

ABSTRACT

This study focused on assessing the contributions of the Maasai cultural practices on the national security, identifying cultural practices focusing on security of the community of the Maasai tribe, examining the recognition of cultural security practices on the national security and identifying the suggested ways to improve cultural security practices for the betterment of the national security.

Data was collected from four villages in Monduli district i.e. Emairete, Enguiki, Eluwai, and Mfereji whereby a total of 117 respondents participated in provision of data collected. The collected data was analyzed using Microsoft Excel software. These results of the study revealed that female genital mutilation (45%), polygamy (30%), early marriages (5%) and forced marriages (20%) are the cultural practices practiced by the Maasai tribe in the study areas which affect the health security, economic security, resource security which are all forms of national security. Female genital mutilation (45%) being the leading practice hinders mostly the health security of the females in the area followed by polygamy (30%) which affects both the health and economic security of the natives. The native in the area of study (Maasai people) should be taught on the dangers of these cultural practices and how they affect their health security, economic security and resource security as forms of national security in order to improve their cultural security for the betterment of the nation's security.

This research work also recommends the provision of education on the dangers of the harmful cultural practices like female genital mutilation and what effects they impose on the people and the nation at large and also providing formal education to the girls in the community by explaining to the parents the contribution of education to development and its importance to the child.

This project should be developed in other parts of the nation in order to identify various cultural practices practiced by other tribes in the country, the extent of their cultural security and also how their cultural security can be improved for the betterment of the national security.

x

