



Land Reform and Socio-Economic Transformation in Eritrea: An Ethnographic Perspective

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Abstract

Land reform in Eritrea has been a critical aspect of socio-economic transformation since the early 2010s, following a period of conflict and economic hardship. The research employs participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and archival data analysis to understand the experiences and perceptions of local farmers and community leaders. A significant theme emerging from the findings is the mixed impact of land reform; while some beneficiaries experienced increased agricultural yields, others faced challenges in accessing formal credit for investment. The study underscores the complex interplay between policy implementation and local realities, highlighting the need for tailored support to ensure inclusive socio-economic benefits. Policy makers should consider offering additional financial incentives and capacity building programmes alongside land reform initiatives to enhance their effectiveness.

Keywords: *Geography, Land Use, Socio-Economic Change, Participatory Research, Ethnography, Cultural Studies, Anthropology*

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