

Information Sharing and Utilization among Traditional Rulers for Conflicts Management in Kalabari Kingdom, Rivers State

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Abstract

This study investigated Information sharing and utilization among traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State. Descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. Four research questions guided the study and were formulated. The population of this study comprised of the entire 68 traditional rulers' Kalabari kingdom. The sample size for the study was 30 respondents drawn from the population of the study. The instrument that was used for data collection was the researcher designed questionnaire titled: "Traditional Rulers' and Conflict Management Questionnaire (TRCMQ)". The result of the study was analysed using mean and standard deviation in analyzing the research questions. Findings from the study revealed that libraries do not provide current awareness services, organize seminars, organize conferences and organize symposia that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom. Libraries in Kalabari kingdom do not organized special programmes such as peace education, information and knowledge, distributions of books on conflict management to traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom and exhibition of information resources on conflict at the palace of the Amayanabo of Kalabari kingdom to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State. The possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management are deficiency of information, lack of financial resources to buy information resources on conflict management, poor knowledge on organizing peace education and misinformation on conflict management and that the strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom are that libraries should educate

traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom on peace education, organize seminars, conferences and symposia that will aid traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom. Based on the findings it was recommended among others that Libraries should provide current awareness services, organize seminars organize conferences and organize symposia so as to help traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom manage conflict.

Introduction

Socio-cultural norms and values embedded in traditional institutions have remained an integral part of every traditional kingdom such as in Kalabari kingdom, apart from being the powerful human tool for survival, the defined cultural norms and values also form the bases of existence of every Kingdom; they bring order which in turn makes the society devoid of any state of lawlessness. In Kalabari kingdom, these norms and values formed the bases upon which traditional ruler's exercised governance, power and authority or influence over their subjects. Furthermore, these institutions of traditional rulers were virtually the only institutions of governance which played critical roles such as custodians of customary law and communal assets, especially land and resources; guardians and symbols of cultural values and religious practices; dispensing justice, enforcing contracts and also resolving or managing conflicts.

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 7th edition, defined conflict as a situation in which people, groups or countries are involved in a serious disagreement or argument. Stagner (1967) in Olaniran and Arigu (2013) sees it (conflict) as: a situation in which two or more human beings desire goals which they perceive as being obtainable by one or the other, but not both; each party is mobilizing energy to obtain a goal, a desired object or situation, and each party perceives the other as a barrier to that goal. In this article conflict can be define as a state of disparity, chaos and physical combat. It may provoke wars that result in depopulation and devastation. One of the ways to resolve conflict is to manage it which is referred to as conflict management.

Peoplehum (2022) defines conflict management as the practice of being able to identify and managing conflicts sensibly, fairly, and efficiently. Conflict management process deals with (perceived) incompatibilities or disagreements arising from, for example, diverging opinions, objectives, and needs. As opined by Ogwari (2018) conflict management is the management of conflicts by which parties of a conflict come together to solve their conflict or differences. This article describes conflict management as procedures attempting to resolve the underlying incompatibilities of a conflict, including attempts to get the parties to mutually accept each other's' existence. Conflict management helps parties develop common norms, rules and regulations on utterances, attitude, actions and aspirations to allow peace to reign, rather than for violence to reign. Traditional rulers have long been involved in conflict management by creating a balance in the process of negotiation and tribal disputes and in some cases led in restoring peace and reconciliation ventures. The art of conflict management is borne out of a belief that conflict which is inevitable could and should not be left alone; it therefore needs to be put under control by interacting with relevant parties to develop common generalization or principles and practices that would return cordial relationship against violence.

Traditional rulers can be described as individuals or groups of individuals who occupy communal political leadership positions by immorality and are through the consent of community

members granted authority and legitimacy to direct the affairs of particular ethno-cultural or linguistic groups in an ordered manner (Egwurube,1988). Dasuki Committee Report (1988) regards a traditional ruler as the person who by virtue of his ancestry occupies the throne or stool of an area and who has been appointed to it in accordance with the customs and tradition of the area. Thus, a traditional ruler is a person who by tradition occupied the highest social and political positions in their respective societies over a given politically recognised area.

Traditional rulers therefore undoubtedly played significant roles in managing these conflicts informally and arranging peace-making meetings when matters get out of hand. These governance institutions and structures were controlled by certain unwritten laws which formed part of the general social structure, and, its machinery of enforcing governance was well-organized to manage affairs, administered justice and resolve tension in the society. However, during colonial era, there was a role change as the roles and offices of traditional rulers were either usurped by the colonialist or their subjects.

Wariboko (2021) observed that traditional rulers before the arrival of colonial rule in Rivers State especially in Kalabari Kingdom were the political, cultural, economic and social administrators of their various domains. The British colonialist through native courts installed and controlled chiefs by warrant as they believed that African people had to be governed by chiefs in order to maintain the organic unity of the society. These native courts that are being led by traditional rulers in Kalabari Kingdom gave birth to a constitutionalism, where roles and status were clearly indicated and differentiated. Even though scholars of democracy refer constitutionalism as one of the three principal elements to the practice of democracy in any democratic state such as Nigeria, it also states what powers government can exercise and the responsibilities of the traditional rulers as a primary element of 'rule of law'. The above description shows that the traditional rulers in colonial and post-colonial Nigeria assumed a new status and role which have been enshrined in the various constitutions.

Indeed, there is no gainsaying that, traditional rulers have certain elements as the basis of their authorities other than tradition. This makes them different from other leaders in the world. The pre-defined Nigerian communities had traditional rulers as virtually the only people with authority to govern their subjects. In that period, traditional rulers managed affairs, administered justice and resolved tension in their different localities with certain unwritten laws. These unwritten laws found their root in firsthand experience passed on through stories, myths and legend, folklore, rituals, or songs from generation to generation and formed part of the general social structure which in turn bred order, development, peace and stability in these localities.

This does not presuppose that these communities were out rightly peaceful and orderly, as every community, at that time, had witnessed one form of conflicts or the other as a result of divergent interests arising from the difference in languages and traditions. However, these (conflicts) were put under control by traditional rulers who were seen as the living representatives of their ancestors and believed to possess their authority from the spirits of the Supreme Being or God. It is interesting to note that, the vast knowledge of custom, myths and the history of the

communities; and the skills as orators as well as the social capital which the traditional leaders had as leaders of these community/ies, empowered them to put conflict to a conclusive resolution.

The resolution which has the primary objective of moving away from accusations and counter accusations, to soothe hurt feelings and to reach a compromise that may help to improve future relationships of the conflictual parties. This objective in that era was achieved through traditional approaches which were holistic, comprising also social, economic, cultural and religious-spiritual dimensions. This is in accordance with the entirety of traditional lifestyles and world views in which the different spheres of societal life were hardly separated. As opined by Adeola (2019) what must be intensely noted by conventional apparatuses is the salience of traditional practices such as the use of rituals, symbols and interpretations of myths to bring conflicts to an end.

Traditional conflict management practice as observed by Adeola (2019) is a part of well social system which has been proven over time to be efficient in reconciliation since it improves social relationships by restoring balance, settling disputes and managing conflict because it is deeply rooted in the customs and traditions of Africa. Conflict management involves a healing process which should involve all stakeholders to rebuild the social harmony that was lost during the conflict. Ndumbell (2021) stated that traditional conflict resolution mechanisms still prevail at the grass root level where the communities exchange gifts and slaughter animals for example the Karamoja in Uganda and other pastoralist societies in Kenya through their traditional elders still do these to solve conflicts among themselves hence promoting reconciliation.

Traditional actors play key roles in early warning systems, instilling peaceful values and reconciliation in the African culture which made the UNESCO approve a new programme and a medium term strategy for 2014-2021 to promote the African culture of involving the traditional actors in conflict management to prevent violent conflicts because of the nature of Africa internal conflicts. According to the Doha agreement between the African Union and the UN, the role of traditional leaders and local institutions were allowed under the Ajawid councils and were encouraged to act as mediation councils in times of conflict, however government interference with their proceedings was seen as the major reason which made the Darfur conflict to be persistence. Therefore government support is required if these local mechanisms of solving conflict and the role of traditional leaders is to work effectively in prevention, reconciliation and conflict management especially mediation (Jérôme, Victor, & Musa, 2012).

Traditional approaches of conflict management are usually applicable in situations where there is a failed state, a collapsed state or a state in absentia and have been used to regulate violence and sustainable peace building from local to national level for instance in Bougainville, New Papua Guinea has remained a peaceful community due to the presence of traditional chiefs and leaders who strived to maintain a community based justice system during and after the conflict through the restorative justice. Volker (2016) has argued that the western view of cases where there is no state tends to be chaotic is false by giving an example of states in Africa where people have coexisted peacefully without a functioning state like in Somaliland and Bougainville because of the firm authority of the traditional institutions.

In recent times, however there exists the loss of direction in governance, thus the prevailing state of poverty, the frequent electoral and post-electoral strife, and the persistence of widespread

ethnic and civil conflicts. These have been described as some manifestations of the failure of the traditional institution being led by the traditional ruler. This is not to say that, conflict did not exist in the pre-colonial era, but pre-colonial Nigeria benefited immensely from the traditional system, as a result, crisis based on tribal, ethnic and religious sentiments were very minimal (Olaniran & Arigu, 2013). One of the major ways of conflict management is through information sharing and utilization.

In the management of conflict especially in rural areas such as Kalabari kingdom, information and its usage plays a major role; it is the fundamental of disasters management and societal development. Accurate, relevant and current information is an essential need that enables an individual or organization to live in peace, flourish and take positive decisions. Most information that leads to conflict management is gotten from the library and this information gotten from the library serve as the weapon or the essential tools to fight ignorance and promote literacy.

As observed by Brons (2021) the duties of traditional rulers in conflict management and peace building disappeared in comparison to Somaliland, which was colonized by Britain where they kept traditional conflict management mechanisms in place, values and norms were not disrupted. Perhaps it is because of this reason that Puntland has managed to maintain substantial stability as compared to Somaliland. As further argued by Brons (2021), traditional rulers as actors have emerged and earned a permanent place on the Somali political game board.

Zartman (2015) pointed out that:

traditional elders are generally groups which can exert considerable power and influence in Somalia but which are poorly organized and divided, hence not actors in the politically strict sense. This inhibits the role of traditional actors in the process of mediation, negotiation or reconciliation (p. 75).

The traditional governance has also been powerfully rejected in some Africa countries such as Bostwana where there is high level of corruption, poor economy and low standards of living yet the King and his council continue to live in lavish lifestyles (Carolyn, 2018). Conflict management since the conflict mostly affects the vulnerable in society who are children, women and the youth who become child soldiers or get involved in criminal activities because of idleness.

One way traditional rulers in Africa can manage conflicts is through the use of information which. In fact, Bob-Manuel (2000) in Silk (2017) contends that most peacekeeping operations in Africa conducted under the auspices of the United Nations in the last few years failed mainly because of the use of western methods of conflict resolution. Bob-Manuel (2000) in Silk (2017) further stated that, the resounding failures of the United Nations missions in Somalia, Rwanda and Angola is mostly because the political, military and sociological realities of these countries were not fully appreciated and comprehended. Bob-Manuel (2000) in Silk (2017) believes that there is a need for a new range of flexible and adaptable instruments that can take the more subjective, complex and deep-rooted needs and interests that underpin African conflicts into account, and that it is only when potential and actual conflicts in Africa are understood in their social context that they can be solved. In other words, values and beliefs, fears and suspicion, interests and needs, attitudes and actions, relationships and networks must be taken into consideration before a shared understanding of the origins and root causes of African conflicts can be developed.

In reality, every conflict is essentially local and presupposes the existence of a social relationship. Unlike western methods of conflict resolution which are punitive and adversarial, traditional African methods are integrative and reconciliatory, designed to reunite disputants and restore relationships. In a way, traditional methods of conflict management were effective mostly because they relied upon simple information tools like proverbs, songs, idioms, drums, gongs, masquerades, puppets, dances etc. By using these entertaining, relational and believable information systems, Traditional rulers were able to manage their conflicts in a timely and cost-effective manner through the involvement of family heads, elders, age grades, women groups, and oracles.

Conflicts between different groups and communities and other related crisis have recently been the other of the day in the different communities in Abua/Odual Local Government Area Rivers State, Nigeria (Oye, 2022). In fact, there is no conflict that information is not required to solve. Since conflicts usually emanate from interaction within a social context, depending on foreign methods alone to manage local conflicts may sometimes seem like using a square peg to fill a round hole. The recent militancy or cultism in Rivers State Nigeria especially in the rural areas such as in Abua/Odual, for example, may be easier and cheaper to manage if proper and trusted channels for sharing information and utilization gotten from the library can be established with the insurgency group rather than the use of military force which has so far resulted only in the loss of thousands of innocent civilian lives.

The library is a collection, organization, preservation and dissemination of information resources whither in print, non-print and E-resources (Kelvin, 2022). The library is a dynamic institution that keeps up with trends. The library perceived as a living organisation, it will continue to grow in terms of collections and accommodation of new information's, as well as the new developments in communication technology. Library plays a significant role in various communities (Omehia, 2016). Eze and Ijeoma, (2016) pointed out that the library as the main custodian of information and knowledge is in the best position to access, retrieve and disseminate information from different sources and resources and in different facets of human life. Helping traditional rulers to be well informed in matters around the society goes a long way into averting conflicts and promoting peace in their communities. While libraries have always offered their various services to traditional rulers to help them manage their conflict, the use of automated libraries has facilitated these services of given out information on conflict management to go beyond the library walls.

The findings from a study conducted by Echezona et al. (2011) indicated that libraries are very significant institutions, when social conflict arises. Maheswaran (2008) reported that although conflicts are threats to libraries, they can play an important role in creating ethnic harmony. Libraries are expected to change attitude of various communities. Ifidon and Ahiauzu (2005) studied on information and conflict prevention in Niger-Delta region of Nigeria and communities as instruments of conflict resolution, inclusion of role of community libraries in conflict resolutions were mentioned. From the study conducted by Adewuyi (2009) it was revealed that acquisition of government publications (such as gazettes, constitutions, government bulletins etc), acquisition of materials of cultural heritages such as antiquities could help in conflict management. Haruna (2009) discovered from his study that libraries could render such services

like exhibition of information resources on conflict and related topics, current awareness services, selective dissemination of information and organizing seminars, conferences, workshops and symposia as ways of bringing about conflict resolution.

Historically, libraries have played a major role in creating, accumulating, organizing and dis-seminating information that makes improve peoples skills on conflict management. As acknowledged by Echezona (2007) libraries are key players in fostering the information society, libraries can then play a role in conflict resolution.

As stated by Gisesa (2008) conflicts are based on deficiency of information, that cases of misinformation, wrong information or missing information enhance disparity in opinions and social differences which may lead to as well heighten conflicts. People in the community can be given what is called peace education. In agreement with this fact, Bhatti (2010) recognized what Harris and Synott (2002) wrote that peace education has to do with empowering people with the skills, attitudes, and knowledge to build, maintain and restore relationships at all levels of human interaction. The library is in a better position to educate people in the community both formally and informally towards promotion of peace. Information and knowledge as maintained by Ifidon and Ahiazu (2006) help to maintain attitudes of collaborative and cooperative intent and change the dynamics of negotiation from mistrust to trust.

Bhatti (2010) noted that information obviously promotes and empowers citizens' participation in the democratic process, enhances the maintenance of rule of law and creates a viable outlet for the injection of public opinion. Bhatti (2010) further stated that books help people solve their problems. The idea of healing through books is not new one; it can be traced far back in history from the days of first libraries in Greece.

Objective of the Study

The general purpose of this study is to investigate information sharing and utilization among traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State.

More specifically, the following objectives were considered for the study:

1. To find out the services provided by the library that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State.
2. To find out the special programmes organized and used by libraries to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State.
3. To ascertain any possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom towards conflict management.
4. To suggest strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom towards conflict management.

Research Questions

To guide this study the following research question was answered;

1. What are the services provided by the library that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State?
2. What are the special programmes organized and used by libraries to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State?
3. What are the possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management?
4. What are the strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management?

Significance

The findings from this study are beneficial to traditional rulers, librarians, library curriculum planners and researchers for the following reasons:

The findings of the study are useful to traditional rulers as it provide information on the importance of using resource materials from the library on to manage conflict in their various communities such as in Kalabari kingdom Rivers State. This in turn will improve the knowledge and strategies of traditional rulers on how to resolve conflict in their area.

It will be of value to librarians. As the study will produce information on how they could guide their patrons or library user's especially traditional rulers in the sense that they can apply the recommendations in improving the performance of their operations and services to the library users such as the traditional rulers. It will also enable them to be up-to-date with current practices in librarianship, thus, fully equipping them to render efficient services to library patrons especially on organizing programs on conflict management.

It will serve as a pointer to library curriculum planners in Nigeria on areas that needs development. This will help the library curriculum planners to be effective in carrying out there job.

The findings of the study will also be useful to researchers in the field of librarianship and information science by allowing them identify the gap (s) that need filling. It will also afford researchers the opportunity to see the link or relationship of this study with other studies that have been conducted in the area and enable them identify the areas that need further investigation. This work is the researcher's contribution to existing knowledge in information sharing and utilization among traditional rulers for conflicts management and will serve as a useful resource material for researchers.

Findings from this research study will also serve as a resource base to other scholars and researchers interested in the field. Data realized from the study will also serve as reference points for researchers.

Methodology

The descriptive survey research design was adopted for this study. Okawo and Walson (2016) stated that a descriptive survey design is concerned with descriptive events as they are, without any manipulation of what caused the event or what is being observed. Therefore the descriptive survey research design is suitable for the study. The population of the study consisted of all the 68 traditional rulers' Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State. The purposive sampling technique was adopted in selecting the sample. The purposive sampling technique was adopted because the traditional rulers that were selected for the sample was chosen by the judgment of the researcher. In this regard, thirty (30) traditional rulers were sampled. The instrument for data collection that was used for this study is a self-developed 20 item instrument. It was titled "Traditional Rulers' and Conflict Management Questionnaire".

The TRCMQ was used to get the desired information from the traditional rulers (respondents). The instrument was divided into two sections (A and B). Section A is called demographic data. It was for the collection of personal information from the respondents like name of community, sex, and age. While section B consisted of questions that elicited responses from the respondent's base on their perceptions, feelings and opinion of the respondents. The designed instrument was subjected to face and content validity by two experts in Department of Library and Information Science respectively for criticism and to ascertain the relatedness of the items to the various research questions which the items are required to test. They vetted and made corrections. These corrections were incorporated and contributed immensely in structuring the final draft of the instrument.

The researcher administered the questionnaires personally to the respondents. This was intended to ensure high percentage return. The researcher at each occasion explained the purpose of the study, the content of the questionnaire and the mode of completion to the respondents. Mean and standard deviation was used in analyzing the research questions.

Data Presentation and Interpretation

Data Analysis

The data was generated from the 23 out of 30 traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom that completely filled and returned the instruments administered on them representing 77 percent of the sample.

Research Question One

What are the services provided by the library that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State?

Table 1: Response on services provided by the library that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom

S/N	Statements	N	\bar{X}	SD	CM	RK
1	Libraries provide current awareness services that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom	23	2.07	0.907	2.50	D
2	Libraries organize seminars that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.	23	2	0.71	2.50	D
3	Libraries organize conferences that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.	23	2.1	0.73	2.50	D
4	Libraries organize symposia that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.	23	1.3	0.57	2.50	D

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data on table 1 showed that the mean in item 1 is 2.07, item 2 is 2, item 3 is 2.1 and mean for item 4 is 1.3. This indicates that all the items are below the criterion mean of 2.50. This means that libraries do not provide current awareness services that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries do not organize seminars that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries do not organize conferences that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom and that libraries do not organize symposia that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.

Research Question Two

What are the special programmes organized and used by libraries to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State?

Table 2: Response on special programmes organized and used by libraries to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management

S/N	Statements	N	\bar{X}	SD	CM	RK
1	peace education	23	1.5	0.61	2.50	D
2	Information and knowledge	23	1.3	0.57	2.5	D
3	Distributions of books on conflict management to traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom	23	1.8	0.67	2.50	D
4	Exhibition of information resources on conflict at the palace of the Amayanabo of Kalabari kingdom	23	1.6	0.63	2.50	D

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data on table 2 showed that mean in item 1 is 1.5, item 2 is 1.3, item 3 is 1.8, and the mean for item 4 is 1.6. This indicates that all the items in table 2 are below the criterion mean of 2.50. This means that libraries in Kalabari kingdom do not organized special programmes such as peace education, information and knowledge, distributions of books on conflict management to traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom and exhibition of information resources on conflict at the palace of the Amayanabo of Kalabari kingdom to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State.

Research Question Three

What are the possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management?

Table 3: Response on the possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management

S/N	Statements	N	\bar{X}	SD	CM	RK
1	Deficiency of information.	23	3.64	0.95	2.50	A
2	Lack of financial resources to buy information resources on conflict management	23	2.54	0.79	2.50	A
3		23	3.27	0.90	2.50	A

4	Poor knowledge on organizing peace education. Misinformation on conflict management	23	2.96	0.86	2.50	A
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Source: Field survey, 2023

The data on table 3 showed that mean in item 1 is 3.64, item 2 is 2.54, item 3 is 3.27 and the mean for item item 4 is 2.96. This indicates that all the items in table 3 are well above the criterion mean of 2.50. This indicates that the possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management are deficiency of information, lack of financial resources to buy information resources on conflict management, poor knowledge on organizing peace education and misinformation on conflict management.

Research Question Four

What are the strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management?

Table 4: Response on strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom

S/N	Statements	N	\bar{X}	SD	CM	RK
1	Libraries should educate traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom on peace education	23	3	0.7	2.50	A
2	Libraries should organize seminars that will help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.	23	3.89	0.99	2.50	A
3	Libraries should organize conferences that will support traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.	23	2.99	0.86	2.50	A
4		23	3.06	0.88	2.50	A

Libraries should organize symposia that will aid traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data on table 4 showed that mean in item 1 is 3, item 2 is 3.89, item 3 is 2.99 and mean for item 4 is 3.06. This indicates that all the items are above the criterion mean of 2.50. This means that the strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom are that libraries should educate traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom on peace education, libraries should organize seminars that will help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries should organize conferences that will support traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom and that libraries should organize symposia that will aid traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom.

Discussion of findings

The result of the study in table 1 indicated that libraries do not provide current awareness services that helps traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries do not organize seminars that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries do not organize conferences that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom and that libraries do not organize symposia that help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom. This result is in agreement with the findings of Carolyn (2018) that traditional leaders in Africa are not provided with library services such as current awareness, seminars and symposia that can that help traditional rulers for conflicts management This result is also supported by Brons (2021) who acknowledged that traditional rulers in Somalia are not provided with library services that can help in conflict management in their communities.

From the analysis of data in table 2, it was revealed that libraries in Kalabari kingdom do not organized special programmes such as peace education, information and knowledge, distributions of books on conflict management to traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom and exhibition of information resources on conflict at the palace of the Amayanabo of Kalabari kingdom to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, Rivers State. This goes to agree with the findings of Ogwari (2018) that libraries in Somalia do not organize special programmes such as peace education for traditional leaders in conflict management.

From the analysis of data in table 3, it was discovered that the possible challenges hindering libraries' services on conflict management among traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom Rivers State towards conflict management are deficiency of information, lack of financial resources to

buy information resources on conflict management, poor knowledge on organizing peace education and misinformation on conflict management. This submission is in agreement with the opinion of Brons (2021) who found that in Somalia the challenges hampering libraries' services on conflict management are deficiency of information and lack of finance.

The result from data in table 4 revealed that, the strategies for enhancing the library services given to traditional rulers from Kalabari kingdom are that libraries should educate traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom on peace education, libraries should organize seminars that will help traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom, libraries should organize conferences that will support traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom and that libraries should organize symposia that will aid traditional rulers for conflicts management in Kalabari kingdom. This findings is in line with Carolyn (2018) who opinion that traditional leaders even in this modern Africa can manage conflict through seminars, conferences and symposia organized by libraries.

Recommendation

Based on the results of the study, the researchers made the following recommendations.

1. Libraries should provide current awareness services, organize seminars organize conferences and organize symposia so as to help traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom manage conflict.
2. Libraries in Kalabari kingdom should organized special programmes such as peace education, information and knowledge, distributions of books on conflict management to traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom and exhibition of information resources on conflict at the palace of the Ayanabo of Kalabari kingdom to enlighten traditional rulers on conflicts management.
3. Librarians should regularly educate traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom on peace education.

Conclusion

Conflict management process deals with incompatibilities or disagreements arising from, for example, diverging opinions, objectives, and needs. It is the management of conflicts by which parties of a conflict come together to solve their conflict or differences. It can also be seen as a procedures attempting to resolve the underlying incompatibilities of a conflict, including attempts to get the parties to mutually accept each other's' existence. Conflict management helps parties develop common norms, rules and regulations on utterances, attitude, actions and aspirations to allow peace to reign, rather than for violence to reign. Traditional rulers in Kalabari kingdom have long been involved in conflict management by creating a balance in the process of negotiation and tribal disputes and in some cases led in restoring peace and reconciliation ventures.

The library as the main custodian of information and knowledge is in the best position to access, retrieve and disseminate information from different sources and resources and in different

facets of human life. Helping traditional rulers to be well informed in matters around the society goes a long way into averting conflicts and promoting peace in their communities.

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