security Theory (Issah, 2021).

##### 2.2.1. Conflict Theory

The conflict theory states that conflict is a natural part of social life and that the struggle between different groups in society is what leads to progress and change.

This theory was propounded by Karl Marx. The theory states that social order is maintained by power and domination other than conformity and consensus. The theory further stated that those with power and wealth try to hold on to it by all means possible, chiefly by suppressing the powerless and poor. This theory can be applied to the case of Bawku to understand how chieftaincy conflict affects the provision of social services and human rights abuses because during chieftaincy conflict the actors end up holding on to their position or power due to their unlawful gains thereby suppressing the will of the people.

However, this theory emphasizes the role of power and resources in shaping social relations. In this case, the chieftaincy conflict has been fueled by competition for land, resources, and political power, with different ethnic and religious groups vying for power and resources. This has led to the marginalization and oppression of certain groups, particularly women and children, and the disruption of social services. Conflict theory can help explain how the unequal distribution of power and resources has contributed to the provision of social services being used as a tool for political gain and control, rather than for the benefit of the entire community (Issah, 2021).

The conflict theory examines how power imbalances and social inequalities contribute to chieftaincy conflicts within societies. In the case of Bawku, the chieftaincy conflict can be seen as a result of deep-rooted socio-political and economic disparities, ethnic tensions, and competition for resources and political influence just to say the least. According to conflict theory, chieftaincy conflicts arise when different groups or individuals have chieftaincy conflicting interests and seek to protect or advance their own interests at the expense of others. In Bawku, these chieftaincy conflicting interests or actors have led to violence, human rights abuses, and the disruption of social services and development.

Conflict theory also emphasizes the role of power dynamics in shaping conflicts. In the case of Bawku, power struggles between different ethnic groups, political factions, and economic interests have fueled the chieftaincy conflict and perpetuated the cycle of violence and instability. Hence, in order to address these phenomena from a conflict theory perspective, it is necessary to address the underlying structural issues that contribute to the chieftaincy conflict. This includes addressing socio-economic inequalities, promoting inclusive governance and political participation, and ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities.

Additionally, conflict theory highlights the importance of promoting dialogue, negotiation, and peaceful resolution of chieftaincy conflicts. By engaging all relevant stakeholders in meaningful dialogue and addressing their grievances and concerns, it becomes possible to build trust, foster reconciliation, and work towards sustainable peace.

In summary, relating the topic directly into conflict theory allows for a deeper understanding of the underlying causes and dynamics of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. By examining power imbalances, social inequalities, and chieftaincy conflicting interests, it becomes therefore possible to develop strategies that address the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict and promote sustainable peace and development in the region.

### **2.2.2. Critics of conflict Theory**

Critics of conflict theory contended that it overlooks the consensus, cooperation and stability that exist within societies. Though the chieftaincy conflict is undoubtedly present, societies exhibit elements of shared values, cooperation and collective goals. Another critic of the conflict theory was that it is a simplistic view of power. The

conflict theory portrays power as unidirectional force meticulous by the dominant group without satisfactorily accounting for complexities in power alliances, dynamics and changing power structures. The critics further argued that conflict theory emphasis more on the dysfunctions and the negative magnitudes of social systems, neglecting the positive functions they might have in maintaining stability, order and social cohesion. Some other critics contended that conflict theory's focus on economic factors as the principal driver of chieftaincy conflict oversimplifies the multidimensional nature of human behavior and interactions. Other critics opposed that conflict theory might not offer all-inclusive explanation for all characteristics of social life. This can struggle to explain phenomena that do not fit neatly within the structure of class dynamics and power struggle. Lastly, other critics argued that conflict theory's focus on revolution and upheaval may overlook the relevance of incremental changes and gradual reforms in achieving social progress.

### **2.2.3. Social Contract Theory**

This theory posits that individuals agree to give up some of their freedom in exchange for protection of their rights and interests by the state. This theory developed by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Voltaire and Denis Diderot, who were philosophers, states that social ideas during enlightenment period were based on reason and methods of scientific inquiry. In this study, the chieftaincy conflict has led to the breakdown of the social contract between the government and its citizens, with the latter feeling abandoned and unprotected. As a result, the provision of social services such as healthcare, education, and clean water has been severely affected, and human rights abuses have become more widespread (Issah, 2021).

This theory states that conflict can lead to a breakdown in social cohesion in the township, leading to a decrease in the provision of social services and human rights

abuses. This theory suggests that chieftaincy conflict can lead to an increase in social divisions and divisions between groups, leading to a lack of access to resources and a deprivation of basic human rights.

In the context of the social contract theory as stated above, the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku can be examined through the lens of the reciprocal relationship between the state and its citizens. According to the social contract theory, individuals voluntarily enter into a contract with the state, relinquishing certain freedoms in exchange for the protection of their rights and the provision of essential services. However, in the case of chieftaincy conflict, this social contract is often disrupted, leading to detrimental consequences for both social services and human rights.

The outbreak of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku may result in breakdown of governance structures and the erosion of state authority. As a result, the state's ability to fulfil its obligations in terms of providing social services, such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure, may be severely compromised. The destruction of schools, hospitals, and other vital institutions further exacerbates the challenges faced by the community in accessing these services. Moreover, the breakdown of the social contract during chieftaincy conflict creates an environment where human rights abuses can flourish. In the absence of effective governance and the rule of law, individuals are vulnerable to various forms of abuse, including violence, displacement, and the denial of basic rights and freedoms. The lack of accountability and the disregard for human rights further perpetuate a cycle of violence and injustice.

To address the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku, it is crucial to restore the social contract between the state and its citizens. This requires not only the reestablishment of governance

structures and the rule of law but also the active involvement of the community in decision-making processes. By prioritizing the needs of the affected population and ensuring their participation in the rebuilding process, it becomes possible to restore social services and protect human rights. In conclusion, chieftaincy conflict disrupts the social contract between the state and its citizens, leading to the deterioration of social services and the occurrence of human rights abuses. Conversely, recognizing the importance of the social contract and actively working towards its restoration, it is possible to mitigate the effects of the chieftaincy conflict and create a more just and inclusive society in Bawku.

#### **2.2.4. Critics of Social Contract Theory**

Critics of social contract theory contended that the chronological exactitude of the social contract as an actual event is problematic. This is mostly presented as a hypothetical scenario rather than a concrete historical occurrence. Additional critics argued that individuals willingly consent to the social contract however there are many individuals born into societies without their consensus and may not have a meaningful choice to opt out. Similarly, critics opined that the idea of consent is challenging when bearing in mind power inequalities and imbalances in society. Some of the individuals might have more influence over the terms of the contract which may lead to unfair outcomes. This theory may not be responsible for the interests of vulnerable or marginalized individuals who may not have been part of the original contract negotiations. The critics further asked individuals why they would be morally indulged to follow rules based on a historical event that they did not directly participate in. Lastly, critics were of the view that social contract theory failed to address non-members. It focuses on compulsions of members within a society

however it might not deliver clear supervision on how society should treat non-members or foreigners.

### **2.2.5 Human Security Theory**

The Human Security Theory states that conflict can have a negative effect on individuals by creating insecurity and reducing access to basic human needs and rights. This theory was propounded by Mahbub ul Haqq in 1994 which could be applied to the case of the topic under study, to analyze how conflict can have a detrimental effect on social services and human rights abuses. Ultimately, the theoretical framework for assessing the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in the town should take into consideration both the conflict Theory and the Human Security Theory. It should also consider other theories such as the Theory of Structural Violence and the Theory of Social Injustice, as well as the local context of the chieftaincy conflict in order to form an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the situation (Issah, 2021).

Human security theory as the tenet dictate in the afore mentioned emphasizes the importance of protecting individuals from various threats, including armed chieftaincy conflict. In the case of Bawku, the chieftaincy conflict may have significant impacted on the overall security and well-being of the population. The provision of social services, such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure, is essential for ensuring the basic needs and rights of individuals are met. However, during times of chieftaincy conflict, these services are often disrupted or even completely halted. The destruction of schools, hospitals, and other vital institutions not only deprives people of essential services but also undermines their overall sense of security.

Furthermore, human rights abuses tend to escalate during chieftaincy conflict situations. In Bawku, the chieftaincy conflict may have led to various forms of abuse, including violence, displacement, and the denial of basic rights and freedoms. These abuses not only cause immediate harm to individuals but also have long-lasting effects on their physical, psychological, and social well-being.

To address the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku from a human security perspective, it is critical to adopt a comprehensive approach. This includes efforts to restore and strengthen the social fabric of the community, rebuild damaged infrastructure, and ensure the protection of human rights for all individuals affected by the chieftaincy conflict.

Additionally, addressing the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict, such as socio-economic inequalities, political grievances, and ethnic tensions, is essential for achieving sustainable peace and security. By addressing these underlying factors, it becomes possible to create an environment where individuals can enjoy their rights and access the social services they need for a secure and dignified life.

Finally, human security theory highlights the importance of addressing the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku. By adopting a comprehensive approach that focuses on rebuilding infrastructure, protecting human rights, and addressing the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict, it becomes possible to create a more secure and inclusive environment for the affected population.



### **2.2.6. Critics of Human Security Theory**

Human security theory critics contended that it was vague and lacks consensus. That is, it lacks a clear and universally agreed-upon definition making it difficult to operationalize and implement effectively. Other critics argued that human security expansive scope which cover areas like education, health, environmental sustainability and more can dilute its focus and make it challenging to address all issues comprehensively. Human security theory shifts away from state security. The traditional security like military threats and national sovereignty might downplay in favor of broader human security concerns possibly weakening the state ability to protect itself. Other critics argued that prioritizing human security may divert resources from traditional security processes potentially leaving states vulnerable to external threats. Finally, critics of human security opined that prioritization of threats or concern under human security framework can be influenced by subjective judgments that might lead to inconsistencies in policy priorities.

Furthermore, critics opposed that the theory might not provide a vigorous explanation for why and how structures change over time which tends to focus on the persistency and stability of existing patterns. Other critics argued that structural theory might not fully capture the complexity of cultural symbols, meanings and interpretations that contribute to human behavior. The theory might underemphasize the ability of groups and individuals to adapt, challenge and reshape those structures.

## **2.3. Empirical Review**

### **2.3.1. History of the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict**

The chieftaincy conflict between Kusasis and the Mamprusis in the Bawku Traditional Area dates back to 1930 with the Kusasis claiming title over Bawku chieftaincy/skin (Awedoba, 2009). A study done by Bukari and Guuroh (2013) argued

that the ethnic chieftaincy conflict is longstanding identity-based and deep-seated chieftaincy conflicts which evolve around the test for traditional political power between Kusasis and Mamprusis. Bukari and Guuroh (2013) noted that the principal stakeholders and actors in the chieftaincy conflict particularly the Kusasis and Mamprusis have both taken entrenched positions making the chieftaincy conflict protracted in the Bawku Traditional Area.

Brukum (2001), Bombande (2005) and Longi (2015) opined that the Kusasis ethnic groups held on to an entrenched position that they were the first settlers of East Agolle currently Bawku township including areas under Bawku skin such as Bawku to Zawse, Pusiga, Yaragungu, Sapelliga, Tampelungu, Nyokko, Garu, Zebilla, Tempene and other smaller villages surrounding the Bawku township. Apart from being the settlers and majority of the ethnic group in the Bawku Traditional Area, the Kusasis feel denied of their traditional power (Awedoba, 2009). On the other hand, the Mamprusi ethnic group held onto the opinion that Kusasis were not natives of the land of Bawku because they migrated to Bawku from Bugri Yauga and Ayua, all in Burkina Faso to the current location in the Bawku (Awedoba, 2009). Subsequently, Bawku and its adjoining villages have been under the ruler ship of Mamprusi since pre-colonial days (Awedoba, 2009).

Prior to the chieftaincy conflict, the two sides had co-existed peacefully. However, a land ownership dispute between the Mamprusi and Kusasi erupted and began a cycle of retaliatory attacks and reprisal killings that have led to the displacement of numerous people, loss of property and deaths (Gobah, 2018). The confusion has degenerated into violent battles between the two ethnic groups on numerous occasions particularly between 1983 and 2009 in which several people were killed and properties destroyed (Awedoba, 2009). Bukari and Guuroh (2013) reported that in

2009, there were 78 murder cases, 32 robbery cases and 40 cases of arson resulting from Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The Government of Ghana have engaged in peacekeeping operations, the use of the law courts, the mediation process as well as the imposition of curfews on the Bawku Traditional Area, however, these political and institutional strategies employed to resolve the chieftaincy conflict did not yield any meaningful result in the Bawku (Bukari & Guuroh, 2013).

### **2.3.2. Major Causes of the Chieftaincy conflict in Bawku**

Bawku is a small town in the Upper East Region of Ghana, located in the northern part of the country near the borders of Burkina Faso and Togo. Chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has been ongoing since the 1990s, and has been exacerbated by a number of factors, including ethnic and religious tensions, resource scarcity, and poverty. One of the major causes of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku is ethnic tensions between the Mamprusi and the Kusasi people. These two ethnic groups have been involved in ongoing disputes over land, resources, and political power since 1994. In addition, their different religious beliefs have been a source of tension between the two communities (Bawah, 2016).

A second major cause of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku is resource scarcity. As the population of Bawku has grown, resources such as water, firewood, and arable lands have become increasingly scarce. This has led to competition between the ethnic communities for access to these resources, further increasing tensions between the two groups. Poverty is also a major cause of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. The town is one of the poorest in Ghana, with high levels of unemployment and a lack of basic services. In Donkor's revelation this has resulted in a lack of economic opportunities, leading to increased competition among the residents for whatever resources are available (Donkor, 2020).

Equally, political tensions between the local and national government have been a major cause of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. The central government in Accra has long been seen as a distant entity by the people of Bawku, and local leaders have often been accused of corruption and neglecting the needs of the people. This has led to a sense of frustration and anger among the people of Bawku, which has been a major factor in the ongoing chieftaincy conflict in the town (Bawah, 2016).

Again, another cause of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku is ethnic tension between the Mamprusi and the Kusasis. The two ethnic groups have a long history of rivalry and mistrust that has been simmering for decades. The lack of trust between the two groups has been compounded by the presence of political and economic disparities between them, which has led to further social unrest.

Resource scarcity in Bawku has been a major contributing factor to the chieftaincy conflict between the two ethnic groups. The Mamprusi and the Kusasis have been competing for access to natural resources such as land, water, forests and grazing lands. This has led to a situation where both sides are keen to gain the upper hand in order to secure their access to resources.

Political turmoil in the region has been a major cause of the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. The political situation has been volatile, with various factions vying for control of the region. This has resulted in a power struggle between the two ethnic groups, as each side seeks to gain the upper hand in order to gain control of the region. Political instability in Bawku has been a major cause of chieftaincy conflict. Political leaders have used their influence to manipulate and exploit the local population for their own gain. This has led to tensions and violence in the region.

Bawku is home to numerous ethnic groups, such as the Mamprusi, Kusasi, Dagomba and Mossi. These different ethnic groups have different cultural and religious practices, which can lead to chieftaincy conflicts over resources, land and other issues.

### **2.3.3 Consequences of the Chieftaincy conflict in Bawku**

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had far-reaching consequences on the community. The most immediate consequence of the chieftaincy conflict has been the displacement of thousands of people, leading to a significant decrease in the population of the area. This has led to a decrease in economic activity, as there are fewer people to engage in productive activities. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has caused physical damage to property and infrastructure, which has disrupted basic services such as electricity, water, and sanitation. The chieftaincy conflict has had psychological impacts on the people of Bawku. Fear and distrust have become entrenched in the community, with people feeling unsafe and uncertain about the future. This has led to an increase in stress and mental health issues, such as depression and anxiety. The chieftaincy conflict has had social impacts. As people have been displaced, they have been separated from their families and communities, which has disrupted traditional social networks and support systems. This has also led to a breakdown of trust between different groups, as tensions and mistrust have been exacerbated by the chieftaincy conflict (Issah, 2021).

In furtherance, the chieftaincy conflict has had an environmental impact. The destruction of property and infrastructure has led to increased pollution and degradation of the environment, which has had a negative impact on local ecosystems. In addition, the displacement of people has led to a decrease in the amount of land used for farming and other activities, which has led to a decrease in food security.

Overall, the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant impact on the community, with far-reaching consequences. It is essential that steps are taken to address the underlying causes of the chieftaincy conflict, in order to ensure a safe and prosperous future for the people of Bawku (Olayiwola, 2018).

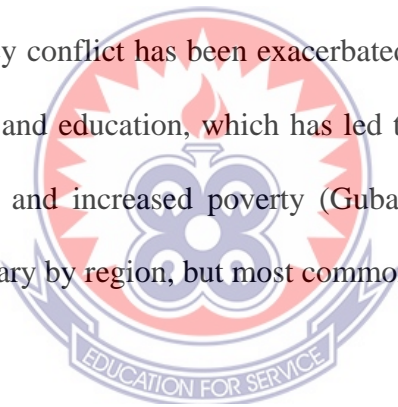
The chieftaincy conflict can lead to a breakdown of social order, with people feeling unsafe and unable to trust one another. This can in turn lead to reduced economic activity, as businesses may be unable to operate due to the insecurity. Chieftaincy conflict also has the potential to aggravate existing ethnic tensions, leading to further instability and violence. In addition, there may be an increased risk of displacement and refugee flows, as people flee the chieftaincy conflict in search of safety. The effects of chieftaincy conflict can also be felt in other areas, such as health and education, as resources are diverted away from these important services. The chieftaincy conflict can lead to a breakdown of civil society, as trust in government and other institutions is eroded (Awedoba, 2009).

#### **2.3.4 Provision of Social Services or Amenities**

Provision of social services refers to the delivery of services that are designed to facilitate social and economic well-being. These services are provided by governments, non-governmental organizations, and other public and private organizations. Examples of social services include housing, food assistance, healthcare, educational support, and job training. Social services are typically targeted towards those who are most vulnerable and in need of assistance, such as the elderly, children, low-income individuals, and people with disabilities. The goal of providing social services is to enhance the quality of life for those who are in need and to ensure that individuals have access to the resources they need to lead healthy, productive lives. Social services can be provided by both governmental and non-governmental

organizations, including volunteer groups, faith-based organizations, and community-based organizations (Dayori, 2018).

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a significant impact on the provision of social services in the region. The chieftaincy conflict has resulted in displacement of individuals and families from their homes, destruction of property, disruption of economic activities, and disruption of social services. This has resulted in shortages of food and medical supplies, lack of access to clean water, inadequate sanitation facilities and lack of access to education. Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in increased levels of poverty and vulnerability among the affected populations, and has contributed to an increase in child labor and child marriage. The impact of the chieftaincy conflict has been exacerbated by the lack of access to basic services such as health and education, which has led to poor health outcomes, lower educational attainment, and increased poverty (Gubah, 2018). The scope of social services available can vary by region, but most commonly include the following:



### **Food assistance**

Food banks, meal programs, and other services that provide access to nutritious and affordable meals.

### **Housing assistance**

Government-funded programs that provide assistance with rent, deposits, and other housing-related costs.

### **Healthcare**

Health insurance coverage, access to medical professionals, and other health-related services.

**Mental health services**

Counseling, therapy, and other psychological services to help individuals and families cope with mental health issues.

**Education**

Access to quality and affordable schools, after-school programs, and educational resources.

**Employment**

Job training, job placement services, and career counseling.

**Financial assistance**

Government-funded support for basic living expenses such as unemployed benefits, rent, utilities, and transportation.

**Social services**

Programs and services that provide support for vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, children, people with disabilities, unemployment benefits and those with chronic illnesses.

**Substance abuse services**

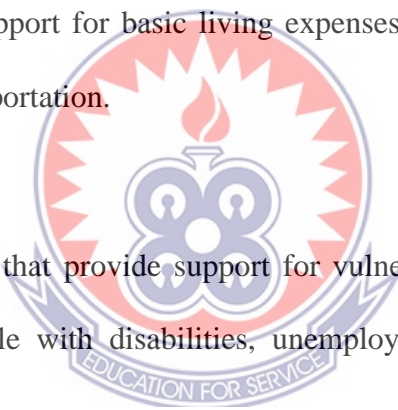
Treatment programs, rehabilitation centers and other services to help individuals struggling with addiction.

**Transportation**

Access to public transportation, carpools, and other transportation resources.

**Legal assistance**

Advice on legal matters, such as legal aid, family law, immigration, and criminal defense.





According to Benedict & Bercovitch (2016), stakeholders of the provision of social services includes the government who is responsible for ensuring that adequate social services are available and accessible to all citizens. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) provide services such as health and education, and advocate for the rights of vulnerable populations. The private sector, private businesses provide financial support to social services providers and help to create jobs and economic opportunities. Philanthropic organizations and foundations provide funding and resources to social service providers. Individuals and families are the primary beneficiaries of social services, and their needs must be taken into account when decisions are made about the provision of services. Community organizations, neighborhood associations, and other groups have the potential to play a critical role in the provision of social services. International organizations, such as the United Nations, work to promote social services around the world. Academics and researchers provide valuable insights into the provision of social services. Their research helps to inform policy decisions and guide service delivery.

### **2.3.5 Effects of the Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services in Bawku**

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a profound and lasting impact on the provision of social services in the area. This chieftaincy conflict has caused immense damage to infrastructure, disrupted the lives of individuals and families, and profoundly affected the delivery of social services in the area. Another direct effect of the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has been on the physical infrastructure of the region. The destruction of roads, bridges, and buildings has meant that access to social services has become much more difficult. Many of the social services that had been available in the area are no longer accessible due to damage to the infrastructure. This

has meant that people in need of social services have had to find alternative means of accessing the services they need, leading to increased costs and delays. The second effect of the chieftaincy conflict on social services in Bawku has been on the lives of individuals and families. The chieftaincy conflict has caused displacement of many people, leading to increased poverty and hardship. These people have had access to social services before the chieftaincy conflict, but now find themselves without access to the quality, assessable services they need. This has had a devastating impact on some lives of individuals and families in the region, as they are unable to access the services they need to survive and thrive (Issah, 2021).

Another effect of the chieftaincy conflict on social services in Bawku has been on the delivery of services. The disruption caused by the chieftaincy conflict has caused significant delays in the delivery of services. This meant that people in need of social services have had to wait longer for the services they need. Consequently, it has had a negative impact on the wellbeing of individuals and families because of longer delays for the provision social services they need to improve their livelihoods. Similarly, the chieftaincy conflict has had a negative impact on the funding of social services in the area. As the chieftaincy conflict has caused significant damage to infrastructure, making it more expensive to provided social services in the area. This has led to reduced funding for social services, which has had a profound impact on the provision of services in the region (Hamidu, 2020).

In conclusion, the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku according to the empirical review indicated that the chieftaincy conflict has had a profound and lasting impact on the provision of social services in the area. Hence, some destruction of infrastructure, displacement of individuals and families, and disruption of services delivery has all had a significant impact on the availability and quality of social services in the area.

This has had a detrimental impact on the lives of people in the region, as they are unable to access the services they need to survive and thrive.

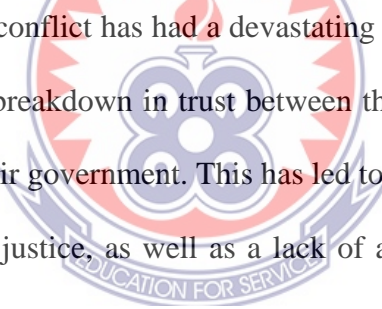
### **2.3.6. Social Disruption from Bawku Chieftaincy conflict**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused significant social disruption in the local communities. This has led to a breakdown of some-many traditional systems and social services in the area. Many people have been forced to flee their homes due to the chieftaincy conflict and this has led to a significant decrease in the number of health care providers and community services available. This has had a significant effect on access to medical care, education, and other essential services in the region (Gbewonyo, 2022).

According to Issa & Akpene (2015) the chieftaincy conflict has had a severe impact on the region, resulting in social disruption, economic hardship, and political instability. The cause of the chieftaincy conflict has been attributed to a variety of factors, including competition for resources, historical grievances, and political manipulation. At its core, however, the chieftaincy conflict is an ethnic one, rooted in centuries-old hostilities between the two groups. The Konkomba are a predominantly farming people, while the Mamprusi are traditionally cattle herders. This has created competition for land, water, and grazing rights, leading to tensions between the two groups. The chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating impact on the social fabric of the region. Thousands have been displaced, with many having to flee their homes and take refuge in displaced persons camps. Schools and other public services have been disrupted, and the economy has suffered due to the loss of labor and resources.

This has created a cycle of poverty and instability that is further exacerbated by the ongoing chieftaincy conflict. Politically, the chieftaincy conflict has been a major

source of instability in the region. The chieftaincy conflict has been used by politicians to gain power, with various leaders playing on ethnic tensions in order to gain support. This has led to a breakdown in trust between the two groups, further fueling the chieftaincy conflict. The chieftaincy conflict has had a negative impact on the environment. The destruction of forests and other natural resources has had a detrimental effect on the region's ecology, with the loss of biodiversity and soil degradation threatening the region's long-term sustainability. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict is a complex and ongoing issue that has had a devastating impact on the region. The social, economic, and political disruption it has caused has had a far-reaching effect on the people of the region, and it is essential that a lasting solution is found to ensure peace and stability in the region (Issa & Akpene, 2015).



The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating effect on the social fabric of the region. It has caused a breakdown in trust between the two ethnic groups, as well as between citizens and their government. This has led to a loss of confidence in the state to provide security and justice, as well as a lack of access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and economic opportunities. This has had a severe impact on the overall wellbeing of the local population, as well as on the economy of the area. The chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in a dramatic increase in displacement of people from their homes and a decrease in agricultural production and economic activity. This has led to a rise in poverty and food insecurity in the region (Issa & Akpene, 2015).

Conversely, the chieftaincy conflict has led to a deterioration of the rule of law and an increase in crime, both of which have further disrupted the social and economic fabric of the region. Overall, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating impact on the social fabric of the region. It has caused a breakdown in trust between citizens and

their government, a decrease in access to basic services, an increase in displacement and poverty, and a decrease in economic activity. All of these factors have combined to create a situation of social disruption that has had a serious negative impact on the local population.

### **2.3.7 The Impact of Chieftaincy conflicts on Education in Bawku**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused massive displacement and many of the schools that were available in the area are no longer functioning or are underfunded due to the lack of resources and funding. This has had a major effect on the quality of education and access to educational opportunities for the children of the region (Issah, 2021).

It was largely fueled by land disputes, poverty, and underlying ethnic tensions. The chieftaincy conflict had a severe impact on education in the region. Schools in Bawku were temporarily closed due to the violence, which disrupted the education and development of students in the area. Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict displaced thousands of people, preventing them from accessing educational opportunities. The chieftaincy conflict also caused a decrease in the number of teachers in the area, as many left due to security concerns. This further hindered access to education for students in the region. Overall, the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict had a significant negative impact on education in the region, leading to a decrease in access to educational opportunities and disruption of students' education (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021).

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a detrimental effect on educational outcomes in the region. The chieftaincy conflict has resulted in the displacement of thousands of people, often disrupting the educational opportunities of children and young adults.

Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict has limited access to educational facilities and resources, as well as disrupted the availability of qualified teachers. As a result, educational outcomes in the region have suffered, resulting in poorer academic performance, fewer graduates, and fewer qualified teachers.

The chieftaincy conflict has also caused a significant disruption to the school calendar, resulting in the closure of schools for extended periods of time due to insecurity or lack of resources. This has caused a decrease in school attendance, as many students are unable to access their educational facilities due to safety concerns. Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has also led to an increase in school dropout rates, as students are forced to leave school to support their families or relocate due to insecurity. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has also had a negative impact on the quality of education in the region. Many schools lack the necessary resources to adequately prepare students for their future, resulting in a decrease in educational standards. Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has created an environment of fear and insecurity, which has hindered students' ability to focus on their studies and learn effectively. Overall, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating effect on education in the region. It has resulted in the displacement of thousands of people, disruption to the school calendar, and a decrease in the quality of education. As a result, educational outcomes in the region have suffered, resulting in poorer academic performance, fewer graduates, and lower educational standards (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021).

The chieftaincy conflicts in Bawku led to the closure of schools due to safety concerns. The closure of schools prevents students from attending classes leading to the interruptions in their education and loss of learning opportunities. For the safety of

lives and property, schools were closed temporarily during periods of heightened Bawku chieftaincy conflict (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021). School authorities closed down the schools; suspend classes, inhibiting teachers and students from accessing the school premises.

Issah (2021) noted that during school reopening, the attendance rate declined significantly. Parents and guardians usually keep their children at home due to safety concerns or the students refused to attend school if the perceived journey is risky. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict restricted a lot of movements which made it impossible to travel to and from school. Curfews, roadblocks and other security measures employed make it difficult for individuals to access institutions. The chieftaincy conflict also had profound psychological effect on students, teachers and staffs of the various institutions in the Bawku environs. The anxiety, fear and trauma curtailing from exposure to violence or the threat of it affects individuals' mental well-being prevent them to concentrate on their studies or perform their obligations effectively.

Furthermore, the schools in the Bawku municipality suffer physical damage due to the chieftaincy conflict which affects classrooms, buildings, school equipment and other facilities that were destroyed, vandalized and unsafe for use which needed repair works or reconstruction before resumption of classes. Families and individuals displaced by the chieftaincy conflict relocate to safer areas and they go with their children as well hence school dropout in the process. The teachers and other school personnel are forced to abandon their posts as they feel threaten or if the school ceased operations temporarily. The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku further disrupts irregularities in the academic calendar forcing lessons, exams and other activities postponed or canceled. This caused prolonged academic calendar and creates

challenges for students in terms of curriculum coverage and progress. Students are also depriving of valuable learning opportunities due to the gaps in instruction, extended absences from school and other interruptions can hinder students' educational attainment and future visions (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021).

Mostly, chieftaincy conflicts deter parents from sending their children to school to prevent them from being attacked. This could result in the decreased of enrollment rates and reduce attendance levels among the vulnerable populations (Shemyakina, 2019). The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku had a significant impact on school enrollments which result in the decrease in the number of students attending educational institutions. Also, chieftaincy conflicts create an environment of insecurity hence making parents reluctant in sending their wards to school due to safety concerns. The peril of violence or being caught in antagonism of chieftaincy conflict disheartens parents from allowing children to attend school regularly (Agyeman, 2021).

During the periods of heightened chieftaincy conflict, the normal functions of communities are disrupted. Curfews, road blocks and other security measures make it virtually impossible for students to travel to school safely. Due to the risk involved, parents may opt to keep their children at home than risking their safety on the journey to school. Psychologically, chieftaincy conflicts have a profound impact families and children as a whole. The exposure to violence, uncertainty and fear can lead to anxiety and trauma which intend affect pupil's willingness to attend school. Parents may keep their wards at home in preventing from being emotional toll of chieftaincy conflict-linked stress.



Families displaced by chieftaincy conflicts often struggle to access education for their children in their new location. Displacement may result in the loss of documentation, such as birth certificates or school records, making it challenging for children to enroll in schools. Additionally, families may prioritize immediate needs such as shelter and food over education during times of displacement. Prolonged chieftaincy conflicts erode trust in local institutions, including schools. Parents may lose confidence in the ability of schools to provide a safe and stable learning environment for their children. This loss of trust can lead to a decline in enrollment as families seek alternative means of education or prioritize other needs during times of chieftaincy conflict. Chieftaincy conflicts often result in damage or destruction of school infrastructure, including classrooms, libraries, and administrative buildings. Schools may become unsafe or uninhabitable, forcing temporary closures and limiting access to education for enrolled students (Shemyakina, 2019).

Chieftaincy conflicts often result in loss of life, displacement, and destruction of property. Individuals may experience grief and bereavement due to the loss of family members, friends, or community members. These losses can exacerbate feelings of trauma and contribute to prolonged psychological distress. Chieftaincy conflicts can disrupt social support networks and community cohesion, limiting access to emotional support and resources for coping with trauma. Displacement, separation from loved ones, and breakdown of social ties can further isolate individuals and exacerbate feelings of distress (Alhassan, Abdul Karim & Degraft Arthur, 2017).

Children and youth are particularly vulnerable to the psychological effects of chieftaincy conflicts. Exposure to violence and instability can disrupt their sense of safety and security, leading to anxiety, depression, and behavioral problems. Trauma

experienced during childhood can also have long-lasting effects on mental health and well-being. Some individuals may develop PTSD as a result of chieftaincy conflicts. PTSD is characterized by symptoms such as intrusive memories, flashbacks, hyper vigilance, and avoidance of trauma-related stimuli. Without appropriate support and treatment, PTSD can significantly impair daily functioning and quality of life. Chieftaincy conflicts forces families to flee their homes, leading to the displacement of students and teachers. Displaced students often face challenges in accessing education in their new locations, while displaced teachers may struggle to find employment, further exacerbating educational disruptions (Shemyakina, 2019).

The primary reason for displacement is often safety concerns. Families may flee their homes to seek refuge in safer areas away from the chieftaincy conflict zone, taking their children with them. Similarly, teachers may choose to relocate to safer regions to protect themselves and their families from the violence. Chieftaincy conflicts can result in damage to school buildings and infrastructure. If schools become unusable or unsafe due to the chieftaincy conflict, both students and teachers may be forced to relocate to alternative educational facilities in unaffected areas. Chieftaincy conflicts disrupt daily life in affected areas, including access to education. Road closures, curfews, and other security measures may make it difficult for students and teachers to travel to schools located within or near chieftaincy conflict zones, leading to displacement (Alhassan et al., 2017).

Teachers may also experience displacement due to the loss of livelihoods. Schools may close temporarily or permanently during chieftaincy conflicts, leaving teachers without employment. Displaced teachers may seek opportunities elsewhere, resulting in a loss of experienced educators in the affected area. Chieftaincy conflict-related

stress, anxiety, and trauma can also contribute to displacement. Students and teachers may experience psychological distress due to exposure to violence or insecurity, prompting them to seek refuge in safer environments where they can feel a sense of security and stability.

Chieftaincy conflicts can disrupt social networks and community ties, leading to displacement as individuals seek support and assistance from relatives or friends in other areas. Displacement may be temporary or permanent, depending on the duration and severity of the chieftaincy conflict. Displacement can disrupt students' access to education, particularly if they are unable to enroll in schools in their new location or if educational facilities are overcrowded due to an influx of displaced students. Teachers may also face challenges in finding employment in new areas, affecting their ability to continue their careers in education.

Chieftaincy conflicts can result in the destruction of school infrastructure, including classrooms, libraries, and administrative buildings. This damage not only disrupts education in the short term but also imposes financial burdens on the government and communities for rebuilding efforts. School buildings, classrooms, libraries, and administrative facilities may be directly targeted or inadvertently damaged during clashes between opposing groups or security forces. This destruction can render school buildings unsafe or unusable for educational purposes (Alhassan et al., 2017).

Chieftaincy conflict situations may lead to acts of vandalism and looting in schools, with perpetrators damaging property, stealing equipment, and destroying educational materials. Vandalism can include graffiti, broken windows, and defacement of school property, further exacerbating the damage. Arson attacks or the indiscriminate use of incendiary devices during chieftaincy conflicts can result in fire damage to school

buildings and infrastructure. Fires can destroy classrooms, libraries, and other facilities, causing extensive damage and hindering efforts to restore educational operations (Shemyakina, 2019).

Damage to water supply systems, sanitation facilities, and environmental infrastructure can occur during chieftaincy conflicts, affecting the overall condition of school premises. Flooding, contamination, or pollution resulting from chieftaincy conflict-related activities can degrade the quality of school infrastructure and pose health risks to students and staff. School equipment, including computers, laboratory equipment, textbooks, and teaching materials, may be damaged, stolen, or destroyed during chieftaincy conflicts. This loss of essential resources can impede teaching and learning activities and hinder efforts to maintain educational standards.

Even after the cessation of hostilities, the process of rebuilding damaged school infrastructure may be hindered by ongoing security concerns, funding constraints, or bureaucratic delays. Delays in reconstruction efforts prolong the period during which students are deprived of access to quality educational facilities. Damage to school infrastructure can have a psychological impact on students, teachers, and the broader community, contributing to feelings of insecurity, anxiety, and trauma. The loss of familiar and cherished educational spaces can disrupt students' sense of normalcy and hinder their academic progress.

Chieftaincy conflicts divert resources away from education, as government and community resources are allocated to address security concerns and mitigate the impacts of the chieftaincy conflict. This can lead to underinvestment in education, including insufficient funding for school operations, teacher salaries, and educational materials. A significant portion of government resources may be diverted towards

security expenditures to manage and contain the chieftaincy conflict. This includes the deployment of security forces, procurement of weapons and equipment, and funding for operations aimed at restoring law and order. These expenditures often take precedence over investments in education and other social sectors (Alhassan et al., 2017).

Resources may be redirected towards providing emergency relief and humanitarian assistance to those affected by the chieftaincy conflict. This includes funding for food aid, shelter, medical care, and other basic necessities for displaced populations. While crucial for addressing immediate humanitarian needs, these expenditures may come at the expense of long-term investments in education. Funds allocated for repairing and reconstructing infrastructure damaged during the chieftaincy conflict, including roads, bridges, buildings, and utilities. While essential for restoring essential services and livelihoods, these expenditures may divert resources away from education-related infrastructure projects, such as school construction and renovation.

Financial resources directed towards chieftaincy conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives aimed at addressing the underlying causes of the chieftaincy conflict and promoting reconciliation among chieftaincy conflicting parties. While important for fostering sustainable peace and stability, these initiatives may compete with education funding for scarce resources. Government budgets may be reallocated towards social services and welfare programs designed to mitigate the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on vulnerable populations, including children, women, and internally displaced persons. While necessary for supporting affected communities, these programs may result in reduced funding for education and other essential services.

According to Shemyakina (2019) Chieftaincy conflicts can have adverse effects on local economies, leading to a loss of revenue and economic productivity. Reduced tax revenues and economic activity may limit the government's ability to allocate sufficient resources to education and other social sectors, exacerbating resource constraints in chieftaincy conflict-affected areas. Human resources, including government officials, educators, and social workers, may be diverted from their regular duties to address the immediate needs arising from the chieftaincy conflict. This can lead to disruptions in service delivery and capacity-building efforts in education and other sectors.

### **2.3.8. Impact on Health Care**

The chieftaincy conflict has affected the availability and quality of health care in the region. The lack of resources has led to a decrease in the number of health care providers and facilities available in the area. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has caused a significant decrease in the quality of health care services due to the lack of resources and funding (Hamidu, 2020).

The displacement of people has had a direct impact on healthcare in the region. People are forced to flee their homes in search of safety, but in doing so, they often lose access to basic healthcare services. Those who are able to stay in the region are often unable to access healthcare due to the destruction of roads and other infrastructure, as well as the disruption of services. This has led to an increase in the incidence of preventable and communicable diseases, as well as a decrease in the availability of medical supplies and equipment. The destruction of infrastructure and disruption of services has also had a significant impact on healthcare in the region. Hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities have been destroyed or damaged, and medical staff have been forced to flee (Hamidu, 2020).

This has led to a decrease in the availability of healthcare services, as well as a decrease in the quality of care. The disruption of the economy has also had a direct impact on healthcare in the region. Many people have been forced to leave their jobs, and those who remain are often unable to afford basic healthcare services. This has led to an increase in preventable and communicable diseases, as well as a decrease in access to necessary medications and treatments. Overall, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating impact on healthcare in the region. People have been displaced, infrastructure has been destroyed, and the economy has been disrupted, all of which have led to a decrease in access to healthcare services and a decrease in the quality of care (Hamidu, 2020).

### **2.3.9. Effects on Humanitarian Assistance**

The chieftaincy conflict also affected the availability of humanitarian assistance in the region. Many of the organizations that provide assistance have been forced to pull out due to security concerns, leaving the local population without access to these important services. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has caused significant disruption in the traditional systems of support, and this has led to a decrease in the availability of food, shelter, and other basic necessities (Dayori, 2018). The humanitarian assistance in the region, has a profound effect on the ability of local people to access the essential services that they need (Donkor, 2020).

The chieftaincy conflict has had a major impact on humanitarian assistance in the region. This includes both a direct effect on the availability of assistance and an indirect effect through the displacement of people. The direct effect of the chieftaincy conflict on humanitarian assistance has been significant. The destruction of infrastructure and services such as healthcare, education, and sanitation have resulted in a shortage of basic necessities for those affected. This has made it difficult for

humanitarian agencies to provide assistance to those in need. In addition, there have been security concerns which have prevented aid workers from accessing certain areas (Donkor, 2020).

The indirect effect of the chieftaincy conflict has been just as significant. The displacement of people from their homes has resulted in an increase in the number of people in need of assistance. This has created a huge strain on the resources of humanitarian organizations, which are unable to meet the needs of all those affected. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a devastating impact on the availability of humanitarian assistance in the region. It has caused a shortage of basic necessities and has prevented aid workers from accessing certain areas. It has also resulted in an increase in the number of people in need of assistance, which has put a strain on the resources of humanitarian organizations (Donkor, 2020).

### **2.3.10 How has the chieftaincy conflicts impacted human rights in relation to education and health care delivery in Bawku?**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict certainly has a far-reaching consequence on human rights abuses in the area, manifesting itself in various forms throughout the Bedehi, Kusasi and Mamprusi communities. The chieftaincy conflict, which began in 1994 but continues to this day, has had an extremely wide-reaching impact on the sustenance of human rights due to the presence of a variety of armed actors, government and non-governmental (including criminal) organizations, as well as state security forces (Mensah, 2011). It has caused extreme human rights abuses. The displacement of around 100,000 people in the area has caused the disruption of many services, leading to a lack of access to education, health care and employment opportunities. The armed clashes between the two groups have resulted in arbitrary arrests, torture and other violations of human rights. The chieftaincy conflict has



caused serious human rights abuses, including violence, displacement of people and destruction of homes and property.

Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has created an environment of fear and insecurity that has severely restricted the ability of people to access food, medical supplies and other essential services. This has resulted in increased poverty and malnutrition, and an overall deterioration of the quality of life for those affected by the violence (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018). In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has made it difficult for humanitarian actors to operate in the region and has led to a decrease in aid and development efforts aimed at improving the rights and wellbeing of local populations. All in all, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a serious and lasting effects on human rights in the region.

The primary human rights abuses to occur as a result of the chieftaincy conflict have been related to the right to life, liberty and security. Reports of targeted killings, abductions, arbitrary arrests and indefinite detentions, torture and ill-treatment, the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and restrictions on the freedom of expression and assembly have all emerged as major components of the human rights picture in Bawku. Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has resulted in the displacement of many communities, with whole villages being forced to flee in large numbers as a result of escalating violence preventing access to health care and education. This displacement has resulted in the disruption of basic access to education, health care, and other means of livelihood, adding additional layers to the human rights abuses in the region (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018).

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in widespread violations of economic and social rights, predominantly in the form of gender-based violence.

Mass rapes, sexual assault, and other forms of gender-based violence have been committed by armed combatants and criminal gangs throughout the chieftaincy conflict, with girls and women in an extremely vulnerable position. Finally, the legacy of the chieftaincy conflict has exacerbated existing ethnic tensions and has created new divisions between groups, particularly between Muslims and Christians. This has resulted in further suspicion and mistrust between these communities, ultimately furthering the human rights violations occurring in the region (Mensah, 2011).

Bonzi & Ayantunde (2021) discovered that over the years, hundreds of people have been killed and thousands displaced. People have lost their livelihoods, with their homes and farms destroyed. Consequently, women and children have suffered the brunt of the chieftaincy conflict, with sexual and gender-based violence being largely underreported. The chieftaincy conflict has also had a negative effect on the social, cultural, and economic development of the region. In recent years, the government of Ghana has taken some steps to reduce the chieftaincy conflict and create lasting peace, but much more needs to be done. The ongoing chieftaincy conflict continues to be a major cause of human rights abuses in the region.

In addition, many civilians in the area faced displacement due to the chieftaincy conflict, with some reports of abuses occurring as people fled the violence. There were also reports of human rights violations by local vigilante groups, including land guards, rape and looting of personal property. These abuses, along with the long-term displacement of people during the chieftaincy conflict, highlight the negative effect on the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had on human rights (Mensah, 2011).

The chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in numerous violations of the right to life, with reports of arbitrary killings, abductions, and torture. In 2008, there was a major

escalation in violence when a two-day gun battle in the town of Bawku resulted in the death of 41 people and the displacement of thousands. The violence has been primarily perpetrated by armed elements of the ethnic groups, and has been accompanied by reports of rape, torture, displacement and the recruitment of child soldiers (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018).

The chieftaincy conflict has also led to numerous violations of freedom of movement, with reports of road blocks and checkpoints, attacks on regional transportation systems, and restrictions on the movement of people and goods. This has kept many communities isolated and has had a devastating impact on the local economy, resulting in increased food insecurity, poverty, and malnutrition (Kpabitey, 2019).

The prolonged chieftaincy conflict in the region has also had an impact on the right to an adequate standard of living. Many of those in the chieftaincy conflict-affected areas are unable to access safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and basic healthcare. The lack of adequate access to food and other necessities, as well as the lack of access to employment opportunities and income, has led to increased levels of poverty, malnutrition and disease (Azongo, Kipo & Kipo, 2020).

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku again, affected the human rights of local communities and highlights the need for a more comprehensive and sustainable approach to peace building. The chieftaincy conflict has caused immense suffering and disruption to the local population and regional economy and must be addressed through comprehensive and long-term efforts to address the underlying causes of the chieftaincy conflict (Dongo, 2018).

The chieftaincy conflict has led to numerous human rights abuses, including arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, forced displacement, and extrajudicial killings. In

addition, there have been reports of the burning of homes and property, destruction of crops, and the use of child soldiers. Human rights organizations have also reported that women and girls have been subjected to sexual violence, including rape. The chieftaincy conflict has also caused major disruptions to the livelihoods of people in the region, as access to education, health services, and markets has been severely limited due to violence and displacement.

### **2.3.11 The Extent to Which the Chieftaincy conflict has Affected the Socio-Economic and Political Developments in Bawku**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict and its resulting human rights abuses have had a devastating impact on the socio-economic and political development of the Bawku area in Upper East region. This chieftaincy conflict, which began in 1994, has been characterized by violence, civil unrest, displacement, and human rights abuses (Alhassan, 2019).

This has had a devastating effect on the local population, particularly women and children. The effects of the chieftaincy conflict have been extensive. First, the chieftaincy conflict has led to a breakdown of law and order in some parts of the region, resulting in a rapidly deteriorating security situation. This has led to a sharp increase in crime and violence in the Bawku area, and has made the region less attractive for investment and other forms of development. Second, the chieftaincy conflict has placed tremendous pressure on the local and regional economies, leading to a decline in agricultural productivity, a decrease in formal employment and a decline in incomes for both men and women (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018). Third, local politics has been heavily affected by the chieftaincy conflict, with traditional and modern political leadership becoming increasingly fragile and open to manipulation

by rival factions. Fourth, the chieftaincy conflict has destroyed the local education system, with many schools unable to open due to fear of attacks.

Bonzi & Ayantunde (2021) researched discovered that the chieftaincy conflict has had a major impact on the socio-economic and political development of Bawku and the surrounding regions. Most notably, the chieftaincy conflict has deepened existing underlying tensions between the various ethnic groups in the region, leading to distrust and marginalization among certain groups. This has further exacerbated the perpetual cycles of poverty, underdevelopment and economic insecurity in the area. The chieftaincy conflict has also had a significant impact on human rights in the Bawku area. A number of human rights abuses have been documented in the chieftaincy conflict, including extrajudicial executions, sexual violence and torture. These violations have been attributed to both the Ghanaian security forces and the armed forces of both sides. The chieftaincy conflict has also led to an increase in forced evictions and displacement, as well as a rise in child labor and other forms of exploitation. The ongoing chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses have had a severe impact on the political trajectory of Bawku and the surrounding region (Alhassan, 2019).

The chieftaincy conflict has created a climate of fear and uncertainty that has discouraged political participation and compromise. This has negatively affected the prospects of democracy and good governance in the region, as well as the delivery of effective public services and public investments. The long-protracted chieftaincy conflict in Bawku and the human rights abuses associated with it have had a deep and long-lasting effects on the socio-economic and political development of the region. The chieftaincy conflict has deepened existing socio-economic inequalities and political tensions (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021).

According to Gbewonyo (2022), the Bawku chieftaincy conflict in the region of northern Ghana has been ongoing for over a decade, heavily impacting both local and national socio-economic and political development. Over the years, the chieftaincy conflict has escalated in intensity and complexity. This has resulted in various human rights abuses and further escalated tensions between the ethnic groups in the area. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict and accompanying human rights abuses have caused extreme poverty and lack of opportunities for the local population, resulting in the suffering of the people in the region. In terms of political development, the chieftaincy conflict has caused a stalemate in the Bawku area as the two sides are unable to reach an agreement. This has caused a lack of development in the area and a lack of trust between the two ethnic groups, further exacerbating tensions (Azongo, Kipo & Kipo, 2020).

The chieftaincy conflict started as a territorial dispute between the two ethnic groups over access to resources, land, and agricultural resources. The Kusasis accused the Mamprusis of encroachment and this sparked a series of clashes that last for many years and result in the death of over 600 people. The chieftaincy conflict even spread beyond the immediate vicinity of Bawku, to other parts of the Upper East Region and other neighboring areas (Hamidu, 2020).

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has led to a severe disruption of the socio-economic and political development of the town and its surrounding areas. The chieftaincy conflict has caused a significant decline in economic development, disrupted food supplies, caused displacement of population, and prevented external investment in the area. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has led to deterioration of security and human rights abuses, including arbitrary arrests and extra-judicial killings and torture of civilians (Dongo, 2018).

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has also had a significant impact on the political situation in the area, as the violence associated with the chieftaincy conflict has hindered unity among the two ethnic groups in the town. This fundamental lack of unity has prevented the development of a cohesive political identity in Bawku and, in turn, has also prevented any effective policymaking and implementation for the benefit of its residents. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused immense suffering and a great deal of destruction in the town, affecting its social, economic, and political development. The chieftaincy conflict has stunted socio-economic development in the area, preventing investment, disrupting food supplies, and leading to human rights abuses. It has also prevented any meaningful political development in the area, creating a political void that has hindered any efforts to unify the two ethnic groups in the town (Alhassan, 2019).

In the ensuing years, the chieftaincy conflict has escalated significantly with both sides deploying armed military forces and engaging in inter-ethnic combat. The chieftaincy conflict has been marked by an increasing level of violence and the deployment of a regional peacekeeping force in 2010. The chieftaincy conflict has, since then, been more or less stable, but the underlying ethnic tensions remain, and the risk of further escalation remains significant (Guri, 2019).

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has been marked by numerous instances of human rights abuses. The chieftaincy conflict has witnessed horrific violence and serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, torture, rape and forced displacement. Reports have highlighted the use of heavy weapons such as machine guns and rocket launchers by combatants of the two ethnic groups, as well as the recruitment of child soldiers. The chieftaincy conflict has also had economic implications, with a number of Bawku's businesses being adversely affected by

insecurity (Kpabitey, 2019). Also, the government has curtailed civil liberties and imposed an emergency rule in attempts to bring the chieftaincy conflict to an end.

Bonzi & Ayantunde (2021) revealed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a profound impact on the socio-economic and political development of Bawku and its surrounding communities. Ongoing chieftaincy conflict has caused high levels of displacement and internal migration, and led to a deterioration of economic opportunities and educational opportunities. The violence has also caused an increase in poverty and a reduction in access to health care services. At the same time, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has also had an adverse effect on the political environment in the region. The presence of armed groups has led to an increase in political instability, as well as an increase in human rights abuses.

Notably, the chieftaincy conflict has hampered the efforts of government officials to oversee campaigns and elections. This has severely limited the ability of local officials to effectively implement policies and programs that can help to reduce poverty and improve the region's developmental trajectory. The chieftaincy conflict has also had an effect on the security and stability of the region. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused an increase in the presence of armed groups, as well as an increase in the number of civilian casualties. This has exacerbated existing tensions among communities, leading to an erosion of trust and an increase in the potential for further violence and chieftaincy conflict (Alhassan, 2019). The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has also had a tremendous impact on the region's culture and identity. The tension between the two main ethnic groups, the Kasena and the Mossi, has led to an increase in ethnic divisions. This has adversely affected the ability of people to work together to address issues of development and security (Alhassan, 2019).



According to Guri (2019) revealed that the chieftaincy conflict has had a severe impact on the socio-economic and political development of the Bawku area. As a result of the disruption, the region has seen a decrease in agricultural production, a decrease in trade, and an increase in poverty. Education has also been affected by the chieftaincy conflict as children are unable to attend school due to the insecurity and fear of violence. Additionally, access to healthcare has been limited, and the chieftaincy conflict has led to a decrease in the number of healthcare providers in the region. The chieftaincy conflict has also had a negative impact on the political development of the area. Peaceful elections have been difficult to hold due to the violence and disruption caused by the chieftaincy conflict. Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict has caused tensions between the two tribes which has hindered the development of a unified voice for the area. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has had a severe and far-reaching impact on the socio-economic and political development in the region. The chieftaincy conflict has caused extensive human rights abuses which have exacerbated the situation and made it difficult for the people of the region to rebuild and move forward (Issa & Akpene, 2015). Therefore, it is essential that the chieftaincy conflict is addressed in order for the region to move forward and ensure a lasting peace.

### **2.3.12. Measures to Address the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict**

There are several initiatives already in place to mediate and reduce the tensions between the two ethnic groups in the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. These initiatives should be strengthened and supported to ensure that progress is made and the chieftaincy conflict can be addressed.

Education and awareness are important for helping to reduce the tensions between the two ethnic groups in the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. By providing information about

the chieftaincy conflict and its potential outcomes, people can begin to understand and appreciate the other side's perspective. Providing economic incentives to both sides of the chieftaincy conflict can help to reduce the tensions and create a more conducive environment for peace negotiations. This could include providing support for businesses, creating job opportunities, and offering grants or loans to those affected by the chieftaincy conflict (Lambert et al., 2019).

A credible monitoring mechanism should be established to ensure that the progress of the peace process is monitored and that any violations of the peace agreement are addressed. This could include a joint monitoring team, with representatives from both sides of the chieftaincy conflict, as well as international observers. The underlying issues that are fueling the chieftaincy conflict must be addressed in order to ensure that a lasting peace can be achieved. This could include addressing issues such as economic inequality, land disputes, and political grievances, as well as providing support for vulnerable communities (Koranteng, 2021).

The government and NGOs should work together to facilitate dialogue between the two warring factions in order to reach a peaceful resolution of the chieftaincy conflict. This should be done through direct negotiations, the establishment of a joint monitoring committee, or the deployment of a peacekeeping force. (Mackinlay, 2011; Johnson, 2012). The government and NGOs should work together to create a comprehensive development plan for the region that addresses the underlying causes of the chieftaincy conflict. This plan should seek to improve access to education, health care, and economic opportunities, as well as to address issues of land tenure and resource management. (Mackinlay, 2011; Johnson, 2012).

The government and NGOs should work to empower local actors to become effective mediators and negotiators in the chieftaincy conflict resolution process. This can be done by providing training and resources to local organizations and leaders to help them develop the skills and knowledge needed to participate in peacebuilding and chieftaincy conflict resolution (Harding, 2009; Johnson, 2012). The government and NGOs should provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by the chieftaincy conflict, including food, shelter, and medical care. This assistance should be provided in a way that is gender-sensitive and that takes into account the special needs of vulnerable populations (Harding, 2009; Johnson, 2012).

The government should work to build trust between the two sides of the chieftaincy conflict by providing access to government services, resources, and opportunities, as well as fostering dialogue and cooperation between the two sides. The government could also provide financial incentives for the communities to develop strategies and programs that promote peace and reconciliation (Lambert et al., 2019). The government of Ghana should take a leading role in finding a solution to the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. This could involve increasing public security in the region, providing access to justice, and engaging in reconciliation initiatives. Also, the government should create a task force to analyze the chieftaincy conflict and identify its root causes in order to develop an effective strategy for resolving the chieftaincy conflict (Koranteng, 2021).

International bodies such as the United Nations should work to provide technical and financial assistance to facilitate the peace process and reconciliation efforts. Additionally, they could provide support to local civil society organizations that are working to promote dialogue and peaceful coexistence between the two sides (Lambert et al., 2019). The United Nations should provide technical and financial

assistance to the government of Ghana in order to help them address the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. This could involve providing training and capacity building to local stakeholders, facilitating dialogue and reconciliation initiatives, and providing resources for development projects in the region (Lampsey, 2017).

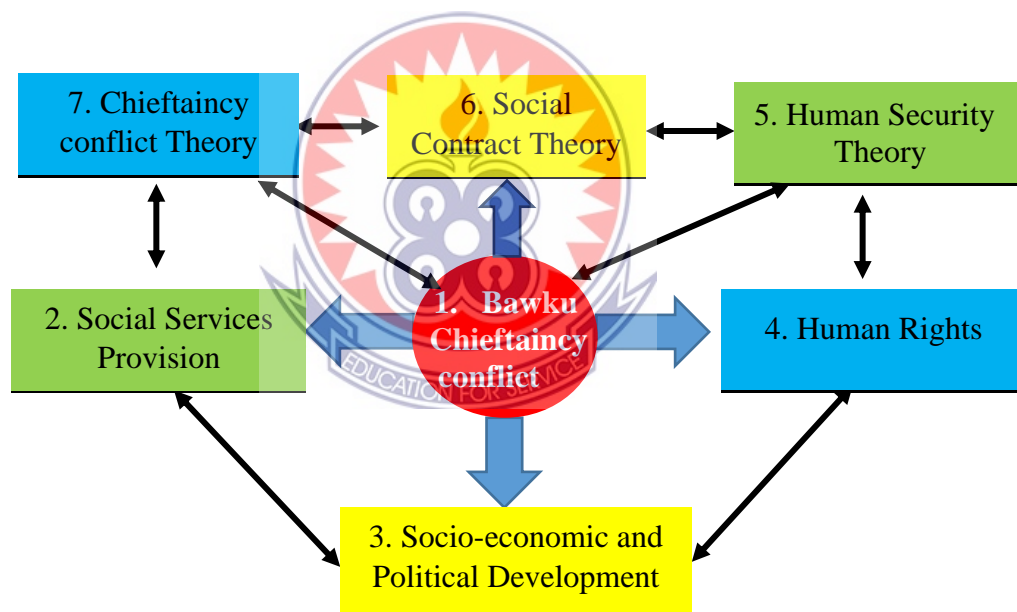
Civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should also be involved in efforts to address the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. They could provide support for local peacebuilding initiatives, monitor the chieftaincy conflict, and advocate for a peaceful resolution to the chieftaincy conflict (Danso et al., 2019).

#### **2.4. Conceptual Review**

The relationship between the Bawku chieftaincy conflict, the provision of social services, and human rights abuses is complex and interconnected. In the case of Bawku, the ongoing chieftaincy conflict may have resulted in significant impact on the availability and accessibility of social services, leading to human rights abuses. Again, the relationship between the chieftaincy conflict, the provision of social services, and human rights abuses is a vicious cycle. The chieftaincy conflict disrupts social services, which in turn exacerbates human rights abuses. Conversely, human rights abuses can also fuel further chieftaincy conflict, perpetuating the cycle of violence and instability.

The chieftaincy conflict possibly may have disrupted the normal functioning of the society, resulting in the destruction or disruption of infrastructure, such as schools, hospitals, and water supply systems. This hampers the provision of social services, making it difficult for the communities to access essential resources and support systems. As a result, individuals, particularly vulnerable groups, have suffered from the lack of healthcare, education, clean water, and other basic services.

The conceptual framework is composed of seven (7) main components: (1) the chieftaincy conflict in the middle, that is, the circle, indicating the main focal point, (2) the provision of social services, (3) socio-economic and political development, (4) the human rights abuses, whereas the remaining (5,6, and 7) rectangles at the top representing the theories, that is, chieftaincy conflict, social contract and human security theory. Chieftaincy conflict sometimes needs deliberate political mobilization of people around a particular leadership and political agenda. Mobilization does not necessarily equate to violence or chieftaincy conflict. This tends to be a critical element in peaceful and democratic change. This is mostly a vital part of the escalation towards chieftaincy conflict.



**Figure1: Conceptual Framework**

Source: Researcher, 2022

According to the framework above, the top of the framework, we have seven (7), Chieftaincy conflict Theory at the top, which provides insights into the underlying causes and dynamics of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. Six (6), Social Contract Theory, on the other hand, helps us understand the impact of the chieftaincy conflict

on the provision of social services, represented in between Chieftaincy conflict and Human Security Theory of the framework. Five (5), Human Security Theory, situated on the top right side, allows us to analyze the occurrence of human rights abuses within the context of the chieftaincy conflict. Three (3) at the bottom of the framework, we have Socio-economic and Political Development, which illustrates the broader consequences of the chieftaincy conflict on economy and infrastructures, in the middle left two (2) we have social service provision which illustrates the impact the chieftaincy conflict has had on the social service provision, at the middle left four (4) illustrates the human rights abuses that have occurred as a result of the chieftaincy conflict. Lastly, in the middle which is one (1) circle, we have the Bawku chieftaincy conflict itself, serving as the focal point of the conceptual framework. This framework provides a structured approach to comprehensively examine the complex interrelationships between chieftaincy conflict, social services provision, human rights abuses, and socio-economic and political development in the specific case of Bawku.

Consequently, the circle illustrates how the chieftaincy conflicts have had an impact on the provision of social services, human rights and socio-economic and political development in Bawku. The chieftaincy conflict notably, according to the framework indicate that there is the likelihood the chieftaincy conflict may have had significant impacts on the provision of social services. Due to the chieftaincy conflict, it may have impacted the access to healthcare, education, and a basic utility has been disrupted, leading to limited availability and quality of these services. Human rights abuses, such as arbitrary arrests, violence, torture, unlawful arrest and detention, censorship, freedom of movement, discrimination, arbitrary killing and displacement, have occurred during the chieftaincy conflict, and might have affecting the well-being and safety of individuals in the community. Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict has

the potential to hinder the socio-economic and political development of Bawku. This may have resulted in economic instability, reduced investment, and political instability, which have impeded progress in the region. The extent of the impact may vary, but it is extremely substantial.

The human rights present challenges and opportunities when preventing chieftaincy conflict, managing and building peace before and aftermath of the chieftaincy conflict. In understanding, the context is critical and human rights should be a broader strategy to deal with the chieftaincy conflict. Human rights support and activism even to prevent or manage chieftaincy conflict and also build post-chieftaincy conflict peace against the interest of those who commit violations and benefit from the chieftaincy conflict. Political instability, economic conditions, social unrest and cultural norms, are some of the human rights abuses to encounter during chieftaincy conflict (Adeyemo, 2019).

The purpose of social services is to create conducive conditions for persons (family) to develop or strengthen the ability and possibilities to solve social problems, maintain social relations with the society and to help overcome social exclusion. Social services such as resource allocation, access to services, right to education, right to health care, right to food, right to shelter and right to safety. The increase in chieftaincy conflict corresponds with the decreasing capacity of the state to deliver basic social services. This suggests that there is a strong correlation between grievances from the lack of service provision and the likelihood that a person would participate in the chieftaincy conflict groups (Bonzi & Ayantunde, 2021).

Government work on social service delivery in crises has been informed by lessons gained from the response from evaluations of social funds and safety nets that were

linked to adjustment programs and/or economic crises. In other words, very little of their learning, that is far from chieftaincy conflict-affected or transitional environments. Lessons from chieftaincy conflicts indicate that indigenes faced significant challenges targeting vulnerable populations primarily hampered by lack of up-to-date, complete and accurate information. It also faced challenges in administration and its financing was exposed to political manipulation at both national and local levels (Lambert & Rheingans, 2019).

The chieftaincy conflict, provision of social services and human rights abuses relationship is complex and interconnected. Chieftaincy conflict predominantly armed chieftaincy conflict or violent disputes disrupt the normal functioning of societies which lead to various negative consequences for social services and human rights. Chieftaincy conflicts severely disrupt the provision of essential social services including education, healthcare, water supply and sanitation. The destruction of infrastructure such as hospital, schools and water facilities reduce people's access to these services. The displaced citizen due to chieftaincy conflict can overwhelm the capacity of social services which may lead to shortages and strained resources. Usually, chieftaincy conflict zones are often related with higher likelihood of human rights abuses which has direct effect on the provision of social services for the community due to freedom of movement, the risk of extrajudicial killings, sexual violence, torture, forced displacement and other violations. Civilians especially women, children and vulnerable populations become targets of abuse due to their perceived vulnerabilities or their affiliations with chieftaincy conflicting parties and lack of assessing basic social services.



The chieftaincy conflict effects on the provision of social services and human rights abuses emphasize the urgent need for chieftaincy conflict prevention, resolution and post-chieftaincy conflict recovery efforts. These should prioritize protecting human rights, restoring essential services and addressing the underlying indicators of chieftaincy conflict to break the cycle of vulnerability and abuse.

## **2.5. Summary**

This chapter captures the related literature of the topics understudy. The chieftaincy conflict had a devastating effect on the local population, particularly women and children. The effects of the chieftaincy conflict have been extensive. The chieftaincy conflict led to a breakdown of law and order in some parts of the region, resulting in a rapidly deteriorating security situation. This has led to a sharp increase in crime and violence in the Bawku area as the empirical review reveals, and has made the region less attractive for investment and other forms of development. The chieftaincy conflict has placed tremendous pressure on the local and regional economies, leading to a decline in agricultural productivity, a decrease in formal employment and a decline in incomes for both men and women.

Furthermore, chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has directly affected the provision of social services in several ways. The disruption caused by the chieftaincy conflict has resulted in damaged of infrastructures, such as healthcare facilities and schools, making it challenging for these services to operate effectively. Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict has led to the displacement of people, causing overcrowding and straining the existing social service infrastructure. Human rights abuses have sadly been prevalent during the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. These abuses include freedom of movement, arbitrary arrests, torture, and violence against civilians. Such

violations not only cause physical and psychological harm to individuals but also erode trust in the authorities and hinder the community's overall well-being. In terms of socio-economic and political development, the chieftaincy conflict has had a significant impact on Bawku. The region has experienced economic instability due to disrupted trade and business activities. The lack of security has deterred investment, hindering job creation and economic growth. Politically, the chieftaincy conflict has led to political tensions and divisions within the community, making it challenging to establish stable governance structures. Overall, the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services, human rights abuses, and socio-economic and political development in Bawku are interconnected. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach that focuses on rebuilding infrastructure, promoting human rights, and fostering peace and stability in the community.



## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. Introduction

The study employed a qualitative research design, using interviews semi-structured interview guide to collect data from key informants, including community leaders, government officials and civil society organizations. A purposive sampling technique was used to select participants who had firsthand experience of the chieftaincy conflict and its effect on social services delivery and human rights abuses. Data analysis was conducted thematically.

#### 3.2. Philosophical Underpinning

The philosophical underpinning of this study is an interpretative research paradigm. According to Morse (2015), the interpretative research paradigm is the best philosophical assumption to be used in the field of social sciences since it gives opportunity for humans to interpret social realities from their own diverse contexts and experiences. He further noted that, though multiple reasons can be given to explain social happenings, to gain accurate, better and deeper insights into phenomenon, it is important to examine the unique social contexts within which they occur and the self-narrative views given by the social actors involved in such occurrences.

Drawing inspiration from Morse, this study made use of the interpretive paradigm in order to interact directly and intensively with the research respondents to describe from their individual perspectives, their assigned meanings on the impacts of the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts on the provision of social services as well as the human rights implications.

### 3.3. Research Approach

Davidson (2009) argued that, the research approach is a general plan and procedure for conducting a study and consists of the steps of broad assumptions to detailed methods of data collection, analysis and interpretations. He further noted that there are three major research approaches for conducting research namely; qualitative approach, quantitative approach and the mixed approach. Hence, the nature of the research problem determines the appropriate research approach to be used.

In this study, the qualitative research approach was employed to get respondents' views on the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts on the provision of social services as well as the smooth enjoyment of human rights.

According to Marshall & Rossman (2016), qualitative research approach emphasizes the use of naturalistic inquiry, which allows for the understanding of human behavior in its social context. In other words, it serves as a means for the researcher to seek understanding of how a person's behavior is shaped by their environment and the people around them (Marshall & Rossman, 2016). These scholars further posited that, the qualitative research method emphasizes the importance of participant observation, which allows for the understanding of people's lived experiences to know how a person's behavior is shaped by their lived experiences, such as their family, culture, and community.

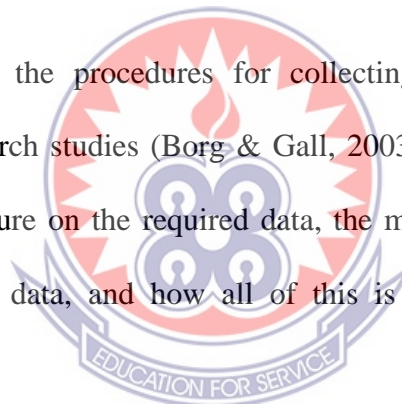
Morse (2015) collaborated this assertion by putting forth two views. One, the qualitative research method is often used to explore the complexities of social phenomena, such as why people behave in certain ways, how people make decisions, and how people interact with each other. Two, the qualitative research method can be used to understand how people think, feel, and perceive their environment. He then

called for the use of the qualitative research approach in fields such as psychology, education, and sociology for a better appreciation of the human nature and lived experiences and to help develop theories and hypotheses.

The qualitative research approach was used by the researcher to help explore the experiences and perceptions of participants regarding the impact of chieftaincy conflict on social services provision and human rights abuses in Bawku. It helped to analyze from the respondents own lived experiences how chieftaincy conflicts affect the equitable distribution of social services in Bawku and examined any resulting disparities or injustices.

### **3.4. Research Design**

A research design is the procedures for collecting, analyzing, interpreting and reporting data in research studies (Borg & Gall, 2003). In other words, the research design sets the procedure on the required data, the methods to be applied to collect data and analyze this data, and how all of this is going to answer the research question.



This study adopted the case study research design. Kusi (2012) suggested that, the strength of the case study design is that it explores and captures the complexity of a phenomenon for better understanding which the large-scale quantitative studies including a survey fail to achieve since in most cases they collect superficial information about a phenomenon for generalization. Cohen, Manion & Morrison (2003) also noted that, the case study design is action-centered and therefore its results are useful for improving practice.

The case study design was used by the researcher to help explore the respondents' views on the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflicts on the provision of social

services and the human rights abuses in the Bawku municipality. This design ensured that in-depth views of the civil servants, Assemblymen/women, religious leaders and the residents were obtained. Aside the design helping the data in describing phenomena in a real-life environment, it also reflected respondents self-narrated perspectives on the consequences of the chieftaincy conflict on their daily lives such as provision of social services and the human rights abuses.

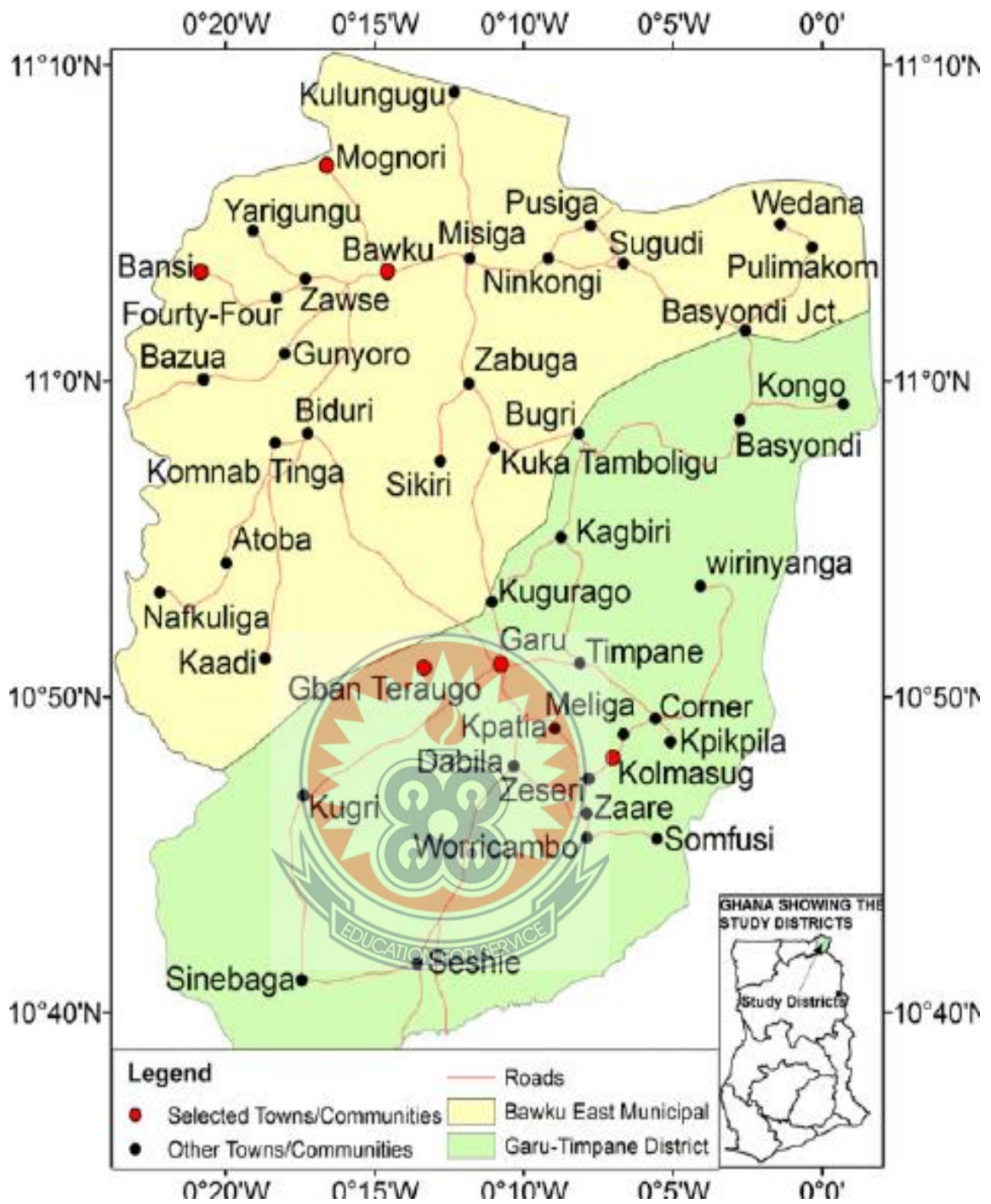
### **3.5 Research Setting**

Bawku is a town located in the Upper East Region of Ghana. It is the capital of the Bawku Municipal District and is one of the most populous towns in the region. The population of Bawku is estimated to be around 80,000 people, with the majority of the population being ethnic Mamprusi. The other ethnic groups in the area include; Dagomba, Kusasi and Talensi. The earliest known inhabitants of the area were the Bisa people, who were a subgroup of the Dagomba. The Bisa were a farming and trading people, and they had settlements in the area as early as the 15th century. By the middle of the 16th century, Bawku had become a major commercial center, with trade routes connecting it to Burkina Faso, Togo, and Nigeria. It was not until the late 19th century when Bawku came under the control of the British who established a protectorate in the area. During this period, the British built schools, churches and other infrastructure in the town (Population Census, 2010).

The British also established the Bawku Native Authority in 1921, which was responsible for administering the town and its surrounding area. In the 1950s and 1960s, Bawku experienced rapid economic growth and development. The opening of a new road connecting it to both Ghana and Burkina Faso in 1961 further boosted the town's economy. Subsequently, Bawku became a major educational center, with the establishment of several secondary schools and a Teachers' Training College. In

recent times, Bawku has become an increasingly popular tourist destination, because it has a number of historic sites, including the Bawku Fort which was built by the British in the late 19th century. The Bugum National Park is also a popular attraction, and the savanna grassland, species of birds and animals (Population Census, 2010).

Bawku enjoys a diverse range of cultures and languages, with the main language spoken in the area being Mamprusi. Other languages spoken in the area include Dagbani, Kusasi, and Talensi. Bawku is a town with a variety of religions, with the majority of the population being Muslims and Christians. The main occupation in Bawku is subsistence farming and trading. The main crops grown in the area are maize, millet, sorghum, peanuts, and cowpeas. Livestock farming forms an important part of their occupation. The town also has a small but vibrant market, where local produce is sold to visitors and locals alike. Bawku is a vibrant and thriving community, with a strong sense of identity and culture. It is an important part of the Upper East Region, and its people are proud to call it home (Population Census, 2010). The study considered nurse, assembly members, police officers, Teachers, chiefs, religious leaders and the residents of Bawku municipality.



**Figure 2: Study Area: Map of Bawku in the Upper East Region, Ghana**

Source: Google Earth, 2022



### **3.6. Population**

Arthur (2016) posited that, the population of a research refers to the total number of participants in a research study and includes people, animals, plants, or other objects that are being studied. He further contended that, in order for a study to be valid and reliable, it is important for the population of the research to be clearly defined to ensure that the data collected is representative of the population being studied.

The study sought to examine the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku and considered 120 respondents as the target population. This included; 16 nurses, 14 assembly members, 10 police officers, 10 Teachers, 10 chiefs, 10 religious leaders and 50 residents of the Bawku municipality to help with the study.

### **3.7. Sample Size of the Study**

Fraenkel & Wallen (2003) expressed that, a sample for a research study is a group of people, objects or items that are taken from a large population for a measurement. He further explained that in research, the large size of the research population makes it not feasible to collect data from all persons in the entire group. That is, he argued for the use of a sample to further define the individuals who will actually participate in the research and address the research questions set for the study. He again noted that, in determining the sample size of a study, researchers must consider factors such as the population size, the representativeness of the sample, and the type and complexity of the research question.

In this study, the researcher interviewed 12 respondents made up of 2 nurses, 2 teachers, 2 assembly members, 2 police officers, 1 chief, 1 religious' leader and 2 residents of Bawku municipality.

Two major reasons explain why a sample size of twelve (12) was used. The first reason is built from the argument of Guest et al. (2006), who suggested that, for a detailed insight into a qualitative study, the research participants must not be more than fifteen (15) and not less than ten (10) to enhance manageability and attain quality information.

Secondly, Guest et al. (2006), called for researchers to be guided by data saturation principles. That is, the more pertinent information the sample holds, the lower the number of participants needed. In this study, the required information power needed to answer adequately the research questions was obtained on speaking with the 12<sup>th</sup> person. Hence, no new information was forthcoming except for consolidation of ideas already shared by earlier respondents and taken notice of.

The respondents used were people who have lived in the Bawku community for more than fifteen (15) years and have enough knowledge of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict so as to be able to express their opinions of the topic under study. With the help of demographic data, the researcher performed a background check on the respondents and different categories were generated according to their ranks and the longevity of their stay in the Bawku township. The researcher chose respondents who have lived in the Bawku township for fifteen (15) years and above because they have ample information of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict and were able to share more light on the topic under study. This criterion was used in selecting the respondents since they have lived in the town and might have enough background of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The description of the respondents involved in the study have been presented in the table below.

**Table 1: Description of Respondents**

<b>Pseudonym</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Length in Bawku</b>
NO001	Nurse	Male	18 years
NO002	Nurse	Female	20 years
AM001	Assembly member	Male	30 years
AM002	Assembly member	Male	32 years
PO001	Police officer	Female	20 years
PO002	Police officer	Male	18 years
MO001	Teacher	Female	16 years
MO002	Teacher	Male	17 years
CTL001	Chief	Male	48 years
RLL001	Religious leader	Male	50 years
RES001	Resident	Female	30 years
RES002	Resident	Male	35 years

Source: Field survey, 2022

### **3.8. Sample and Sampling Techniques**

The data was collected using purposive sampling. Participants were selected based on their experience with the chieftaincy conflict and its impact on social services and human rights abuses (Creswell, 2014). The purposive sampling technique is also known as judgmental sampling. It is a non-probability sampling technique which is used in selecting specific cases or individuals for inclusion in a study usually based on predefined criteria and research objectives. In this technique, selection of cases or individuals is deliberate or intentional and is based on who has the most relevant information that can best answer the research questions or objectives. This often is employed when the researcher aims to gather information from cases or individuals with specific characteristics, experiences or expertise that are crucial to the research.

The study involved key informants such as chiefs, religious leaders, nurses, police officers, Teachers, residents and assembly members of Bawku municipality.

Consequently, it is obvious that the population in Bawku municipality though may hold some information that may contribute to the study, the researcher purposively selected twelve (12) participants made up of 2 nurses, 2 teachers, 2 assembly members, 2 police officers, 1 chief, 1 religious leader and 2 residents of Bawku municipality who have lived in Bawku between the years of 18 and 45 years.

The government workers including the nurses, teachers, police officers who have lived in Bawku between the years of 18 to 45 years were purposively selected to be part of the research because they are in the center of social service provision and providing security. Again, teachers being stakeholders in providing education for the residence could not be excluded because they daily come across vital information on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in the community. Most teachers are presumed to be neutral in dissemination of information.

The assembly man was purposively selected because they represent, he/she represents the electoral area, they formulate the assembly by-laws for and on behalf of the residents to ensure that basic amenities and social services provision, human rights are provided in order to ensure the well-being of the citizens of Bawku.

The Chief and religious leader were selected purposively because the responsibilities of a chief include maintaining order, resolving disputes, and promoting community development. A religious leader on the other hand is responsible for guiding and supporting spiritual practices, providing moral guidance, and fostering a sense of unity among their followers. Hence, there are very involve when it comes

development, maintaining peace and order, ensuring general provision of social services and human rights for the citizens.

Finally, the citizens were included for the reasons being that they are the receiving end in relation the social services provision and human rights abuses. In accessing these services, they may come in contact with countless vital information, its consequences and their detrimental effects on the citizen as a result of the chieftaincy conflict. Undoubtedly, it was therefore important to incorporate the residents into the study.

### **3.9. Data Collection Technique and Instrument**

The researcher employed the one-on-one interview sessions as the data collection technique to elicit the primary data on the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights enjoyment. Morse (2015) argued that interview is an important data gathering technique which involves verbal communication between the researcher and the respondents in research study. In other words, an interview in research is an interactive process in which the researcher interacts with the respondents with the specific purpose of eliciting the needed information to address the research questions in a study.

With regards to the data collection instrument, the semi- structured interview guide was used. Borg & Gall (2003) postulated that, a semi-structured interview guide is a type of interview guide where the researcher does not follow a strict question and answer format but rather ask more open-ended questions, allowing for a more comprehensive discussion with the respondents. Here, questions that can simply be answered with Yes or No responses are avoided whilst the researcher focuses on questions that encourage two-way communications allowing for both the researcher

and the respondents to ask follow-up questions to draw out more specific responses to address the research questions. They further noted that the semi-structured interview guide is a data collection method which relies on asking questions with a predetermined thematic framework. And argued that, it is the best instrument for data collection when using qualitative research. The primary strength of this interview guide is its adaptability to any given situation.

The researcher used the semi-structured interview guide for four main reasons. One, it helped the researcher to address all the research questions which guided the study. Two, it offered the respondents the opportunity to speak out on the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses. Three, the semi-structured interview guide ensured that all respondents were asked the same principal questions that helped to maintain consistency in the data collection. This consistency was crucial for the validity and reliability of the data. Fourth, this guide allowed for flexibility in the interview sessions since the researcher was able to use judgment to probe further into responses to seek clarifications or adapt the questions to the flow of the conversation. This flexibility is particularly vital in qualitative research in capturing nuanced and rich data (Morse, 2015). Also, interview guides include ethical considerations such as confidentiality, informed consent, and the well-being of respondents. These guides the interviewers in handling emotional responses or sensitive topics from respondents. Interviewers and researchers are characteristically trained in using the interview guide to ensure that they follow the same procedures and maintain consistency across interviews. This training can also include how to ask questions and probe information effectively (Morse, 2015).

Before collecting the data, the researcher initially designed the interview guide and forwarded to the supervisor for validity. The supervisor of this study reviewed the

interview guide for corrections and ascertained its reliability and suitability before it was used for the main data collection. My research supervisor helped to fine-tune and focus the interview questions such that the respondents would not have difficulty in responding to them (Morse, 2015).

After the supervisor validated the semi-structured interview guide, the researcher obtained an introductory letter from the School of Graduates Studies, University of Education, Winneba which was forwarded to the various respondents for their consent in the study. After that the researcher visited the respondents and interviewed them personally.

### **3.10 Data Analysis**

The gathered data is vital to the study and important for the researcher to analyze for interpretation. The researcher's ability to interpret and analyze the collected data that answers the research questions. The data was analyze based on the interview guide in collecting the data. In the case of this study, data analysis was done on the interviews through the adoption of thematic data analysis through the examination of the recording accounts and responses of respondents (Morse, 2015). It must be noted that, not all responses were relevant to the questions posed and the objectives set to be achieved by the study. Data was transcribed by the researcher. That is, the audio/video were recorded and interpreted/translated and coded (Davidson, 2009). The coding of the data was through the transformation of information into meaningful categories like the identification of concept and finding relations. Finally, the salient responses on the Bawku chieftaincy conflict were presented in a reported and in a direct form under the themes.

Thematic analysis was used to analyze the data collected. The researcher transcribed the interviews and concludes based on the responses of the respondents. The codes were grouped into themes, and the themes was analyzed to identify patterns and trends in the data (Marshall & Rossman, 2016). Based on the interview guide, the researcher developed the themes below:

**Chieftaincy conflict impact on healthcare services**, this concentrates on the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on the healthcare services.

**Chieftaincy conflict impact on quality of education**, this focus on the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the quality of education.

**Chieftaincy conflict impact on the provision of clean water**, this also concentrate on the consequences of the chieftaincy conflict on the provision of clean water.

**Chieftaincy conflict impact on healthcare providers**, the healthcare providers affected by the chieftaincy conflict.

**Chieftaincy conflict impact on social services providers**, this reveals the impact of chieftaincy conflict on the service providers.

The themes above incorporate the numerous aspects addressed the interview guide which reflects the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on healthcare, education, water and sanitation, service providers, mitigation efforts and the strategies for improving social services in Bawku. in the coding process, the interview responses can be categorized these thematic areas to help interpret and analyze the data effectively.

### **3.11 Validity of Instrument**

Validity of instrument in research is the extent to which measurement tool precisely measures what it is intended to measure. It assesses whether the instrument is



measuring the concept or construct it is supposed to measure without introducing bias or errors. Validity is a critical aspect of research as it ensures that the data collected accurately represent the phenomenon under investigation. Validity is done to ensure trustworthiness and authenticity (Marshall & Rossman, 2016). This is the meaningfulness, usefulness and appropriateness of the specific references the researcher makes based on the data collected while reliability refers to the consistency of the scores obtained.

The instrument validity has been detailed in the following;

**Content Validity**, this is where validity assesses whether the items or questions in the measurement instrument adequately represent the full range of the construct being measured. This entails expert judgment to ensure the content of the instrument is comprehensive and relevant (Marshall & Rossman, 2016).

**Criterion-Related Validity**, this refers to the validity that examines the extent to which the scores from the measurement instrument correlate with external criteria or measures. This is divided into two subtypes: concurrent validity that is how well the instrument correlates with existing measures and predictive validity that is how well the instrument predicts future.

**Construct validity**, this is the kind of validity that evaluates whether the measurement instrument accurately captures the underlying theoretical construct it intends to measure. This entails examining relationships between the instrument and other constructs that are theoretically related.

**Face validity**, this is an artificial assessment of whether the measurement instrument appears to measure the intended construct. It is more of an initial impression and is not as rigorous as other types of validity (Marshall & Rossman, 2016).

The validity of the research instrument is relevant for producing reliable and credible outcomes. Conclusion can be drawn the accurate data reflect the concepts being studied enhancing the overall impact and quality of the research.

### 3.12 Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness is the credibility and reliability of findings and the degree to which these results can be considered valid and accurate. This is critical of the research process particularly in qualitative study where data collection and interpretation encompass subjectivity and human judgment. Effective trustworthiness helps to establish the integrity and quality of the research making it more likely that the results are dependable and be trusted by both researcher and others who may use the findings. The justification of trustworthiness is usually associated with qualitative research methods but is important in various research approaches (Marshall & Rossman, 2016). The key components or criteria that contribute to trustworthiness in research includes credibility, transferability, dependability, confirmability, and consistency.

**Credibility:** Mostly, researchers use multiple sources of data, methods or perspectives to cross-validate results. For instance, combining interviews, observations and documents analysis can enhance credibility. Respondents are given the prospect to assessment of the researcher's interpretations or findings to ensure they are accurately representing their experiences or viewpoints. The researchers seek

input and feedback from colleagues or experts in the field to validate their interpretations and conclusions (Morse, 2015).

**Transferability**, the researchers provide detailed and rich descriptions of the research context, methods and results so that readers can assess the applicability of the findings to their own contexts. This ensure that the sample size of the population of the study and the characteristics of the respondents for the research question and the data collection process is well-documented (Marshall & Rossman, 2016).

**Dependability**, Researchers have to maintain meticulous records of their research process containing the data collection, coding and analysis so that others can trace and replicate the study if the need be. When using qualitative research, multiple researchers may interdependently code data to ensure consistency and reduce subjectivity in the analysis (Morse, 2015).

**Confirmability**, researchers have to strive to minimize their biases and preconceptions throughout the research process. Researchers also censoriously reflect their own role and potential impact on the research which can help ensure objectivity and minimize biases.

**Consistency**, this is where the researchers use standardized data collection procedures and techniques to ensure that data are collected consistently across all respondents or the cases. Also, the researchers adhere to consistent coding and analysis process when examining qualitative data reducing the risk of errors or inconsistencies (Morse, 2015).

To sum, trustworthiness in research is usually achieved through a combination of strategies and practices which ensure the credibility, validity and reliability of the research results. These are predominantly relevant in qualitative research where the

subjective nature of the data collected and analysis requires careful attention to methodology rigor. Adhering to these criteria and maintaining transparency in the research process, researchers can enhance the trustworthiness of their work, ultimately contributing to the quality and impact of their research results (Marshall & Rossman, 2016).

### 3.13 Ethical Considerations

To mention ethical consideration in research, is to look for what is good/right or wrong (Fraenkel & Wallen, 2003). Ethical considerations are the moral principles that guide decision makers in choosing the best course of action in any given situation. These considerations involve the individual, society, and the environment. Ethical considerations include issues of fairness, justice, respect for others, and the rights of all involved. They also involve responsibilities, such as honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness. Ethical considerations also include environmental issues, such as sustainability, pollution, and resource management. Ultimately, ethical considerations dictate how individuals, organizations, and governments should behave during conduction of research.

Informed consent was obtained from all participants before data collection begins. Participants were informed about the study's purpose and their right to refuse to participate or withdraw from the study at any time. The participants' identities were kept confidential, and data was anonymized to protect their privacy.

***Informed Consents*** “the prospective subject’s agreement to participate in a study as a subject/participant, which is reached after assimilation of essential information” (Burns and Grove, 2005). To make sure that the informed consent is truly valid or ethical, it included the purpose of the study, any reasonable “foreseeable risks to the

individual, potential benefits to the individual or others, extent of confidentiality protections for the individual, contact information for questions regarding the study, participants' rights, as well as conditions of participation, including the right to refuse or withdraw without penalty" (Burns & Grove, 2005).

*Privacy* was strongly upheld by protecting the opinions, records and other private information of participants (Edwards & Mauthner, 2002). More specifically, all data received have been kept in a safe lockbox for which only the primary researcher owns the key. Electronic recordings are also password secured. These would be discarded in two years after the final publication of thesis. For that reason, the researcher would be heavily indebted and responsible for any leakage of identifying private information.

*Fair treatment* which is "based on the ethical principle of justice" was adhered to (Burns & Grove, 2005). For that matter, the selection of respondents for the study was fair and without bias. Selection of participants was not based on any preconceived biased criteria such as religious or political affiliation. More so, all respondents were treated fairly so that one person or group does not share burden for another to share gain.

### **3.14 Data Verification**

To ensure the reliability of the data collected, the researcher triangulated the findings by comparing them with other sources, such as existing literature on the topic. The researcher used the respondents to verify the accuracy of the findings by sharing the results with the participants for their feedback.

Data verification in qualitative research, the researcher ensured the accuracy and reliability of the collected data. This was achieved through several procedures such as member checking, where researcher went back to the participants to verify the

accuracy of their interpretations and findings. Another technique used by researcher is known as peer debriefing, where colleagues review the research process and provide feedback to enhance the credibility of the data. Additionally, the researcher used triangulation, which involves comparing and cross-referencing data from different sources to validate the findings. These verification methods help to enhance the trustworthiness and validity of the qualitative data.

### **3.15 Data Quality Control**

To ensure the quality of the data collected, the researcher used a semi-structured interview guide. The researcher piloted the data collection instruments with a small sample to identify any potential problems before the actual data collection. The interview guide was used to interview the respondents who are in the area of study and the data was analyzed and the results sent to the supervisor for the input for corrections before administering to the respondents in the area of study.

The researcher ensures the credibility and trustworthiness of the data. This was achieved through techniques such as member checking, where the researcher verified the interpretations with participants, and peer debriefing, where colleagues review and provide feedback on the research process. Again, another aspect the researcher ensured was the consistency and dependability of the data. This was achieved through techniques like triangulation, where multiple sources of data are used to corroborate findings, and maintaining an audit trail, which documents the research process and decisions made along the way. In addition, the researcher enhanced the transferability and applicability of the findings, the researcher provided rich and detailed descriptions of the research context, participants, and data collection methods. This allows readers to assess the transferability of the findings to other settings or populations. Lastly, the researcher ensured the confirmability and objectivity of the

data involved by maintaining a reflexive stance throughout the research process. The researcher critically reflects on his own biases and assumptions, and document their reflections to enhance transparency. Finally, the researcher involved a combination of rigorous methods, transparency, and reflexivity to ensure the accuracy, consistency, and trustworthiness of the data collected and analyzed.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### ANALYSIS OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

#### 4.1. Introduction

This chapter analyzed the data and presented the findings as responded to by the respondents on the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku. In so doing the analysis was based on the qualitative data obtained from the use of the semi-structured interview guide. In this study, the background information of the participants was not required in this chapter of data analysis. The researcher interviewed 12 respondents.

#### 4.2. Results of the Respondents of the Interviewed Guide

During the conceptual phase of this study, qualitative data was collected. Firstly, the researcher resorted to using a designed semi-structured interview guide. The researcher used this guide to explore the impact of Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses. Secondly, the semi-structured interviewed data collected from the respondents were transliterated. Lastly, the data was then analyzed according to the prescribed methods outlined in chapter three of the study.

#### 4.3. Question One

Effects of the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services?

The first objective of the study sought to examine the effects of Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict notably drawing from the empirical and theoretical review, has affected the provision of social services in the region. Since it has resulted in displacement of individuals and families from their homes, destruction of property, disruption of economic activities, and disruption of social services. According to the secondary data this has resulted in



shortages of food and medical supplies, lack of access to clean water, inadequate sanitation facilities and lack of access to education. Furthermore, the chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in increased levels of poverty and vulnerability among the affected populations, and has contributed to an increase in child labor and child marriage. The effects of the chieftaincy conflict have also been exacerbated by the lack of access to basic services such as health and education, which has led to poor health outcomes, lower educational attainment, and increased poverty.

The literature review further revealed that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant impact on the availability and accessibility of healthcare services due to the chieftaincy conflict, some healthcare facilities have been damaged or destroyed, and healthcare workers have been displaced or unable to work. This has led to a shortage of medical supplies, limited access to healthcare facilities, and reduced some quality of care for the people in Bawku whereas education have been severely affected.

**Interview item one:** How has the chieftaincy conflict affected the availability and accessibility of healthcare services in Bawku?

The participants expressed their thoughts and opinion on the subject matter stated in item one. Some shared their concerns, while others offered suggestion and solutions. Generally, there was a diverse range of perspectives among the participants.

The responses of the respondents have been outlined below:

*The first respondent said the chieftaincy conflict has had a significant impact on the availability and accessibility of healthcare services in Bawku. Many healthcare facilities have been damaged or destroyed, and some healthcare workers have been targeted or displaced, making*

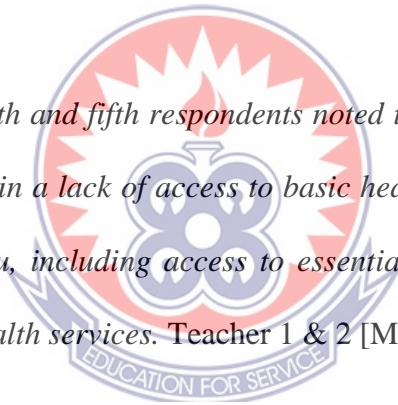
*it difficult for people to access healthcare services. Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]*

Another respondent, part of the police service with their family living in Bawku recounted and said this:

*The second and third respondents were of the view that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has affected the availability and accessibility of healthcare services in the area. The chieftaincy conflict has caused a breakdown in law and order and has led to the closure of several health facilities. Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

Other teachers expressed their views on the above question with the following comment:

*The fourth and fifth respondents noted that the chieftaincy conflict has resulted in a lack of access to basic healthcare services for the people of Bawku, including access to essential medicines, vaccinations, and other health services. Teacher 1 & 2 [May, 22, 2022]*



Another respondent who happened to be a religious leader said this:

*The sixth respondent disclosed that the chieftaincy conflict has also led to an increase in violence making it difficult for people to reach medical facilities. Religious leader [May, 23, 2022]*

#### **4.3.1. Disruption of social services**

The distribution of social services plays a crucial role in ensuring the well-being and development of communities. During times of chieftaincy conflict, however, the provision of these services can be severely disrupted, leading to significant challenges for affected populations. One of the key effects of chieftaincy conflict on the

distribution of social services is the destruction or damage to infrastructure. Infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and water and sanitation facilities may be targeted or become inaccessible due to security concerns. This not only hampers the delivery of essential services but also creates barriers to accessing them.

Moreover, chieftaincy conflict often leads to the displacement of communities, resulting in the loss of homes and livelihoods. Displaced populations face increased vulnerability, as they may struggle to access social services in their new locations. This can further exacerbate existing inequalities and hinder the equitable distribution of services. Humanitarian organizations and aid agencies play a critical role in addressing the distribution challenges during chieftaincy conflict. They work to provide emergency relief, restore infrastructure, and ensure the availability of basic services such as food, healthcare, and education. However, limited resources, logistical constraints, and security risks can impede their efforts, making it challenging to reach all affected communities. In addition to the physical barriers, chieftaincy conflict can also have long-lasting psychological and social impacts on individuals and communities. The trauma and stress experienced during chieftaincy conflict can affect mental health and well-being, making it essential to provide psychosocial support services as part of the broader distribution of social service.

To address the distribution challenges, it is crucial to prioritize the principles of impartiality, neutrality, and accountability in the delivery of social services. Efforts should be made to ensure that services are provided based on need, without discrimination or favoritism. Collaborative partnerships between governments, NGOs, and international organizations are also vital to enhance coordination, resource mobilization, and capacity-building for effective service distribution.

Overall, the distribution of social services during chieftaincy conflict requires a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach that addresses physical, psychological, and social needs. By prioritizing the well-being and rights of affected populations, it is possible to mitigate the negative impacts of chieftaincy conflict and promote resilience and recovery in communities (Kpabitey, 2019).

Residents who live in Bawku township expressed their views on the question in the following way:

*The seventh and eighth respondents said insecurity has also hampered the ability of health workers to provide services and has resulted in a decrease in their numbers. Resident 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022]*

#### **4.3.2. Insecurity in Bawku**

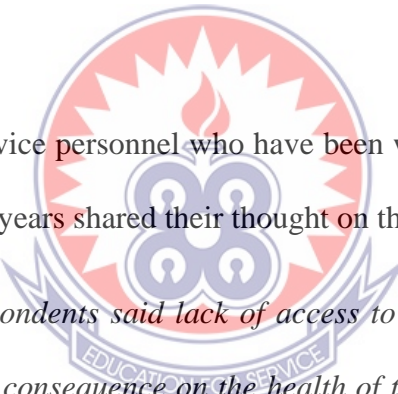
Insecurity in Bawku according to the respondents has had profound effects on the provision of social services and has resulted in numerous human rights abuses. Relying on the three theories: chieftaincy conflict theory, social structure theory, and human security theory.

Chieftaincy conflict theory helps us understand how power struggles and social inequalities have contributed to the ongoing chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. It highlights the competition for resources, political influence, and territorial control as key drivers of insecurity. Social structure theory underpinned the study to unearth the structural factors that create an environment prone to insecurity. In Bawku, factors such as poverty, unemployment, and unequal distribution of resources contribute to the perpetuation of violence and instability as already established in the literature review. Human security theory emphasizes the importance of protecting individuals from violence and ensuring their basic needs are met. In the context of Bawku, this

means addressing the underlying socio-economic factors that fuel the chieftaincy conflict, promoting access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, and fostering a sense of community and trust among different ethnic and religious groups.

By incorporating these theories, the insecurity situation in Bawku provides the opportunity for policymakers, stakeholders and researchers to develop a comprehensive strategy to address insecurity, promote the provision of social services, and protect human rights in Bawku. It requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict, promotes socio-economic development, and fosters reconciliation and dialogue among different groups in the community of Bawku.

Other Ghana health service personnel who have been working and living in the study area for the past fifteen years shared their thought on the question as follows:



*The respondents said lack of access to healthcare services has had a negative consequence on the health of the people of Bawku, especially those living in rural and remote areas. Nurse 1 & 2 [May 24, 2022]*

The assembly member one (1) of Bawku township also expressed his knowing in the matter as follow:

*The eleventh respondent lamented on how the chieftaincy conflict has led to an increase in the number of people suffering from mental health issues due to the stress and trauma of the chieftaincy conflict. Assembly member 1 [May 24, 2022]*

Religious leader (1) of Bawku area also articulated his understanding on the question as follow:

*Finally, the last respondent said that the chieftaincy conflict resulted in an increase in the number of people needing specialized mental health services, which are often not available in Bawku. Religious Leader 1 [May 23, 2022]*

It is therefore, clear that from the responses, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has led to the closure of some health care facilities, mental health of the residents was on the rise due to stress and trauma of the chieftaincy conflict and unsecured health workers affect the availability and accessibility of health care. The chieftaincy conflict according the respondents in Bawku has severely affected some availability and accessibility of healthcare services. The destruction of healthcare facilities, displacement of healthcare workers, and shortage of medical supplies have resulted in limited access to quality healthcare for the people in Bawku. Urgent measures are needed to address these challenges and ensure the provision of adequate healthcare services in the region.

**Interview item two:** In what ways has the chieftaincy conflict affected the quality of education provided in Bawku?

The second interview question that was considered under objective one was to examined the extent to which chieftaincy conflict affected the quality of education in the Bawku. Social services are crucial in socio-economic development and education is very important in the development of an economy.

The responses from the respondents (interviewees) regarding how the chieftaincy conflict affected education are expressed as follows:

*The two respondents expressed that the chieftaincy conflicts in Bawku lead to closure of schools. The various schools in Bawku closed down due to security concerns. Fear for attacks made Ghana Education Service (GES) to close down schools and that has deprived students of schooling opportunities. Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]*

Respondent one (1) nurse expressed his views as follow:

*The next respondent expressed that the chieftaincy conflict has driven away teachers and because the teachers are afraid to be killed so most of them failed to go to school and this caused schools to be closed down. Nurse 1 [May 24, 2022]*

Respondents teachers teaching in the Bawku community pointed out on the item two as follow:

*The next respondents said that due to the security concerns and violence, educational institutions have been forced to shut down, depriving students of regular schooling and educational opportunities. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

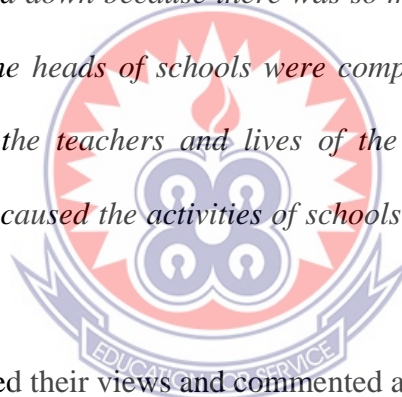
An officer of the police service one (1) expressed his view and commented as follow:

*Another respondent opined that Bawku chieftaincy conflict disrupted the academic calendar due to schools' closure. The chieftaincy conflict has disrupted the academic calendar, causing delays and interruptions in the educational process. Students are unable to attend classes regularly, leading to gaps in their learning and academic progress. Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

The other police officer two (2) of the Ghana police service commented as below:

*The next respondent stated that Bawku Chieftaincy conflict has caused displacement of teachers and students and that led to closure of schools. Teachers and families of some number of students have been forced to flee their homes. Similarly, teachers have to relocate or are unable to travel to schools due to safety concerns, affecting teaching and learning in education. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*From another respondent, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has adversely influenced the education in the Bawku Municipality. Schools ought to be closed down because there was so much insecurity and tension was high. The heads of schools were compelled to close down schools to protect the teachers and lives of the kids. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict caused the activities of schools to be halted. Nurse 2 [May 24, 2022]*



The two residents shared their views and commented as follow:

*Two of the respondents shared similar thought on how the chieftaincy conflict affected education and they expressed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict caused destruction in the school infrastructure on some campuses and that forced schools to be closed down. Resident 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022]*

The two assembly members of the area pointed their views as follow:

*Another respondent attested that the chieftaincy conflict has caused the destruction of some school infrastructure, including buildings, classrooms, and educational materials. Schools have been targeted or*



*affected as collateral damage during violent incidents, rendering them unusable and further hindering access to education. Assembly member 1 [May 24, 2022]*

*Another respondent expressed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict caused psychological impact on some of the students and that made them stop coming to school. The chieftaincy conflict has had a profound psychological impact on students. Witnessing violence and experiencing insecurity can lead to trauma and psychological distress, affecting students' ability to concentrate, learn, and perform well academically. Religious leader 1 [May 23, 2022]*

#### **4.3.3. Psychological Impact of the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict**

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has philosophically affected some students psychologically, social services workers, teachers, nurses, security personnel, and the general citizens. The constant exposure to violence, trauma, and insecurity can lead to increased stress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among these individuals. These psychological effects can hinder their ability to perform their roles effectively and can have long-lasting impacts on their overall well-being.

First of all, as revealed by the respondents, for students, the constant exposure to violence and insecurity has led to increased stress, anxiety, and fear, affecting their ability to focus on their studies and hindering their academic performance. Social services workers, who are often on the front lines providing support to affected individuals, may experience burnout, compassion fatigue, and secondary trauma due to the overwhelming nature of their work in such a chieftaincy conflict-affected

environment. Some teachers also face significant challenges in maintaining a conducive learning environment amidst the chieftaincy conflict. The disruption caused by the chieftaincy conflict has led to increased behavioral problems among students, making it difficult for teachers to effectively manage classrooms and deliver quality education. Nurses and other healthcare professionals are confronted with the physical and emotional toll of treating those injured in the chieftaincy conflict. Witnessing the suffering and trauma of others can take a toll on their mental well-being, leading to symptoms of compassion fatigue and emotional exhaustion. Security personnel, tasked with maintaining law and order, often face high levels of stress and exposure to violence. This can result in increased anxiety, hyper vigilance, and a heightened risk of developing mental health issues. Lastly, the general citizens of Bawku experience the psychological effects of living in a chieftaincy conflict-affected area. The constant fear, uncertainty, and trauma can lead to symptoms of anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), impacting their overall mental health and well-being. It is important to address this psychological impact in Bawku by providing mental health support, counseling services, and trauma-informed interventions. Creating safe spaces for individuals to express their emotions, improvement of the community resilience, and providing and promoting psychosocial counseling to mitigating the psychological impact of the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku.

From the above responses, it can be expressed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict influenced education in the Municipality by causing some schools to be shut down due to level of insecurity and fear of students and teachers suffering casualties in the Bawku town. The GES announced closure of school owing to the extent of the negative effect of the chieftaincy conflict in the area. The chieftaincy conflict in

Bawku has had a detrimental impact on the quality of education provision. Schools have been damaged or closed, teachers have been displaced, and resources for learning have become scarce. This has resulted in disrupted education, limited access to quality teaching, and a decline in educational standards. Efforts are needed to rebuild schools, support teachers, and ensure that children in Bawku have access to a quality education despite the challenges posed by the chieftaincy conflict.

**Interview item three:** The third question under objective one was how has the chieftaincy conflict impacted the provision of clean water and sanitation services in Bawku?

*The first respondent said the chieftaincy conflict has made it difficult for some people to access clean water and sanitation services, as many water facilities and sanitation systems have been damaged or destroyed. The displacement of people and the breakdown of infrastructure have also led to a lack of access to basic services, including water and sanitation.* Resident 1 [May 23, 2022]

*The second and third respondents were of the view that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant impact on the provision of clean water and sanitation services in the area. The chieftaincy conflict has resulted in the destruction of some infrastructure and disruption of services, leading to a shortage of clean water and sanitation services in the area.*

Religious leader1 [May 23, 2022]

*The fourth and fifth respondents said the chieftaincy conflict has displaced many people, leading to an increased demand for water and*

*sanitation services, further exacerbating the shortage. Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The sixth and seventh respondents alleged that the disruption of services and destruction of infrastructure has also led to a decrease in access to clean water and sanitation services in Bawku. This is because many of the water treatment facilities and sanitation systems have been destroyed or are no longer functioning properly due to the chieftaincy conflict. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The eighth respondent opined that the chieftaincy conflict has led to a decrease in the availability of resources and personnel needed to maintain and repair these systems. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*The ninth and tenth respondents noted that the chieftaincy conflict has also had a negative impact on the quality of water and sanitation services in Bawku. This is due to the lack of access to clean water and sanitation services, as well as the lack of resources and personnel needed to properly maintain these systems. Nurse 1 & 2 [May 24, 2022]*

*The eleventh respondent also said the chieftaincy conflict has led to an increase in water-borne diseases, as well as an increase in the amount of untreated sewage entering rivers and streams. Assembly member 1 [May 24, 2022]*

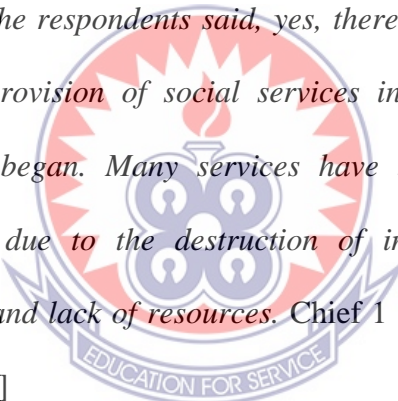
*The twelfth respondent said the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant negative impact on the provision of clean water and sanitation services in the area. This has resulted in a decrease in*

*access to these services and a decrease in the quality of the services, leading to an increase in water-borne diseases and environmental contamination. Religious leader 1 [May 23, 2022]*

Following the responses of the respondents, it can be inferred that Bawku chieftaincy conflict affected provision of water and its infrastructure, personnel to repair water systems and decrease access to clean water services. This led to residents drinking contaminated water causing them contracting water-borne diseases.

**Interview item four:** Question four was, have there been any notable changes in the provision of social services in Bawku since the onset of the chieftaincy conflict?

*Two of the respondents said, yes, there have been significant changes in the provision of social services in Bawku since the chieftaincy conflict began. Many services have been disrupted or completely stopped due to the destruction of infrastructure, displacement of people, and lack of resources. Chief 1 & Religious leader 1 [May 22; 23, 2022]*

The logo of the University of Education, Winneba, is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a red and white sunburst design. Above the shield is a red and white flame-like symbol. Below the shield is a blue banner with the text 'EDUCATION FOR SERVICE' in white capital letters. The entire emblem is set against a white background.

*Similarly, the respondents above further disclosed that the onset of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant impact on the provision of social services in the area. Before the chieftaincy conflict, the social services provided in Bawku were mainly government-funded, with a focus on health, education, and infrastructure. However, since the onset of the chieftaincy conflict, the provision of social services has changed drastically. Assembly member 1 & Religious leader 1 [22; 23, 2022]*

*Other respondents were of the view that the government funding for social services has decreased significantly, leading to a reduction in access to health care, education, and infrastructure. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Another respondent was of the opinion that the chieftaincy conflict has caused a disruption in the delivery of services, with some areas no longer receiving the same level of support that they had prior to the chieftaincy conflict. Nurse 1 & 2 [May 24, 2022]*

*Another two respondents said the chieftaincy conflict reduced access to social services, various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have stepped in to provide assistance. These organizations have provided much-needed relief to those affected by the chieftaincy conflict, including food, shelter, and medical aid. Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*They were other respondents who unveiled that the onset of chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has led to a significant decrease in the provision of social services. However, the involvement of NGOs has helped to offset some of the negative effects of the chieftaincy conflict and has provided much-needed aid to those affected. Residents 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022]*

It can, that is, be deduced that since the onset of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict, the provision of social services such as education, healthcare, water supply and social amenities have been truncated causing a lot of inconvenience among residents in the community.

**Interview item five:** The next question under objective one was, how have healthcare providers and educators in Bawku been affected by the chieftaincy conflict, and how has this impacted their ability to deliver services?

Below are the responses of the respondents:

*Similar opinion was shared by the respondents that healthcare providers and educators feel insecure due to the emergence of the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku. Chief 1 & Religious leader 1 [May 22; 23, 2022].*

*They expressed that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku displaced the healthcare workers as well as the educators. The healthcare workers and educators suffered displacement from their homes, causing disruptions in the healthcare workforce and educators in the area. This affected the availability of skilled professionals to provide both healthcare and education services. Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022].*

*Shared the notion that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict caused limited access to healthcare providers and educators. Insecurity caused the professionals to be inaccessible. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Shared similar opinions that the healthcare providers and educators have limited access to their facilities due to security concerns and infrastructure damage, making it difficult to deliver services effectively. Resident 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022].*

*Also indicated that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict caused shortage of medical supplies. The chieftaincy conflict can disrupt the supply chain*

*of medical equipment and supplies, leading to shortages and hindering healthcare providers' ability to deliver adequate care. Nurse 1 & 2 [May 24, 2022].*

*Further, the chieftaincy conflict can lead to a shortage of educational resources such as textbooks, teaching materials, and technology, impacting the quality of education provided by educators. Assembly member 1 [May 24, 2022].*

*He opined that safety concerns were issues that confronted the professionals. Healthcare providers face increased risks to their personal safety due to the chieftaincy conflict, which can lead to hesitancy in providing services or limited availability of medical personnel. The safety of students and educators is compromised during times of chieftaincy conflict, leading to fear and reluctance to attend school or teach in volatile areas. Religious leader 1 [May 23, 2022].*

The findings showed that the participants considered safety concerns and displacement as a major challenge confronting healthcare workers and educators due to the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The findings exhibited that healthcare providers and educators felt insecure and hence run to other locations for their lives. This affected delivery of services in the Bawku area. These challenges faced by healthcare providers and educators in Bawku due to the chieftaincy conflict have a direct impact on their ability to deliver essential services, resulting in limited access to healthcare, reduced quality of education, and overall difficulties in meeting the needs of the population in the region.



**Interview item six:** The sixth question under objective one was, have there been any efforts to mitigate the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services in Bawku, and if so, what have they been?

These respondents clearly indicated as follows:

*Similar views were shared by two respondents that increased security measures have been implemented to create a safer environment for healthcare providers and educators to carry out their services. This includes the deployment of security personnel and the establishment of secure zones or areas of refuge. Chief 1 & Religious leader 1 [May 22; 23 2022]*

*Also, two respondents shared similar opinion that mobile healthcare clinics have been set up to provide medical services to areas that are difficult to access due to the chieftaincy conflict. Similarly, temporary learning spaces or schools have been established to ensure continuity in education for displaced students. Nurse 1 & 2 [May 24, 2022]*

*More so, humanitarian organizations and agencies have provided assistance in the form of food, shelter, medical supplies, and educational resources to support the affected population and mitigate the impact on social services. Teacher 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Efforts have been made to rehabilitate damaged healthcare facilities and schools, ensuring that they are functional and equipped to provide essential services. Teacher 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Healthcare providers and educators have received training and capacity-building programs to enhance their skills and knowledge, enabling them to better cope with the challenges posed by the chieftaincy conflict. Resident 1 [May 23, 2022]*

*Psychosocial support services have been provided to healthcare providers, educators, and the affected population to address the emotional and psychological impact of the chieftaincy conflict. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*Collaboration between government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and community-based organizations has been fostered to pool resources, share expertise, and coordinate efforts to deliver social services effectively. Nurse 1 [May 24, 2022]*

*Engaging with local communities and stakeholders has been instrumental in understanding their needs and tailoring social service interventions to address their specific challenges and circumstances.*

*Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Efforts have been made to provide accurate and timely information to healthcare providers, educators, and the community regarding available services, safety protocols, and any updates related to social service provision. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Advocacy initiatives have been undertaken to raise awareness about the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on social services and the importance of prioritizing and supporting their provision. Nurse 2 [May 24, 2022]*

These efforts, among others, demonstrate the commitment of various stakeholders to mitigate the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on social services in Bawku. While challenges persist, these initiatives contribute to ensuring that basic needs are met and social services continue to be provided to the affected population.

**Interview item seven:** The last question was in your opinion, what steps could be taken to improve the provision social services in Bawku in light of the ongoing chieftaincy conflict?

Further responses from the participants have been outlined below:

*A respondent said to improve the provision of social services in Bawku, steps could be taken to promote peace and stability in the region, rebuild infrastructure and facilities, increase resources and support for healthcare workers and educators, and provide aid to those in need. Additionally, efforts should be made to involve local communities and leaders in the planning and implementation of social services to ensure their needs are met.* Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Another respondent opined that increase funding was one of the most effective ways to improve the provision of social services in Bawku is to increase the amount of funding allocated to the region. This can be done through increased government spending, private donations, or international aid. This will ensure that social services have the resources they need to provide quality services to the people of Bawku.* Religious leader 1 [May 23, 2022]

*This respondent had to say that building community capacity was a way to improve the provision of social services in Bawku is to build the*

*capacity of the local community. This can be done through training programs, skills development initiatives, and other activities that help to empower the people of Bawku to take control of their own social services. Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*A participant disclosed that improving the accessibility of social services is essential for improving their provision in Bawku. This can be done by providing better transportation options, making sure services are available in rural areas, and making sure that services are accessible to people with disabilities. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Again, respondent opined that develop gender-sensitive an important step to improving the provision of social services in Bawku. This can be done by providing tailored services to women and girls, and by making sure that services are inclusive of all genders. Teacher 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*According to this respondent, establishing partnerships between government, local organizations, and international agencies can help to ensure that social services in Bawku are adequately funded and supported. These partnerships can also help to ensure that services are delivered in a timely and effective manner. Teacher 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*A respondent was of the observation that promoting peace and reconciliation in Bawku is essential for improving the provision of social services. This can be done through dialogue, mediation, and other activities that help to foster understanding and collaboration*

*between the different stakeholders in the region. Resident 1 [May 23, 2022]*

*A participant disclosed that increase funding for social services to ensure adequate resources and staff to meet the needs of the population. Also, invest in rehabilitation and reintegration services to address the underlying trauma and support victims of the chieftaincy conflict. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*A respondent made known that create job opportunities for youth to reduce poverty, provide employment opportunities, and reduce the risk of further violence. Further, strengthen the capacity of existing social services to deliver timely and quality services. Nurse 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Another respondent was to increase access to education to promote the inclusion of all groups in the region and to reduce the risk of further chieftaincy conflict. Expand access to healthcare services to ensure the physical and mental wellbeing of all citizens. Nurse 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*One respondent said develop and implement chieftaincy conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives to promote understanding and trust between different groups. Establish infrastructure to support community dialogue, cooperation, and reconciliation. Assembly member 1 [May 24, 2022]*

*This respondent said creating youth-friendly spaces and activities to provide a safe environment for young people to express their opinions and participate in dialogue on the chieftaincy conflict. Provide access to legal services, such as legal aid, to ensure that all individuals have*

*the right to justice. Strengthen the capacity of local organizations to provide social services in a culturally sensitive and competent manner.*

Religious leader 1 [May 23, 2022]

From the indications above, all the respondents agreed that the government should implement chieftaincy conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives to ensure trust among aggrieved citizens, local organization should provide social services in the community and rebuild infrastructure due to the chieftaincy conflict and assured service providers of health and educators of maximum security.

#### **4.4. Question Two: How the Chieftaincy conflict has affected Education in Bawku?**

The second objective of the study sought to assess how the chieftaincy conflicts have affected education in Bawku. Chieftaincy conflict in Bawku as already deduced from the objective one has had a considerable effect on the education. The chieftaincy conflicts in Bawku led to the closure of schools due to safety concerns. The closure of schools prevents students from attending classes leading to the interruptions in their education and loss of learning opportunities. For the safety of lives and property, schools were closed temporarily during periods of heightened Bawku chieftaincy conflict. School authorities closed down the schools, suspend classes, inhibiting teachers and students from accessing the school premises. The responses of the participants have been elaborated below:

**Interview item one:** The first question asked the participants under objective two was what are some of the specific effects of education that have been reported in Bawku during the chieftaincy conflict?

The responses of the participants have been outlined below;

*The first participant was of the view that restriction of freedom of movement, as many roads have been blocked and people have been prevented from going to their farms and markets. Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*The second respondent said that violations of the right to life, such as extrajudicial killings and arbitrary arrests. Religious leader 1 [ May 23, 2022]*

*The third interviewee disclosed that violations of the right to health, including the destruction of medical facilities and the denial of medical care to people in need. The use of child soldiers, with reports of children being recruited by armed groups to fight in the chieftaincy conflict. Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*The fourth respondent said forced displacement, with people being forced to flee their homes due to the violence. The destruction of property, with homes, farms, and businesses being burned down and looted. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The fifth and sixth respondents were of the opinion that discriminatory practices and violence against women, including sexual and attacks on religious sites, including churches and mosques. Assembly member 1 & Religious leader 1 [May 22; 23, 2022]*

*The seventh and eighth participants opined that denial of access to education, as schools have been closed and children have been kept from attending classes and restrictions on freedom of speech, with*

*journalists facing harassment and intimidation. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*The ninth respondent was of the view that arbitrary detention and torture of suspected insurgent combatants by government security forces and displacement of thousands of civilians due to violent clashes. Resident 1 [May 23, 2022]*

*The tenth respondent opined that forced recruitment of child soldiers by armed groups and intimidation and harassment of vulnerable communities. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*The eleventh participant disclosed that denial of access to basic healthcare and social services and use of hate speech and ethnic discrimination as a tool for exacerbating tensions. Nurse 1 [May 24, 2022]*

*The twelfth respondent said restriction of freedom of movement and access to food and water and also violation of the rights of freedom of speech and assembly. Nurse 2 [May 24, 2022]*

Consequently, it is clear from the respondents that some of the human rights abuses were freedom of movement, denial access to education and attend classes, violations of right to life as well as detention and torture of suspected civilians by government security forces.

**Interview item two:** The second under objective two was “Have student attendance rates been impacted by chieftaincy conflicts?” The respondents gave the following answers;



*Yes, student attendance rates were significantly affected by chieftaincy conflicts, especially if they disrupt daily life or pose safety concerns for students traveling to school. Resident 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Chieftaincy conflicts often lead to instability in affected regions, which can directly impact school attendance rates as families may relocate or keep children at home for safety reasons. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*In areas affected by chieftaincy conflicts, schools may close temporarily or operate irregularly, leading to fluctuating attendance rates among students. Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*The psychological impact of chieftaincy conflicts on students and their families can also contribute to decreased attendance as children may be too fearful or distressed to attend school regularly. Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Schools in Bawku and its environs experiencing chieftaincy conflicts struggled with staffing shortages or logistical challenges, further impacting attendance rates as educational resources become limited. Nurse 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Chieftaincy conflicts often result in infrastructure damage or destruction, making it difficult or unsafe for students to access schools, thereby reducing attendance rates. Nurse 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Bawku affected by chieftaincy conflicts may experience economic hardship, forcing families to prioritize survival over education, thus*

*affecting student attendance rates. Assembly member 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Government responses to chieftaincy conflicts, such as curfews or security measures, can restrict movement and transportation, making it harder for students to attend school regularly. Assembly member 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*In Bawku with ongoing chieftaincy conflicts, educational resources may be diverted to emergency response efforts rather than to maintaining regular school operations, impacting attendance.*

Religious leader 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Chieftaincy conflicts can exacerbate existing disparities in access to education, particularly for marginalized groups, further widening attendance rate gaps among different demographic groups. Religious leader 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Rebuilding trust in the safety and stability of schools and communities affected by chieftaincy conflicts is essential to improving student attendance rates over time. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Addressing the root causes of chieftaincy conflicts through mediation, community dialogue, and chieftaincy conflict resolution efforts can contribute to stabilizing regions and improving long-term school attendance rates. Chief 2 [May 22, 2022]*

**Interview item three:** The respondents were asked again “What ways do you see Bawku Chieftaincy conflicts affecting the quality of education provided in affected areas?” The respondents responded with the following answer;

*Bawku chieftaincy conflicts led to the closure of schools or irregular school schedules, disrupting the continuity of education.*

Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]

*The chieftaincy conflicts created a hostile environment that poses safety risks for both students and teachers, potentially leading to increased absenteeism and staff turnover.* Chief 2 [May 22, 2022]

*Continuous exposure to chieftaincy conflict caused trauma and anxiety among students, affecting their ability to concentrate and learn effectively.* Teacher 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Schools suffered physical damage during clashes, impacting the learning environment and requiring resources that could otherwise be used for educational purposes.* Teacher 2 [May 22, 2022]

*Educational resources such as funding, materials, and personnel may be redirected towards chieftaincy conflict resolution or emergency responses, reducing resources available for education.* Assembly member 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Insecurity and instability may deter qualified teachers from working in affected areas, leading to shortages and impacting the quality of teaching and learning.* Assembly member 2 [May 22, 2022]

*Families displaced by the chieftaincy conflicts may struggle to access education, either due to physical distance from schools or financial constraints, leading to interrupted schooling for children. Nurse 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Schools relied on community support for activities and resources. Chieftaincy conflicts fractured community cohesion, weakening this support network for education. Nurse 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*Educational planning and curriculum implementation may be disrupted, impacting the delivery of quality education and the ability to meet learning objectives. Resident 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Reduced school attendance and disruptions to the academic calendar can result in missed learning opportunities for students, affecting their educational outcomes. Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]*

*Quality education is a stepping stone to higher education. Persistent chieftaincy conflicts can hinder students' ability to achieve academic success and pursue further studies. Police officer 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Chieftaincy conflicts undermine efforts to build a stable and prosperous future for affected communities, impacting overall development, including educational outcomes. Police officer 2 [May 22, 2022]*

**Interview item four:** How does the fear or uncertainty caused by chieftaincy conflicts affect students' ability to focus on their studies? The respondents were of the view that;

*The fear and uncertainty caused by chieftaincy conflicts often result in heightened levels of anxiety and stress among students. This mental strain significantly hindered their ability to concentrate on their studies and absorb new information.* Resident 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Constant fear and anxiety led to disrupted sleep patterns, including insomnia or nightmares. Lack of adequate sleep affects students' cognitive functions, making it difficult for them to focus and retain information during lessons.* Resident 2 [May 23, 2022]

*The turmoil caused by chieftaincy conflicts diminished students' motivation to engage with their studies. They may feel disheartened or see little point in investing effort into their education amidst the chaos.* Chief 1 [May 23, 2022]

*Fear and uncertainty led to difficulty concentrating on schoolwork. Students find their minds wandering to thoughts about safety and the chieftaincy conflict, rather than staying focused on academic tasks.* Religious leader 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Students experienced emotional distress due to the chieftaincy conflicts may struggle to manage their emotions, leading to frequent disruptions in their ability to focus on their studies and participate in classroom activities.* Nurse 1 [May 22, 2022]

*Fear of violence or instability resulted in students staying home from school, leading to missed classes and important lessons. This absenteeism created gaps in their learning, making it harder to keep up with the curriculum. Nurse 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The stress and trauma from chieftaincy conflicts caused students to lose interest in their studies altogether. They disengage from academic activities and show little enthusiasm for learning. Teacher 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*Chronic stress and fear impaired memory and learning processes. Students find it challenging to remember what they have learned, impacting their overall academic performance. Teacher 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The fear and uncertainty manifested as behavioral issues, such as aggression or withdrawal, which can further disrupt their focus and participation in school. Assembly member 1 [May 22, 2022]*

*An unsafe and unstable environment affect effective learning. The presence of chieftaincy conflict disrupts this environment, making it difficult for students to feel secure and concentrate on their studies. Assembly member 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The unpredictability of chieftaincy conflicts often led to frequent interruptions in the school day, such as emergency evacuations or lockdowns. These disruptions break the continuity of learning and*

*make it hard for students to stay focused. Religious leader 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*Teachers and school staff were affected by the chieftaincy conflicts, reducing the level of academic support available to students. This lack of support made it harder for students to stay engaged and focused on their studies. Chief 2 [May 22, 2022]*

#### **4.5 Question Three: The Extent to which the Chieftaincy conflict has affected the Socio-Economic and Political Development of Bawku?**

The last objective of the study seeks to examine the extent of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses affected socio-economic and political development of Bawku. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict and its resulting human rights abuses have had a devastating impact on the socio-economic and political development of the Bawku region in northern Ghana.

**Interview item one:** The first question under objective three was, how has the chieftaincy conflict affected the overall economic development of Bawku, and what sectors have been particularly impacted?

Below are the responses of the participants:

*A respondent was of the view that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a devastating impact on the overall economic development of the town. The violence has led to displacement, destruction of infrastructure, and disruption of trade activities, leading to a decrease in economic activity and a decrease in employment opportunities. Chief 1 [May 22, 2022]*

This is what a respondent religious leader in the community has to say:

*His response was that the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a significant impact on the socio-economic and political development of the region. The region has faced setbacks in terms of infrastructure development, economic growth, and political stability. It is crucial to address these impacts and work towards sustainable development in Bawku. Religious leader 1 (May 23, 2022)*

#### **4.5.1. Disruption of Socio-Economic Activities**

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku according to the item one as responded by the respondents has significantly disrupted socio-economic activities in the region. Ongoing violence and insecurity have hindered agricultural production, trade, and business activities. This has led to a decline in income levels, increased poverty rates, and limited access to basic services such as healthcare and education. The lack of economic stability and opportunities has further exacerbated social inequalities and impeded the overall development of the community.

The ongoing violence and instability have damaged or destroyed critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, and water supply systems. This has resulted in limited access to basic services and disrupted the flow of goods and services, impeding economic growth and development (Osei-Ameyaw, 2019).

The destruction of infrastructure also hampers efforts to attract investment and create employment opportunities, further exacerbating socio-economic challenges in the region. Additionally, the lack of proper infrastructure affects the quality of life for the residents of Bawku, making it difficult to access essential services and hindering overall development.



Rebuilding and rehabilitating infrastructure is crucial for the recovery and development of Bawku. It requires investment, coordination, and collaboration between various stakeholders, including government agencies, international organizations, and local communities. By restoring and improving infrastructure, Bawku can enhance its connectivity, promote economic growth, and improve the overall well-being of its residents.

Continuing from the already stated responses from the above respondents this is what the additional respondents have to say:

*These respondents have similar views and they opined that the sectors that have been particularly affected are agriculture, trade, tourism, and destruction of infrastructural developments as well as other businesses that rely on the movement of goods and services during the chieftaincy conflict. The chieftaincy conflict has led to a decrease in investment in the area, resulting in fewer opportunities for economic growth and development.* Resident 1 & 2 [May 23, 2022]

#### **4.5.2 Destruction of Infrastructural Development**

The chieftaincy conflict in Bawku as opined by the respondent's other authors like Osei-Ameyaw (2019) may have had a devastating impact on infrastructural development in the region. Many essential infrastructures, such as schools, hospitals, and public buildings, have been affected or severely damaged. This destruction hinders the socio-economic progress and overall development of the community. Infrastructural destruction may also include roads which are essential to accessibility to social services provision. The lack of adequate infrastructure hampers access to essential services and impedes progress in various sectors. Rebuilding and restoring

these infrastructures are central steps towards revitalizing the community and promoting its overall development.

*The most affected sectors are trade, agriculture and industry. The instability caused by the chieftaincy conflict has discouraged investment in the area, leading to a decrease in the number of businesses operating in the region and a decrease in the number of jobs available. This has led to a decrease in economic activity, resulting in a decrease in the overall economic development of Bawku.*

Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]

In conclusion, the chieftaincy conflict led to loss of jobs, infrastructure, investment as well as businesses and industries in Bawku been adversely affected. The chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in political instability and governance challenges in Bawku. The presence of armed groups, tensions between different ethnic and religious communities, and the erosion of trust in local institutions have hindered effective governance and decision-making processes. This has created a climate of uncertainty and hindered the implementation of development policies and programs. The lack of political stability and effective governance has further impeded the region's progress towards socio-economic and political development.

Additionally, the respondents have this thought and shared their sentiments as follow:

*The participants were of the view that government should establish a mechanism for dialogue and reconciliation between the factions in the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. This could involve promoting shared values, understanding and respect, and encouraging collaborative problem-solving.* Chief 1 & Religious leader 1 [May 22; 23, 2022]

*Also, the stakeholders should develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to protect human rights in Bawku, including the establishment of an independent monitoring body, the strengthening of the legal system and the protection of vulnerable groups. Strengthen the rule of law and judicial system by ensuring that all cases of human rights abuses are investigated and perpetrators held accountable. Police officer 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

*The analysis of findings indicates that there should be increase access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and employment opportunities for communities affected by the chieftaincy conflict. Develop economic and social initiatives to reduce poverty and inequality in Bawku. These could include providing access to credit and business development programs, as well as job training. Teacher 1 & 2 [May 22, 2022]*

#### **4.6 Discussions of the Findings**

##### **4.6.1 Effects of the Bawku Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services**

From the discussions and findings, it was revealed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict had led to the closure of health care facilities, mental health of the residents was on the rise due to stress and trauma of the chieftaincy conflict and unsecured health workers affect the availability and accessibility of health care. These findings were in line with a study done by Hamidu (2020) which revealed that the chieftaincy conflict has had a particularly negative impact on access to education, health care, and other essential services. Chieftaincy conflict has led to displacement and disruption of access to services, and the destruction of infrastructure, including schools and health facilities.

The findings show that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict influenced education in the Municipality by causing schools to be shut down due to level of insecurity and fear of students and teachers suffering casualties in the Bawku town. The GES announced closure of school owing to the extent of the negative effect of the chieftaincy conflict in the area. This was confirmed in a study done by Issah (2021) who expressed that the chieftaincy conflict can have a significant impact on the provision of social services in Bawku. When chieftaincy conflict occurs, it can put a strain on local resources, leading to reduced access to essential services. Chieftaincy conflict can lead to physical and psychological stress for individuals, resulting in poorer physical and mental health. It can also disrupt educational and economic opportunities, reducing access to essential services and furthering marginalization.

Furthermore, the Bawku chieftaincy conflict affected provision of water and its infrastructure, personnel to repair water systems and decrease access to clean water services. This had led to residents drinking contaminated water causing them contracting water-borne diseases. These findings were affirmed by research conducted by Azongo, Kipo and Kipo (2020) disclosed that the prolonged chieftaincy conflict in the region has also had an impact on the right to an adequate standard of living. Many of those in the chieftaincy conflict-affected areas are unable to access safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and basic healthcare. The lack of adequate access to food and other necessities, as well as the lack of access to employment opportunities and income, has led to increased levels of poverty, malnutrition and disease.

It can be said that since the onset of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict, the provision of social services such as education, healthcare, water supply and social amenities have been truncated causing a lot of inconvenience among residents in the community. This result was affirmed by research conducted by Dayori (2018) who revealed that

the chieftaincy conflict has had a major impact on the availability of humanitarian assistance in the region. Many of the organizations that provide assistance have been forced to pull out due to security concerns, leaving the local population without access to these important services. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has caused significant disruption in the traditional systems of support, and this has led to a decrease in the availability of food, shelter, and other basic necessities.

The findings showed that the safety concerns and displacement as a major challenge confronting healthcare workers and educators due to the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The findings exhibited that healthcare providers and educators felt insecure and hence run to other locations for their lives. This affected delivery of services in the Bawku area. These challenges faced by healthcare providers and educators in Bawku due to the chieftaincy conflict have a direct impact on their ability to deliver essential services, resulting in limited access to healthcare, reduced quality of education, and overall difficulties in meeting the needs of the population in the region. This finding was in line with a study done by Bawah (2016) which revealed that the chieftaincy conflict has led to a decrease in the availability and quality of social services, including healthcare, education, and access to clean water. In addition, the chieftaincy conflict has led to an increase in human rights abuses, including restrictions on freedom of movement, lack of access to justice and legal services, and a general atmosphere of fear and insecurity. As a result, many people in the Bawku area have been unable to make use of their fundamental human rights and access the services they need to lead a healthy and safe life.

Last but not the least, the study revealed that the government should implement chieftaincy conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives to ensure trust among aggrieved citizens, local organization should provide social services in the community

and rebuild infrastructure due to the chieftaincy conflict and assured service providers of health and educators of maximum security. This was affirmed by research conducted by Kriesberg (2015) which disclosed that the chieftaincy conflict resolution techniques can be used to address the underlying issues, improve communication, and find a solution that is acceptable to all parties. In some cases, mediation or arbitration may be necessary to reach an agreement.

#### **4.6.2 How the Effects of Chieftaincy conflict Affected Education in Bawku**

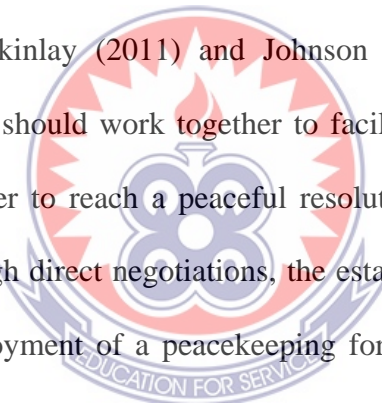
It came to light that some of the human rights abuses were freedom of movement, denial access to education and attends classes, violations of right to life. This was confirmed research conducted by Nunoo & Ekbote (2018) which revealed that the chieftaincy conflict has also resulted in numerous violations of the right to life, with reports of arbitrary killings, abductions, and torture.

The study finds out that the governments have beefed up security in the Bawku area to avert any reprisal attack. The UN has deployed observers to protect human rights and monitor the chieftaincy conflict which have de-escalated the tensions. The findings were affirmed by Lambert et al., (2019) discovered that the United Nations should work to provide technical and financial assistance to facilitate the peace process and reconciliation efforts. Additionally, they could provide support to local civil society organizations that are working to promote dialogue and peaceful coexistence between the two sides (Lambert et al., 2019).

Again, there have been reports of torture by the armed groups and government forces during the chieftaincy conflict. Also, there have been reports of some rape, sexual harassment and massacre of 80 unarmed civilians in the community. This was confirmed by Mensah (2011) revealed that there was mass rapes, sexual assault, and

other forms of gender-based violence have been committed by armed combatants and criminal gangs throughout the chieftaincy conflict, with girls and women in an extremely vulnerable position. Finally, the legacy of the chieftaincy conflict has exacerbated existing ethnic tensions and has created new divisions between groups, particularly between Muslims and Christians. This has resulted in further suspicion and mistrust between these communities, ultimately furthering the human rights violations occurring in the region (Mensah, 2011).

The findings revealed that perpetrators of human rights abuses are held accountable, civil society and human rights organizations assist vulnerable populations and increase in media awareness against human rights abuses. This was confirmed by a research done by Mackinlay (2011) and Johnson (2012) who declared that the government and NGOs should work together to facilitate dialogue between the two warring factions in order to reach a peaceful resolution of the chieftaincy conflict. This can be done through direct negotiations, the establishment of a joint monitoring committee, or the deployment of a peacekeeping force (Mackinlay, 2011; Johnson, 2012)



Following the findings, the respondents were of the opinion that government should implement a ceasefire disarmament agreement to end the violence. Also, encourage tolerance and cultural understanding between the two communities and creation of safe environment for human rights abuses victims to seek redress. This was affirmed by Lambert et al. (2019) revealing that NGOs can help to provide access to education and other resources to local communities, as well as helping to facilitate dialogue and chieftaincy conflict resolution. Additionally, NGOs can support local civil society organizations that are working to promote peaceful coexistence between the two sides of the chieftaincy conflict (Lambert et al., 2019).

#### **4.6.3 The Extent to which the Chieftaincy conflict has Affected the Socio-Economic and Political Development of Bawku**

The findings revealed that sectors such as businesses, education, agriculture, transportation, trade and tourism and other economic activities have been halted due to the chieftaincy conflict. It had also led to loss of jobs and investment in the area. According to Gbewonyo (2022), the Bawku chieftaincy conflict in the region of northern Ghana has been ongoing for over a decade, heavily impacting both local and national socio-economic and political development. Over the years, the chieftaincy conflict has escalated in intensity and complexity. This has resulted in various human rights abuses and further escalated tensions between the ethnic groups in the area. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict and accompanying human rights abuses have caused extreme poverty and lack of opportunities for the local population, resulting in the suffering of the people in the region.

The respondents were of the opinion that businesses and industries have been affected causing closure of some them, disrupt supply of goods and services, destruction business infrastructure and buildings and generally decrease productivities of industries in the Bawku and its environs. This was confirmed by Danquah (2019) revealed that the destruction of infrastructure has severely limited the availability and quality of social services in the Bawku area. Roads, bridges, and irrigation systems have been destroyed, preventing goods and services from being transported to the area. In addition, displacement of citizens has also exacerbated the issue. People are unable to access healthcare, education, and other social services due to the lack of infrastructure and displacement (Danquah, 2019).

The outcome of the study revealed that the chieftaincy conflict disrupts the political activities of the local governance system of the Bawku community. Resources meant



for development and provision of social services is being diverted into peacekeeping. The chieftaincy conflict has also reduced the participation of local citizens in the local governance system since they fear of being attacked. Alhassan (2019) disclosed that the Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused immense suffering and a great deal of destruction in the town, affecting its social, economic, and political development. The chieftaincy conflict has stunted socio-economic development in the area, preventing investment, disrupting food supplies, and leading to human rights abuses. It has also prevented any meaningful political development in the area, creating a political void that has hindered any efforts to unify the two ethnic groups in the town (Alhassan, 2019).

The respondents were of the opinion that there have been notable changes in the socio-economic and political development leading to decrease in access to education, healthcare and other basic social services. The chieftaincy conflict since its onset increase poverty among the citizenry and reduce both local and national political leaders to the community. Alhassan (2019) the chieftaincy conflict has hampered the efforts of government officials to oversee campaigns and elections. This has severely limited the ability of local officials to effectively implement policies and programs that can help to reduce poverty and improve the region's developmental trajectory. The chieftaincy conflict has also had an impact on the security and stability of the region. The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has caused an increase in the presence of armed groups, as well as an increase in the number of civilian casualties. This has exacerbated existing tensions among communities, leading to an erosion of trust and an increase in the potential for further violence and chieftaincy conflict (Alhassan, 2019).

The result of the study disclosed that human rights abuses that occurred during the chieftaincy conflict affect economic activities, destruction of infrastructure, breakdown security services, hindered business operations and activities and government unable to do any developmental projects in the communities. Nunoo & Ekbote (2018) the chieftaincy conflict has placed tremendous pressure on the local and regional economies, leading to a decline in agricultural productivity, a decrease in formal employment and a decline in incomes for both men and women (Nunoo & Ekbote, 2018).

The outcome of the interviewees revealed that the government of Ghana has invested heavily in the bringing peace to the Bawku community. They established reconciliation of peacebuilding processes among the various ethnic groups. The UNDP, UNICEF and other non-governmental organizations have also not relented in building the peace pipe among the community members of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. The government and NGOs should work together to promote reconciliation and healing between the two sides of the chieftaincy conflict through dialogue, chieftaincy conflict resolution training, and other initiatives (Mackinlay, 2011; Johnson, 2012). NGOs can help to provide access to education and other resources to local communities, as well as helping to facilitate dialogue and chieftaincy conflict resolution. Additionally, NGOs can support local civil society organizations that are working to promote peaceful coexistence between the two sides of the chieftaincy conflict (Lambert et al., 2019).

The findings disclosed that they have outlined various steps that could be taken to bring peace to the Bawku community. Some of the steps were to establish a comprehensive framework to protect and promote human rights in the region. Also, government should endeavor to increase access to education, healthcare and other

social services in the communities. The government should implement a comprehensive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration program to reduce the availability of weapons in the region. They should also increase the presence of police, military and intelligences services units in the community to pick up any reprisal attack. The government should work to build trust between the two sides of the chieftaincy conflict by providing access to government services, resources, and opportunities, as well as fostering dialogue and cooperation between the two sides. Additionally, the government could also provide financial incentives for the communities to develop strategies and programs that promote peace and reconciliation (Lambert et al., 2019).



## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of the Bawku chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services in the region, as well as human rights abuses in the Bawku area. The research aimed to improve the understanding of how the chieftaincy conflict has created difficulties in providing basic social services, such as health, education, and water, to the affected population in the area. This study sought to answer these following questions; how has the Chieftaincy conflict affected the provision of Social Services in Bawku? What are the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on education in Bawku? To what extent has the chieftaincy conflict affected the socio-economic and political development of Bawku?

The study employed qualitative research design, which was appropriate for exploring the experiences and perceptions of participants regarding the impact of chieftaincy conflict on social services provision and human rights abuses in Bawku. The study used a semi-structured interview guide in collecting the data. The data was analyzed based on the objectives for the study. The data analysis on the interviews adopted the thematic data analysis through the examination of the recorded accounts and responses of respondents. It must be noted that, not all responses were relevant to the questions posed and the objectives set to be achieved by the study.

## **5.2 Summary of Key Findings**

### **5.2.1 To Explore the Effects of Bawku Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services**

The chieftaincy conflict leads to a reduction of healthcare facilities and personnel, decreased educational opportunities and lower service quality. This led to increased unemployment, reduced access to basic services, poverty and heightened food insecurity. Environmental impact comprises decreased resource access and heightened pollution. Internally, residents have been displaced straining social services causing to need essentials like shelter, food and healthcare.

The chieftaincy conflict's severity has driven more people to flee, burdening social services with demands for basics. Education has suffered due to school closures and destruction, worsening access to services. Mental health issues like depression and anxiety are on the rise due to constant insecurity, straining mental health services.

Food security has been compromised by destroyed crops and livestock, intensifying the scarcity of social services. Destruction of healthcare facilities has left many without necessary medical assistance, further impeding access to services.

### **5.2.2. To examine how the chieftaincy conflicts has affected human rights abuses in relation education and health care delivery in Bawku.**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict in Ghana's Upper East Region has severely impacted human rights in the area. The chieftaincy conflict has led to some loss of life, displacement of people, and human rights violations. It has damaged some infrastructure, causing poor access to essential services like healthcare, education, and water. This has fueled poverty and fear, affecting people's ability to exercise rights

and meet basic needs. Child soldiers and violence against women have increased, violating international human rights laws.

Widespread displacement has occurred, depriving some people of safe homes and essential services. Many have fled the region entirely, unable to return due to safety concerns. Ethnic discrimination has risen, denying certain groups equal treatment and participation in public life. A humanitarian crisis ensued, causing food insecurity, limited services, and healthcare, undermining the right to a decent standard of living and health. The chieftaincy conflict has made people feel unsafe, impacting their right to security and access to services.

### **5.2.3 The Extent to which the Chieftaincy conflict has Affected the Socio-Economic and Political Development of Bawku**

The extents of the chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku have had a significant negative impact on the socio-economic and political development of the region. The chieftaincy conflict has caused displacement and destruction of property, leading to an increase in poverty and a decrease in resources available for development. Furthermore, human rights abuses have resulted in a lack of trust and security, the breakdown of law and order, and a decrease in public participation in the political process. These issues have hindered the progress of Bawku and will continue to be a barrier to development unless a lasting peace is achieved.

The chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku have had a serious and long-lasting impact on the socio-economic and political development of the region. The violence has led to displacement of thousands of people, destruction of infrastructure, and disruption to trade and commerce. The chieftaincy conflict has also exacerbated existing tensions between different ethnic and religious groups, leading to

further divisions. The resulting instability has hindered the area's ability to develop economically, socially and politically. As such, the chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku have had a significant and negative impact on the region's socio-economic and political development.

The chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku have had a profound effect on its socio-economic and political development. The chieftaincy conflict between the Mamprusi and Kusasi ethnic groups in the region has led to an increase in violence, corruption, and displacement of people. This has resulted in a breakdown of the rule of law, disruption of public services, and an overall decrease in the quality of life. The chieftaincy conflict has also led to the displacement of thousands of people and the destruction of homes and livelihoods. This has had a serious impact on the economy, as displaced people are unable to contribute to the economic activity of the region and their livelihoods have been destroyed. This has had a negative effect on the overall development of Bawku. This has led to a decrease in economic activity, with fewer businesses, fewer jobs, and a decrease in income levels. The chieftaincy conflict has also caused a decrease in government services, with fewer health and education facilities, and a lack of access to clean water and sanitation.

The chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku have had a profound effect on its socio-economic and political development. The chieftaincy conflict has led to an increase in violence and displacement of people, a breakdown of the rule of law, and disruption of public services. Human rights abuses have led to an atmosphere of fear and mistrust in the government and its institutions, further contributing to the underdevelopment of the region. The chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses have had a long-lasting and devastating effect on the socio-economic and political development of Bawku.

The chieftaincy conflict has also had a negative impact on the political process. The region has experienced increased tensions between ethnic groups and has seen a decrease in political participation. This has led to a lack of representation for certain groups, making it difficult for them to have their voices heard. This has led to a lack of trust in government and a decrease in support for government initiatives. The human rights abuses committed during the chieftaincy conflict have also had a negative impact on the region. Many of the abuses have been committed against women and children, leading to an increase in gender-based violence and a decrease in access to education and health services. This has had a further negative effect on economic development and political participation.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

The Bawku chieftaincy conflict has left a profound mark on social services and human rights in the region. The study underscores the substantial toll the chieftaincy conflict has taken on healthcare, education, and water access, significantly diminishing their availability and reach. Moreover, deeply concerning human rights abuses such as extrajudicial killings, torture, and gender-based violence have marred the chieftaincy conflict's landscape, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups like women and children.

The repercussions extend to the broader socio-economic and political fabric of Bawku. Industries and businesses have suffered, while the area's political stability has eroded, hampering the local government's capacity to serve its constituents effectively. Although efforts have been undertaken by governmental and non-governmental entities to mitigate these impacts, there remains a pressing need for



more comprehensive actions to alleviate the chieftaincy conflict's effects and prevent further human rights violations.

The chieftaincy conflict's imprint on social services is stark, exacerbating existing challenges and breeding insecurity. The tension between ethnic groups has deepened, widening divisions and eroding trust. A holistic approach is imperative, involving sustained strategies to address underlying causes, increased investment in essential services, and enhanced collaboration among government, civil society, and other stakeholders.

The chieftaincy conflict's ramifications on human rights are equally disconcerting. Displacement, livelihood disruption, and heightened insecurity have become realities for the region's inhabitants. Fundamental rights such as movement, healthcare, and education have been curtailed. Swift and peaceful resolution is essential to restore human rights in Bawku. Additionally, addressing the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict is paramount not only to forestall future turmoil but also to safeguard the region's human rights framework.

Finally, the chieftaincy conflict in Bawku has had a profound impact on the provision of social services and has led to numerous human rights abuses. The ongoing violence and instability have disrupted the functioning of essential services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. This has resulted in limited access to quality healthcare, disrupted education for children, and inadequate infrastructure for the community. Additionally, the chieftaincy conflict has created an environment conducive to human rights abuses, including arbitrary arrests, extrajudicial killings, and forced displacement. These violations have further exacerbated the challenges

faced by the local population and hindered their ability to enjoy their basic human rights.

#### **5.4 Implication of Further Research**

Further research is needed to better understand the impact of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku. This could include investigating the factors that drive and sustain the chieftaincy conflict, such as power dynamics, resource inequalities and socio-economic disparities.

Additionally, research could examine the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on the delivery and utilization of social services, as well as the extent of human rights abuses in Bawku. It could also investigate how international organizations and local governance structures are responding to the chieftaincy conflict and their ability to mitigate its effects. This research could provide valuable insights into how to better address the chieftaincy conflict, its impacts, and the provision of social services and human rights in Bawku.

Additionally, research could explore the role of gender dynamics in the chieftaincy conflict, the prevalence of gender-based violence, and the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on women and children. Finally, research should be conducted on the long-term effects of the chieftaincy conflict, such as displacement, economic hardship, and the psychological effects of violence on the population.

#### **5.5 Recommendations**

The research successfully uncovered the underlining causes of the effects of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku. It also revealed that some, if not all, of these social service provisions may constitute human rights abuses, that is, if the state failed to provide such services to

the community of Bawku. It further threw light on the nature of social service provision and human rights abuses in the Bawku community. Additionally, the study explored the effects of the chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses. Based on the research findings, the researcher has identified the following recommendations:

1. The government of Ghana should prioritize the provision of social services in Bawku, particularly in the areas of healthcare, education, water supply, initiative that promote peace building, infrastructure development, job creation and access to basic social services. This can be achieved through increased investment in infrastructure, equipment, and personnel. Also, education campaigns should be implemented to increase public awareness of the impact of chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services and human rights abuses in Bawku. This could include public service announcements, increased media coverage, and educational seminars in schools and other public venues.
2. Provide training and capacity-building programs for all the sectors of social service providers to enhance their skills and knowledge in dealing with the unique challenges and needs of communities affected by the chieftaincy conflict. This can help improve the quality and effectiveness of social services in addressing the specific issues faced by the people in Bawku this could ensure access to basic services, such as healthcare, education, electricity, and clean water,
3. To improve the protection for the citizens in relation to human rights abuses in Bawku especially for the teachers, school facilities and the children, it is crucial to address the root causes of the chieftaincy conflict, including resource scarcity and ethnic tensions. Additionally, there is the need to be an increase in efforts to promote peacebuilding and chieftaincy conflict resolution strategies, as well as

effective measures to hold accountable those responsible for human rights abuses. Moreover, the study highlights the urgent need for sustained efforts to address the impact of chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses in Bawku to ensure the provision of basic services and promote sustainable development in the area.

4. The government of Ghana and other relevant actors should work together to ensure that human rights are protected during the chieftaincy conflict. This can be achieved through training of security forces on human rights, strengthening of the judiciary, and establishment of a mechanism for reporting and addressing human rights abuses. Also, those effective mechanisms should be developed to address human rights abuses in Bawku. This could include the establishment of a monitoring system, the introduction of sanctions for perpetrators, and the provision of adequate reparations for victims.
5. The study recommends that the local economies should be strengthened to reduce poverty and increase access to resources. This could include providing financial support to small businesses, improving access to credit, and developing programs to train and empower local entrepreneurs. Governmental and non-governmental organizations should be strengthened to ensure that they are able to provide essential services and support to vulnerable populations in Bawku. This could include providing additional funding for organizations, training staff on chieftaincy conflict resolution and human rights, and developing better networks of communication and collaboration between organizations.
6. Invest in rebuilding and improving infrastructure such as healthcare facilities, schools, and water supply systems to ensure that social services can be effectively provided to the affected communities whereas enhancing the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other essential facilities. And investing in the

development of reliable and sustainable water and electricity supply systems. Engaging with local government officials, community leaders, and stakeholders to gather insights on how the chieftaincy conflict has influenced political dynamics, governance structures, and decision-making processes in Bawku. This qualitative approach can provide valuable perspectives on the socio-political repercussions of the chieftaincy conflict, and Conducting a comprehensive analysis of key socio-economic indicators such as employment rates, poverty levels, and infrastructure development to assess the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on Bawku's overall development.



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## APPENDIX

### UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

#### CENTRE FOR CHIEFTAINCY CONFLICTS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE

#### STUDIES

#### INTERVIEW GUIDE

Dear Participant,

This structured interview guide is designed to explore. I am a student of University of Education, Winneba reading Master's in Chieftaincy conflicts, Human Rights and Peace and as part of the requirement, final year candidates must carry out a thesis work which should attempt to tackle a pressing issue of any institution or sector and come out with some solutions that will help policy decision in that organization. It is in this view that this research is seeking your candid opinion on **“Effects of Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services and Human Rights Abuses: The Case Study of Bawku, Ghana”**

I will be very appreciative if you could spend a few minutes of your time to respond to this interview guide. The study is strictly for academic purpose and your confidentiality is highly assured.

Thank you

**To Determine the Impact of Bawku Chieftaincy conflict on the Provision of Social Services**

1. How has the chieftaincy conflict impacted the availability and accessibility of healthcare services in Bawku?
2. In what ways has the chieftaincy conflict affected the quality of education provided in Bawku?

3. How has the chieftaincy conflict impacted the provision of clean water and sanitation services in Bawku?
4. Have there been any notable changes in the provision of social services in Bawku since the onset of the chieftaincy conflict?
5. How have healthcare providers and educators in Bawku been affected by the chieftaincy conflict, and how has this impacted their ability to deliver services?
6. Have there been any efforts to mitigate the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the provision of social services in Bawku, and if so, what have they been?
7. In your opinion, what steps could be taken to improve the provision of social services in Bawku in light of the ongoing chieftaincy conflict?

**To examine how the chieftaincy conflicts has affected human rights abuses in relation education and health care delivery in Bawku.**

Can you describe how chieftaincy conflicts have directly affected schools in Bawku?

1. What are some specific challenges that schools and students face during periods of chieftaincy conflict?
2. How have student attendance rates been impacted by chieftaincy conflicts?
3. In what ways do you see chieftaincy conflicts affecting the quality of education provided in affected areas?
5. Have there been instances where schools had to close or suspend activities due to chieftaincy conflicts? If so, how did this impact students and teachers?
6. How does the fear or uncertainty caused by chieftaincy conflicts affect students' ability to focus on their studies?

7. Can you explain how chieftaincy conflicts impact the economic stability of families in Bawku? How does this affect children's access to education?

**To Examine the Extent of the Chieftaincy conflict Affected the Socio-Economic and Political Development of Bawku.**

1. How has the chieftaincy conflict affected the overall economic development of Bawku, and what sectors have been particularly impacted?
2. Have businesses and industries in Bawku been adversely affected by the chieftaincy conflict, and if so, how?
3. In what ways has the chieftaincy conflict impacted the political stability of Bawku, and how has this affected the ability of local government to provide services to residents?
4. Have there been any notable changes in the socio-economic and political development of Bawku since the onset of the chieftaincy conflict, and if so, what have they been?
5. How have the human rights abuses that have occurred during the chieftaincy conflict impacted the socio-economic and political development of Bawku?
6. What steps have been taken by the government and other actors to address the impact of the chieftaincy conflict on the development of Bawku?
7. In your opinion, what steps could be taken to mitigate the impact of the chieftaincy conflict and human rights abuses on the socio-economic and political development of Bawku?