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participative, and self-protective also have equal value next to the first.

This paper focused on one of the ethnic group in Ethiopia; called Amhara and on one of their preferred leadership style: Participative leadership. This leadership style ranked next to the human oriented style and equally valuable with charismatic and team oriented leadership styles. The analyses is focused on oral literature particularly proverbs of Amhara that particularly promote participation in decision making. These proverbs reflect how the Amhara culture encourages participation in leadership. The next topic about an introduction to The Amhara National Regional State

III. The Amhara National Regional State (ANRS)

The Amhara National Regional State (ANRS) is one of the nine regional states of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE). In geographic terms, the ANRS is located between 9^o 21' to 14^o 0' North latitude and 36^o 20' and 40^o 20' East longitude.¹³ The total area of the Amhara region is estimated to be 170, 752 square kilometers.¹⁴ The region shares borders with Tigray region in the North, Afar and Oromia regions in the East, Oromia region in the South, and Benishangul region and The Sudan Republic in the West. The region is divided into 11 administrative zones including Bahir Dar special administration and 114 Woredas and populated with 19 million for the last Ethiopian fiscal year (BoFED, 2007).¹⁵

The Amhara societies have their own language and alphabets which called Amharic. Amharic is a Semitic language and the national language of Ethiopia. The majority of the peoples are speakers of Amharic in Ethiopia. These Amhara

societies have their own proverb which used for different purpose and for different context. This paper analyses some selective proverbs which encourages participation in decision making.

IV. Some Common Features of Proverbs

Proverbs are short sayings capable of expressing truth, wisdom and similar other popularly accepted facts or ideas.¹⁶ Proverbs are also popular sayings which contain advice or state a generally accepted truth used in our day to day communication. Because most proverbs have their origins in oral tradition, they are generally worded in such a way as to be remembered easily and tend to change little from generation to generation, so much so that sometimes their specific meaning is no longer relevant. The people's attitudes and thoughts are better reflected in oral genres. The role of proverbs in pointing out the cultural, social, political and economic relations of a certain community is really significant. This also includes reflecting the accepted or preferred leadership style among the society.

V. Proverb related with advice(participation in decision making)

Advice implies the act of giving direction for someone who makes decision in his life. This participation in decision making is caused by the sincere request of the one who take advice. Generally elders (shemagla) are the one requested to give advice because of their age advancement they are expected to give direction to the younger generation. In the Amhara culture women have also a great role in giving dignified solution to fix problems.

The Amhara proverbs encourage taking advice someone for doing something regarding issues of life in order to get something and to become successful in life. The Amhara people believe in take advice and participate others in making decisions. The proverbs encourage the one who

⁸ Ibid,400

⁹ Ibid,400

¹⁰ Yonas Admamu, *the social implication of some Amharic Proverbs and Their Social Needs for Encouragement*. International Journal of Literature an Arts. 2015:3(5),1

¹¹ Ibid,2

¹² Ibid,2

¹³ Yaregal Emrie. Analysis of Gender Relations as Reflected in Amharic Proverbs and Oral Poems of West Gojjam Zone.2009,123

