THE IMPACT OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE AMONG CHRISTIAN YOUTH IN KAINUK, TURKANA COUNTY KENYA

BY

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DECLARATION

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

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This thesis is submitted for examination with my approval as University Supervisor

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THESIS APPROVAL

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ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken in Kainuk, Kenya and was aimed at evaluating the impact of ethnic violence among Christian youth. The objectives of this study were to identify some of the causes of ethnic violence, to evaluate the impact of ethnic violence, to examine the role of the Church in promoting peace, and to examine the role of the government in promoting peace among the Christian youth in Kainuk.

The research topic established parameters within which the research focused. The study did not deal with all Christian youth. Only the views of Christian youth from Kainuk, Kenya were considered. However, the study also obtained supplementary information about such youth from key informants. The study utilized a number of data collection tools such as interviews, questionnaires, focus group discussions, and passive participant observation. The collected data was analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative techniques.

Specifically, the study has provided a valuable evaluation of the impact of ethnic violence among Christian youth in Kainuk, Turkana County Kenya, and how that impact leads to high rates of poverty, death, and other problems among such. The study found that the top three causes of ethnic violence among Christian youth in Kainuk were: land

issues, poverty, and tribalism.

The study revealed that the church plays a significant role in promoting peace among the Christian youth in Kainuk. Therefore, the principle conclusion is that the main roles of the Church in promoting peace were: preaching, prayer, food and education. Furthermore, Churches in Kainuk should take a more active role in reconciliation and preaching peace. This will greatly aid in reducing the negative impact of ethnic violence among Christian youth in Kainuk, Turkana County Kenya.