Corruption in Ethiopia Facilitates Illicit Trade Activity: Case of Hawassa Customs Commission Branch Office

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Abstract

Corruption can protect criminals engaged in illicit trade from investigations and prosecution. Even if a consignment is seized, perpetrators might be released with a warning or fine rather than prosecuted to the full extent (OECD,2017), In addition, OECD stated , Corruption facilitates various forms of illicit trade and may, for instance, allow sub-standard goods to reach consumers by evading quality controls. These were called corruption and illicit trade is "**twin devils**". The aim of this study is to ascertain the relationship of the twin devils in Ethiopia customs commission law enforcement and to determine why people in Ethiopia trade illicit and Customs officials being corrupt. With a qualitative approach,both Explanatory and descriptive research methods was applied. The qualitative data was collected from 76 customs officials and other state security randomly selected samples in a conference held in Sidama region with total population of 300 and analyzed by SPSS. Besides, literatures were reviewed to determine its effects on nation. The result indicates that corruption and illicit trade are positively related and goes together. Customs officials become corrupt due to customs officials receive any kind of gifts considering it as manifestation of gratitude and suit. However, some of officials receive the offer intentionally to accumulate improper wealth.People also involve in illicit trade than legal trade so as not to pay government taxes and thinking of getting rich quick by controlling (monopolize) the market. Customs commission is ineffective in controlling Corruption and illicit trade due to lack of committed leaders, increase employee demand to theft, law enforcement laxity and lack of corrective measures on offenders etc. And the public is not committed in fighting of corruption and illicit trade due to citizen's lack enough awareness on the burden of corruption and illicit trade, and lack of harsh penalty to offenders of corruption and illicit trades. Thus, the author recommended that, government and customs commission should give due attention to corruption and illicit trade, modernize customs administration, create know how to the public and forward the responsibility to state governments.

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1. Introduction

Like Ethiopia, many other developing countries rely heavily on trade taxes for national revenue. This was mostly exercised by Customs Organizations. Customs collects revenue from Customs duty and prevents country from illicit trade. However, Customs duty is complex and is particularly susceptible to revenue leakage as taxpayers have many avenues to evade, including collusion with tax officials, making it difficult for the evasion to be detected. Corruption and Customs maladministration facilitates to illicit trade.

The very "**unique**" behavior of corruption is, there is *no immediate claim to ownership*. Similarly, illicit activities are, by nature, hard to monitor. They are often designed by perpetrators to avoid detection, and victims do not necessarily have an interest in reporting them. Yet many of these illicit activities could be detected and stopped before they cause significant harm, but they continue because of negligence or lack of rigorous protocols for controlling quality and provenance (Justin Picard and Carlos A.Alvarenga 2012, p.58).

In Ethiopia, the integration of Corruption and illicit trade activities are beyond the words explained in different literatures. They are inseparable one from the other. They seem tightly backed together. They are at all "*arsenic"* to the country's Economy, security and social integration.

Scandals in both public and private sectors and several cases of corruption in the form of siphoning public property and abusing authority have often been appearing in the media are common. The federal Ethics and anti-corruption commission repeatedly reports the attempt and the happening of corruption in different organizations in Ethiopia, from which it can be concluded that there has been an increase in the number and nature of corruption and unethical behavior. And of which those organizations in Ethiopia, the scandals of corruption in Customs officials take great share.

2. Literature Review

Corruption is a crime that is committed to obtain personal benefit by abusing the authority one has within the organization (Anechiaryco and Goldstock, et al.2007).similarly, illicit trade is defined by WHO a trade as "any practice or conduct prohibited by law and which relates to production, shipment, possession, distribution, sale or purchase including any practice or conduct intended to facilitate such activity" (Grant Thornton, et al. 2013).

These idea shows the similar behavior of corruption and illicit trade that both are seeking of self-benefits.

In addition to the above, Corruption is a key facilitator of illicit trade. Because of corruption both low and high-level corruption protected timber can be logged and traded; humans, drugs, and arms can be smuggled, and illicit goods can be transported across borders without payment of duty. When perpetrators are caught, the payment of bribes can ensure their release or minimize their sentences. This impunity contributes to the growth of illegal activity (Louise I. Shelley, 2018, P.127).

Louise I. Shelley added in her literature that, the corruption associated with illicit trade drives many of the most destabilizing phenomena in the world. Such as, the perpetuation of deadly conflicts, the proliferation of the arms, weapons trade and the propagation of environmental degradation etc. In the developing world, where corruption is more pervasive and states are weaker, illicit trade is like "termites at work." But corruption also contributes to the growth of illicit trade in the developed world by stimulating demand for illicit goods and enriching "legitimate" corporations.

Many developing economies depend heavily on trade-related taxes for their economic wellbeing and wealth creation. The growth in international trade, increase in the number of travelers, advances in technology and changes in trading methods have set new challenges for governments (*Eukeria Mashiri and Favourate Y Sebele-Mpofu,n.d*).The same is true,40-45% of revenue in Ethiopia is collected from international trade tax (Import duty). However, it is very challenged by Corruption of customs officials, noncompliance traders, customs clearing agents and illicit trade expansion. Ethiopia has many regulatory laws with failed execution of enforcements.

The origins of the global anti-corruption agenda were which emerged in the mid-1990s from the US government's perception of foreign corruption as a commercial and security threat. The World Bank and the IMF repackaged their policy advice, prescribing deregulation to reduce opportunities for officials to collect bribes. Founded by a former World Bank official in 1993, Transparency International began to publish a corruption perception index to raise awareness about the problem (*Kalin S. Ivanov, 2007:P.28)*

The immediate general effects of illicit trade include major social ills such as crime and environmental degradation, and over the longer term, the impact runs much deeper, undermining the rule of law, fueling corruption, and reducing government revenues and competitiveness. In relation with, there are many factors drive illicit trade like, an economic gap with legal products, Legislative framework, Lack of enforcement and Social values are causes that initiate to be illicit good. (Skehan, Paul, Ignacio Sanchez and Lance Hastings, 2016).

Politicians and many other world known persons have been described Corruption in different ways. Pop Francis has called corruption **"the gangrene of a people"**.US Secretary of state John Kerry has labeled it a **"radicalizer"** because it "destroys faith in legitimate authority" .And British Prime Minister David Cameron has described it as "one of the **greatest enemies of progress** in our time (Michael Mullen, 2016). Corruption is, it would appear, one of the great evils of our time (Dan Hough, 2013.P.1).In supporting the above statements, in Ethiopia, the late PM Meless zenawi call it **"rent seeking".** The cost of bribes and tips of customs officials later passed to the consumer through increased market prices.

Table1: Comparison of impact of corruption and illicit trade: a literature review.

No,	Impacts of Corruption	Impacts of illicit trade
1	**Corruption hurts everyone:-** *The impact of corruption goes beyond the corrupt individuals, the innocent colleagues who are implicated, or the reputation of the organizations they work for. Ultimately, the public are the ones who lose out.* *Corruption erodes the trust we have in the public sector to act in our best interests. It also wastes our taxes or rates that have been earmarked for important community projects – meaning we have to put up with poor quality services or infrastructure, or we miss out altogether. (---)*	Everyone loses, except criminals: • *Robs governments of tax revenues; Exposes consumers to unregulated products often manufactured in unsanitary conditions;* • *Poses threats to security by providing a major source of illegal income for transnational organized criminal groups;* • *Encourages corruption and threatens the rule of law in countries where illicit trade is rampant;* • *Reduces the effectiveness of public health policies; Makes it easier for minors to access illicit products; and undermines the legitimate industry's business. source*
2	**Organizational impacts of corruption** financial loss; damage to employee morale ,damage to organization's reputation ,organizational focus and resources diverted away from delivering core business and services to the community ,Increased scrutiny, oversight and regulation	legitimate businesses are being undermined

No,	Impacts of Corruption	Impacts of illicit trade
3	Individual impacts of corruption disciplinary action, termination of employment, criminal charges, May affect relationships with family, friends and colleagues	Consumers are being exposed to poorly made and unregulated products.
4	**Community impacts of corruption** wasted taxpayer funds, loss of goods and services ,lower community confidence in public authorities, disadvantage to honest business that miss out on government contract	Illicit trade is a serious and growing threat to society.

Source: literatures, n.d

3. Research Methodology

To address the proposed research question, a qualitative approach was applied. Descriptive and explanatory (looks for cause and reasons) research methods /types was applied. The qualitative data collected from 76randomly selected samples was analyzed by SPSS. Besides, literatures were reviewed to determine its effects on nation. Where, the qualitative data was collected via hand delivered questionnaires. The data was collected from both primary and secondary sources. After the validity and reliability of the questionnaire was tested, all the data was analyzed using non-parametric test (i.e., Friedman test and Wilcoxon signed ranks test). The article is going to answer four basic research questions. These are:-

1. Why Customs officials in Ethiopia were be corrupted?
2. Why people in Ethiopia involve in illicit trade than legal trade?
3. Why customs commission is not effective in controlling the practice of corruption in its organization and illicit trade activity in Ethiopia?
4. Why the public is not committed in fighting corruption in customs officials and illicit trade in Ethiopia?

4. Result and discussion

Both corruption and illicit trade make failed state, weak government, poor economy, unstable state, inequitable income distribution. So this proves the evilness of the twin devils. There is no devil other than Corruption and illicit trade that dray Governments treasury.

4.1. Why Customs officials in Ethiopia were be corrupted?

Before answering the research question above, it's better to look the presence of corruption in customs commission officials. Thus, the author asked to respondents that, on the practice of maladministration of Customs officials and the result were shown below in the table.

4.1.1. Descriptive statistics:

Table 2: Currently, there is an attitude and practice of corruption by customs officials?

scale of measurements		Frequency	Percent (%)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	1	1.3	1.3	1.3
	Disagree	4	5.3	5.3	6.7
	Agree	40	52.6	53.3	60.0
	Strongly agree	30	39.5	40.0	100.0
	Total	75	98.7	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.3		
Total		76	100.0		

Source: filed survey, 2022.

As shown in the table2 above, 40 of the total sampled respondents agree on the current corruption status of the organization. That was, 52.6% and 39.5% of the respondents agree and strongly agree on the attitude of officials to be corrupt and practice respectively. If so, it's very difficult to address a quality service to the public and controlling illicit trade activities on the presence of corruption zone. .

4.1.2. Inferential test of statistics

4.1.2..1. the validity and reliability test

A questionnaire can be reliable but invalid…..But a valid questionnaire is always reliable (Dr.R.venkitachalam).
The validity and reliability of instruments is essential in research data collection. Therefore, the correct data will be determining true results of research quality. While true or not, the data is highly dependent on valid research instruments.

Table3:Reliability Statistics test

No,	Proposed research questions	Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
1	Research question- 1	.857	5
2	Research question- 2	.733	5
3	Research question- 3	.841	6
4	Research question- 4	.596	5

Source: SPSS output, 2022.

Cronbach's alpha ranges from r=0 to 1, with r=0.7 or greater considered as sufficiently reliable and acceptable (Joseph A. Gliem and Rosemary R. Gliem, 2003)**.** On the other hand, As (Clark and Watson, 1995 as cited in Neuendorf, n.d) note, the issue of internal consistency reliability assessment is complicated by the fact that "there are no longer any clear standards regarding what level . . . is considered acceptable" for Cronbach's alpha (p. 315); past criteria have ranged from .80 or .90 alpha coefficients, down to .60 or .70 alphas. Accordingly, Cronbach's alpha test of reliability of questionnaire of this study resulted as 0.857, 0.733, .841 and 0.596 for all the four research questions respectively.

Friedman Test

Hypothesis:

H0: There is no statistical significant median difference between the main Causes of Customs officials was be corrupt.

H1: At least two of the main Causes of Customs officials being corrupted are significantly different

Table4:Ranks variables indicate why Customs officials be corrupted

No,	Statements	Mean Rank	N
1	Because it is considered a manifestation of gratitude	2.75	76
2	Because it is considered a type of suit	2.83	76
3	To accumulate improper wealth	3.89	76
4	Poverty of officials	2.85	76
5	Lack of knowledge	2.68	76

Source; Fieldwork, May, 2022.

Table 4 above shows that, the 76 respondents have identified the 3rd variable with high mean ranks as main concern of Customs commission officials to be corrupted at Hawasa branch compared to the next five variables on the same table. However, identifying findings simply by looking high mean rank couldn't address the right findings. The purpose of the Friedman procedure is to test whether these observed differences are statistically significant or not. The SPSS output to the Friedman test is shown below.

Table5: Test Statistics[a]

N	59
Chi-Square	31.049
Df	4
Asymp. Sig.	.000

a. Friedman Test

The computed chi-square statistic and degree of freedom are 31.049, 4 respectively. The null hypothesis (H0) is rejected since the asymptotic significance (P-value) is less than 5%. Thus the observed differences in the ranking among the main factors to be corrupted officials are not just by chance , that is ,the degree of reason to be corrupted Customs officials are statistically different. Then having performed Wilcoxon signed ranks test for two related samples of multiple comparison on the group medians, the analysis has done and the most factor to perform corruption are identified as followed below.

Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

Hypothesis:

H0: The statistical median difference (M) between the main cause of customs officials being corrupted are equal to zero (M=0).

H1: The statistical median differences (M) between the main Customs cause of customs officials being corrupted are not equal to zero (M≠0).

Table 6: Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

No,	Variables	Z values	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	Adjusted value $α=0.05÷10=.005$	Decision
1	Because it is considered a type of suit - Because it is considered a manifestation of gratitude	-.980[b]	.327	.327>.005	Do not reject Ho
2	To accumulate improper wealth - Because it is considered a manifestation of gratitude	-4.064[b]	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
3	Poverty of officials - Because it is considered a manifestation of gratitude	-.007[b]	.994	.994>.005	Do not reject Ho
4	Lack of knowledge - Because it is considered a manifestation of gratitude	-.384[c]	.701	.701>.005	Do not reject Ho
5	To accumulate improper wealth - Because it is considered a type of suit	-3.645[b]	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
6	Poverty of officials - Because it is considered a type of suit	-.504[c]	.614	.614>.005	Do not reject Ho
7	Lack of knowledge - Because it is considered a type of suit	-1.232[c]	.218	.218>.005	D0 not reject Ho
8	Poverty of officials - To accumulate improper wealth	-3.983[c]	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
9	Lack of knowledge - To accumulate improper wealth	-4.492[c]	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
10	Lack of knowledge - Poverty of officials	-.457[c]	.648	.648>.005	Do not reject Ho

a.Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test[a]

b.Based on negative ranks.[b]

c.Based on positive ranks.[c]

Note: *To control for Type I error across the pair-wise comparisons, the researcher divided 0.05 by the number of possible pair-wise tests, and used "Bonferronized" P-value to arrive at a decision. In this test, there are a total of ten (10) pair–wise tests, and to test at the 5% level of significance, the correct value of α is α=0.05/10=0.005. This means, if the P-value is larger than 0.005, there is no a statistically significant results.*

There was a statistically significant differences among the main factors to be corrupted Customs official at, $χ^2 (4) = 31.049, p =0.000$ on the table5 above. table 6 Wilcoxon signed-rank multiple comparison test also shows, there is statistical significance difference in their degree of motivation to be corrupted officials among the variables of To accumulate improper wealth - Because it is considered a manifestation of **gratitude** and To accumulate improper wealth - Because it is considered a type of **suit** at *(Z=-4.064, &-4.645,P=.000)* respectively. The Z-score in those pairs is based on negative ranks. This is an indication of 'accepting of corruption considering it as gratitude and suit' is caused a significant decrease of revulsion to Corruption by Customs officials those who are involved in controlling Contraband and Customs law executions.

Secondly, the test statistics above indicates that, there is statistical significance difference in the degree of corruption motivation of customs officials between Poverty of officials - To accumulate improper wealth,Lack of knowledge - To accumulate improper wealth at *(Z=-3.983 &-4.492, P=.000)* respectively. The Z-score in those pairs is based on positive ranks. This is an indication of that 'Thinking to accumulate improper wealth' is caused a significant increase of motivating customs officials to involve in corruption.This is an indication of dishonest or fraudulent conduct of those customs officials in power, typically involving bribery negatively affects the organization values and from performing law executions. This leads to poor public trust on the organization.

To sum up, the Ethiopia revenues and customs authority code of conduct regulation 155/2000 states, receiving any gift from customer or anybody else without publicity of the authority was forbidden and considered it corruption. In contrary to the code of conduct, finding of the article indicates that, customs officials receive any kind of gifts considering it as manifestation of gratitude and suit. However, some of officials receive the offer intentionally to accumulate improper wealth.

4.2. Why people in Ethiopia involve in illicit trade than legal trade?

The Ethiopian Customs annual reports and working manuals literatures indicate that, illicit goods come from different countries crossing through neighboring countries. Though, Djibouti, Somalia, Eritrea, Kenya and Sudan are the main transitional gates to Ethiopia, illicit goods come through Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti is huge in

nature. Illicit trade has two categories in Ethiopia, i.e., goods inter to Ethiopia and goods exiting out from Ethiopia.

❖ Entry Illicit Goods type

These goods harm development of domestic industry, government revenue, creates insecurity and instability, unemployment worsen etc. these goods come from abroad by contraband are mainly biomedical goods and medicine, edible foods, shoe and dresses, electronics goods etc.

❖ Exiting illicit goods type

Mostly agricultural products and mining, i.e. crops and cattle, this loses the country from collecting foreign currency.

❖ Method of illicit trade movement

What method do they use to move goods in or out illegally?

Have two methods:-

❖ Through customs checkpoints (by deal with Customs officials, presentation of false document or hiding in the care body)
❖ Bush to bush (out of the site of customs check points)

4.2.1. Descriptive statistics

Table7:The state of smuggling in Ethiopia

The state of smuggling in Ethiopia is?		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Increasing	54	71.1	74.0	74.0
	decreasing	17	22.4	23.3	97.3
	No smuggling	2	2.6	2.7	100.0
	Total	73	96.1	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.9		
	Total	76	100.0		

Source: Field survey, May2022.

The table7 above shows the state of illicit trade in Ethiopia. Accordingly, 71.1% of the respondents argued that, the flow of contraband goods trading in Ethiopia is increasing. This was proven by the government officials too. Currently the inflow and outflow of contraband goods are claiming.

Table8:Descriptive Statistics of variables motivating contraband trading

statements	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Not to paying government taxes	60	3.23	1.047	1	4
Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market	60	3.30	1.078	1	4
Increased government interference in the business sector	60	2.05	.910	1	4
The complexity and standard of the legal business line	60	2.18	.983	1	4
Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit	60	1.98	.948	1	4

Source: Field survey, 2022

People engaged to contraband trading because of different reasons in Ethiopia. Of these main reasons, for not to paying government taxes and thinking of getting rich by controlling the market are the main reasons with high mean value of 3.23 and 3.30 respectively. Now a day's most of the people in Ethiopia considered contraband trading as livelihood. Some security officials also support and involving themselves too through their family.

Friedman Test

Hypothesis:

H0: *There is no statistical significant median difference between the main reasons motivate illicit trading.*

H1: *At least two of the main reasons motivate illicit trading in Ethiopia are significantly different.*

Table 9:Mean Ranks of variables motivating illicit trade in Ethiopia

statements	Mean Rank
Not to paying government taxes	3.81
Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market	3.86
Increased government interference in the business sector	2.36
The complexity and standard of the legal business line	2.59
Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit	2.38

Source: SPSS output, 2022

Like in table8 above, table9 mean ranks of Friedman indicates that, the first two variables(statements) i.e., not to paying government taxes and thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market have high mean ranks of 3.81 and 3.86 respectively. However, this mean rank couldn't show the significance difference among the statements. It's the test below differentiate the significance,

Table10:Test Statistics^a

N	60
Chi-Square	73.610
df	4
Asymp. Sig.	.000

a. Friedman Test

Source: SPSS output,2022

The computed chi-square statistic and degree of freedom are 73.610, 4 respectively. The null hypothesis (H0) is rejected since the asymptotic significance (P-value) is less than 5%. Thus the observed differences in the ranking among the main factors motivating contraband trading are not just by chance , that is ,the degree of reason to be motivated in trading of contraband goods s are statistically different. Then having performed Wilcoxon signed ranks test for two related samples of multiple comparison on the group medians, the analysis has done and the most factor motivating contraband trading in Ethiopia are identified as followed below.

Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

Hypothesis:

H0: The statistical median difference (M) between the main reasons motivating illicit trading in   Ethiopia are equal to zero (M=0).

H1: The statistical median differences (M) between the main reasons motivating illicit trading in Ethiopia is not equal to zero (M≠0).

Table11:Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test Statistics

No,	Variables	**Z** values	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	Adjusted value **α**=0.05÷10=.005	Decision
1	Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market - Not to paying government taxes	-1.115^b	.265	.265>.005	Do not reject Ho
2	Increased government interference in the business sector - Not to paying government taxes	-4.771^c	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
3	The complexity and standard of the legal business line - Not to paying government taxes	-4.552^c	.000	.000<.005	reject Ho
4	Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - Not to paying government taxes	-4.690^c	.000	.000<.005	reject Ho
5	Increased government interference in the business sector - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market	-4.507^c	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
6	The complexity and standard of the legal business line - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market	-4.381^c	.000	.000<.005	reject Ho
7	Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market	-4.607^c	.000	.000<.005	reject Ho
8	The complexity and standard of the legal business line - Increased government interference in the business sector	-.948^b	.343	.343>005	Do not Reject Ho
9	Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - Increased government interference in the business sector	-.488^c	.625	.625>.005	Do not Reject Ho
10	Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - The complexity and standard of the legal business line	-1.463^c	.144	.144>.005	Do not reject Ho

a.Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test.a

b.Based on negative ranks.b

c.Based on positive ranks.c

Source:SPSS output,2022

Note: *To control for Type I error across the pair-wise comparisons, the researcher divided 0.05 by the number of possible pair-wise tests, and used "Bonferronized" P-value to arrive at a decision. In this test, there are a total of ten (10) pair–wise tests, and to test at the 5% level of significance, the correct value of α is α=0.05/10=0.005. This means, if the P-value is larger than 0.005, there is no a statistically significant results.*

There was a statistically significant differences among the Customs law enforcement challenges at, χ^2 *(4) = 73.610, p =0.000* on the table 10 above. table 11 Wilcoxon signed-rank multiple comparison test also shows, there is statistical significance difference in their degree of motivation to involve in contraband goods trading among the variables of Increased government interference in the business sector - Not to paying government taxes, The complexity and standard of the legal business line - Not to paying government taxes, Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - Not to paying government taxes *at(Z=-4.771,-4.552 &-4.690,P=.000)* respectively. The Z-score in those pairs is based on positive ranks. This is an indication of 'thinking not to paying government taxes' is caused a significant increase of motivating peoples to involve in illicit trade activity.

Secondly, the test statistics above indicates that, there is statistical significance difference in the degree of challenges of between increased government interference in the business sector - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market, The complexity and standard of the legal business line - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market, Existence of financial and intellectual capacity limit - Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market at *(Z=-4.507,-4.381, &-4.607, P=.000)* respectively. The Z-score in those pairs is based on positive ranks. This is an indication of that 'Thinking of getting rich quick by controlling the market' is caused a significant increase of motivating peoples to involve in illicit trade activity.

4.3. Why customs commission is not effectively controlled the practice of corruption in its organization and illicit trade activity in Ethiopia?

Before going to the main analysis part of this research question, it's better to look the relationship of corruption in customs and illicit trade activity.

Table12: there is a link between corruption and the smuggling trade in Ethiopia.

Measurements		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Disagree	4	5.3	5.3	5.3
	Agree	34	44.7	45.3	50.7
	Strongly agree	37	48.7	49.3	100.0
	Total	75	98.7	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.3		
Total		76	100.0		

Source: Field survey, 2022.

The table 12above shows the relationship of the **'twin devils'** of the planet. Usually, there is corruption behind the break of law.44.7% and 48.7% of the respondents agree and strongly agree on the inseparability of corruption and illicit trade respectively in Ethiopia.

Table13: Descriptive Statistics of the main reasons Customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption and illicit trading.

Measurements	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Lack of leadership commitment	59	2.97	1.017	1	4
Increased employee demand for theft	59	**3.02**	1.008	1	4
Lack of coordination between the institution and stakeholders	59	2.97	.999	1	4
Not being a correctional measure for offenders	59	**3.17**	1.020	1	4
Law enforcement laxity	59	2.97	1.033	1	4
poor ethical education and selfishness	59	2.95	1.024	1	4

Source: Field survey, 2022

The descriptive Statistics of the main reasons Customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption within its organization and illicit trading in the table 13 above shows that, Increased employee demand for theft with high mean of 3.02 and Not being a correctional measure for offenders taken with high mean of 3.17.This indicated that the demand to be corrupted by customs officials are increasing from time to time and being there is no taken corrective measures on contrabandists, the magnitude of contraband goods trading is also increasing over years.

Friedman Test
Hypothesis:

H0: There is no statistical significant median difference between the main reasons Customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption and illicit trading.

H1: At least two of the main reasons customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption and illicit trade in Ethiopia are significantly different.

Table14: Ranks between the main reasons Customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption and illicit trading.

Measurements	Mean Rank
Lack of leadership commitment	3.42
Increased employee demand for theft	**3.48**
Lack of coordination between the institution and stakeholders	**3.43**
Not being a correctional measure for offenders	**3.83**
Law enforcement laxity	3.42
poor ethical education and selfishness	3.41

Source: field survey, 2022

Like in table 13 above, table 14 mean ranks of Friedman indicates that the 2nd,3rd and 4th variables(statements)I.e., Increased employee demand for theft(mean rank 3.48),Lack of coordination between the institution and stakeholders(mean rank 3.43) and Not being a correctional measure for offenders(mean rank 3.83) are the main three factors that customs commission is ineffective of controlling corruption within its organization and illicit trade activity in the country. Lack of leadership commitment (mean rank 3.42) and Law enforcement laxity (mean rank 3.42) are the equally the second(2nd) reasons fellow by poor ethical education and selfishness (mean rank 3.41) as the third (3rd) reason of poor controlling of corruption and illicit trading. Now a day, it seems that, a less due was given to combating these two devils in Ethiopia.

Table15:Test Statistics[a]

N	59
Chi-Square	3.694
df	5
Asymp. Sig.	.594

a. Friedman Test

The computed chi-square statistic and degree of freedom are 3.694, 5 respectively. The null hypothesis (H0) is accepted since the asymptotic significance (P-value) is greater than 5%. Thus there is no observed significant differences in the ranking among the main reasons Customs commission couldn't effectively controlled corruption and illicit trading. The variables (statements) are equally important reasons that custom commission is ineffective in corruption and illicit trade controlling.

4.4. Why the public is not committed in fighting of corruption in customs officials and illicit trade in Ethiopia?

4.4.1. Descriptive statistics

Table16: coordination of stakeholders in fighting of corruption and illicit trade

There is effective fight of corruption and contraband with efficient coordination of stakeholders.		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	8	10.5	11.0	11.0
	Disagree	33	43.4	45.2	56.2
	Agree	23	30.3	31.5	87.7
	Strongly agree	9	11.8	12.3	100.0
	Total	73	96.1	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.9		
Total		76	100.0		

Source: Field survey, 2022

Fighting corruption and illicit trade is not easy to one organization alone. It seeks the involvement of the public and many stakeholders. It should not be left to the concerned organizations. The concern of corruption and illicit trade should be the concern of all citizens'. However, as shown above in table16, 43.4% of the total respondents disagree with the practical fighting of these two devils. This is true in Ethiopia. The work is left to the organization. State security body are not helpful in fighting illicit trade.

Table17: Descriptive Statistics of why the public is not committed in fighting of corruption in customs officials and illicit trade in the country

Measurements	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
people who are struggling be affected in different ways	61	2.66	1.302	0	4
Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue	61	2.38	1.051	0	4
penalty for offenders is not corrective	61	3.05	1.056	0	4
Lack of enough evidence for the case	61	2.38	1.113	1	4
Mindset do I have if I don't touch it?	61	2.75	1.150	0	4

Source; Field survey, 2022

The table 17 above, shows the action taken to corrupt officials and illicit traders were not corrective (mean 3.05) .that's why the public as well as other stakeholders are not cooperative in fighting of these two anti-development. Some of the public also do not worry as far as the incident come to his/her home. The public ignore criminals if and only if they do not touch his/her benefit (mean 2.75).

Friedman Test

Hypothesis:

H0: There is no statistical significant median difference between the main reasons the public are not cooperative in fighting corruption and illicit trading.

H1: At least two of the main reasons are significantly different.

Table18:Mean Ranks of reasons the public is not cooperative in fighting corruption and illicit trade

Statements/variables	Mean Rank
people who are struggling be affected in different ways	3.00
Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue	2.67
penalty for offenders is not corrective	3.56
Lack of enough evidence for the case	2.57
Mind-set do I have if I don't touch it?	3.20

Source: Field survey, 2022.

Any public and individual criminals are controlled if and only if there is effective public cooperation. However, in Ethiopia, the government couldn't control corruption in organizations and the illicit trade held all over the country. The public is not actively helpful in cooperation with customs commission because of penalty for offenders is not corrective (mean rank 3.56), Mind-set do I have if I don't touch it? (Mean ranks 3.20) and people who are struggling be affected in different ways (mean ranks 3.00).

Table19:Test Statistics[a]

N	61
Chi-Square	20.505
df	4
Asymp. Sig.	.000

a. Friedman Test

Source: SPSS utput,2022

The computed chi-square statistic and degree of freedom are 20.505, 4 respectively. The null hypothesis (H0) is rejected since the asymptotic significance (P-value) is less than 5%. Thus, the observed differences in the ranking among the main reasons the public is not committed in fighting corruption and illicit trade are statistically different. Then, having performed Wilcoxon signed ranks test for two related samples of multiple comparison on the group medians, the analysis has done and the most reason public are not committed in fighting corruption and illicit trade in Ethiopia are identified as followed below.

Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

Hypothesis:

H0: The statistical median difference (M) between the main reasons the public are not committed in fighting of corruption and illicit trade are equal to zero (M=0).

H1: The statistical median differences (M) between the main reasons the public are not committed in fighting of corruption and illicit trade are not equal to zero (M≠0).

Table20: Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test Statistics[a]

No,	Variables	Z values	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	Adjusted value $\alpha=0.05\div10=.005$	Decision
1	Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue - people who are struggling be affected in different ways	-1.424[b]	.154	.154>.005	Do not reject Ho
2	penalty for offenders is not corrective - people who are struggling be affected in different ways	-2.541[c]	.011	.011>.005	Do not Reject Ho
3	Lack of enough evidence for the case - people who are struggling be affected in different ways	-1.094[b]	.274	.274>.005	Do not reject Ho
4	Mindset do I have if I don't touch it? - people who are struggling be affected in different ways	-.915[c]	.360	.360>.005	Do not reject Ho
5	penalty for offenders is not corrective - Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue	-3.796c	.000	.000<.005	Reject Ho
6	Lack of enough evidence for the case - Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue	-.116c	.907	.907>.005	Do not reject Ho
7	Mindset do I have if I don't touch it? - Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue	-2.010c.	.044	.044>.005	Do not reject Ho
8	Lack of enough evidence for the case - penalty for offenders is not corrective	-3.285b	.001	.001<005	Reject Ho
9	Mindset do I have if I don't touch it? - penalty for offenders is not corrective	-1.684[b]	.092	.092>.005	Do not Reject Ho
10	Mindset do I have if I don't touch it? - Lack of enough evidence for the case	-2.047[c]	.041	.041>.005	Do not reject Ho

a.Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test.a

b.Based on positive ranks.b

c.Based on negative ranks.c

Source:SPSS output,2022

Note: To control for Type I error across the pair-wise comparisons, the researcher divided 0.05 by the number of possible pair-wise tests, and used "Bonferronized" P-value to arrive at a decision. In this test, there are a total of ten (10) pair–wise tests, and to test at the 5% level of significance, the correct value of α is α=0.05/10=0.005. This means, if the P-value is larger than 0.005, there is no a statistically significant results..

There was a statistically significant differences among the Customs law enforcement challenges at, $\chi2$ (4) = 20.505, p =0.000 on the table19 above. Table20 Wilcoxon signed-rank multiple comparison test also shows, there is statistical significance difference in their reasons why the public is not committed in fighting Corruption and illicit trade variables are penalty for offenders is not corrective - Citizens' lack of awareness of the issue at Z=-3.796 & P=.000. The Z-score in those pairs is based on negative ranks. This is an indication of 'Citizens lack of awareness on the issue of corruption and illicit trade' is caused a significant increase uncommitted public.

Secondly, the test statistics above indicates that, there is statistical significance difference in the degree of Lack of enough evidence for the case - penalty for offenders is not corrective at Z=-3.285 & P=.001. The Z-score in those pairs is based on positive ranks. This is an indication of that 'insufficient penalty' is caused a significant increase of corruption and illicit offenders in the Country.

5. Conclusions:

Corruption is crime. Corruption is taking anything to his/her own from public. The crimes of corruption differ from other normal crimes. It was practiced by most elite and rich people. The same illicit trade is performed by highly coordinated contrabandists. Their burden goes to individuals and the effects of Corruption and illicit Trade was goes to both to National Economy, National security disturbs Market imbalance and Social harassments.

Corruption in general hampers international trade, whereas bribe paying to customs enhances imports. This effect is most robust in importing countries with inefficient customs. High waiting times at the border significantly reduce international trade

Illicit trade concerns "any commercial practice or transaction related to the production, acquisition, sale,

purchase, shipment, movement, transfer, receipt, possession or distribution of any illicit product defined as such by national or international law, or any licit product for non-licit purposes as defined by international . Illicit enterprises not only divert opportunities from the legal economy, they also divert revenue threatening economic growth and development and preventing the equitable distribution of public goods. But this goes beyond just the economic harm. The illegal economy also incurs a significant negative social cost.

Generally, Corruption and illicit trade go all together, if there is illicit trade there must be corruption and vis- versa. There is no illicit trade without temptation of corruption of customs officials and other stakeholders. Why they relate is, because in illicit trade there is a great physical contact and high communications opportunity between customs officials. There will always be individuals, groups and traffickers seeking to smuggle and counterfeit products and goods. Similarly, there will always be individual officials, groups, authorities, politicians and stakeholders seeking to embezzle public finance.

Finally, the article recommends that, Government and customs commission should give due attention for fighting corruption and illicit trades by mobilizing all concerned stakeholders and the public. Systematic improvements and reforms to provide transparent citizen-friendly services, modernizing customs administration, harsh punishment to corrupt officials and to contrabandists should be applied.

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