

Political Marketing: Exploring the Nexus between Theory and Practice in Ethiopia (Comparative Study between Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front and Coalition for Unity and Democratic Party)

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Abstract

The main purpose of the study was to explore *the Nexus between Theory and Practice of political marketing in Ethiopia* by examining the perceptions of members of EPRDF and CUDP political party. A mixed approach with 248 and 304 usable samples were collected from top members of two political parties randomly and relevant data were gathered, presented and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. The findings revealed that there was no formal marketing practice used by both parties and no department responsible for establishment of political marketing mix elements rather they seldom undertook conventionally by simply stand for what they believe, or focused on persuading voters to agree with their preplan ideas and policies which were relating with the selling concept and product concept.

Keywords

Electorate Market, Ethiopia, Political Commitment, Political Marketing, Political Parties

1. Introduction

Ethiopia and most other African countries experience various political incidents starting from the feudal, social-

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ism to democratic system and all have to sell their idea or policy either by force to the electorates or in a free market which all can be included under the broad concept of political marketing. Political marketing is a growing phenomenon as political parties are applying marketing concepts and techniques to help and achieve their goals. It is currently argued that for major parties to win elections they need to apply political marketing and become market-oriented; understand the demands of the public, and design a “product” to suit for the electorates [1].

By recognizing the political marketing benefits, majority of developed and a few developing countries are successful in implementing and using the concept of political marketing [2] though in Ethiopia, still no formal study is conducted on how the concept of political marketing practiced and exemplifies the use to the political parties through identification of their perceived status by its electorates, employees, and partners relative to its competitors and market. Although the use of marketing enables ubiquitous to such an extent that it has become impossible areas [3] and enables to anticipate wishes of its constituencies, create offering that integrates and articulates needs of biggest possible number of electorates [4]. On this regard, this research explored the practice and nexus with theoretical concepts of political marketing by taking Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front abbreviated as EPRDF, that established in early 1989 and became the ruling political coalition Party in Ethiopia consisting of four political parties namely the Oromo Peoples’ Democratic Organization, the Amhara National Democratic Movement, the Southern Ethiopian People’s Democratic Movement and the Tigrayan People’s Liberation Front [5] and Coalition for Unity and Democracy often referred to as Kinijit as 2nd case which was also a coalition of four political parties of Ethiopia that *i.e.*, all Ethiopian Unity Party, United Ethiopian Democratic Party-Medhin Party and Rainbow Ethiopia which combined to compete for seats in the Ethiopian General Elections held on May 15, 2005 [6] as *comparative study base* and addressing of the following objectives:

- Exploring how political parties members and leaders aware and understand political marketing;
- Exploring how the political parties implement marketing mix;
- Identifying which marketing orientation is fit to Ethiopian political parties;
- Identifying how the political parties build position and manage image.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Background

Successful companies have a market orientation and are constantly engaged in creating value for their customers. In other words, marketers must anticipate their customers’ needs, and then constantly develop innovative products and services to keep their customers satisfied [7]. And the same principles that operate in the commercial marketplace hold true in the political marketplace and are constantly trying to create value for their constituents by improving the quality of life, and creating the most benefit at the smallest cost [8] that leading to the concept of political marketing which is a very useful tool for a successful pre-election campaign, and although relatively new [9] and defined as the process of parties or candidates use opinion research and environmental analysis to produce and promote a competitive offering which will realize organization aim and satisfy groups of electorate in exchange for their votes [10], science of influencing behavior which includes set of strategies and tools to trace and study public opinion before and during an election campaign [11] and the outcome of the marriage between marketing and politics [12]. Also is concerned with communicating with party members, media and prospective sources of funding as well as the electorate [13]-[15].

Furthermore, it literally becomes impossible not to incorporate a marketing orientation when running for office, or for that matter, when running the country. Politics today is increasingly being influenced by marketing, which forced to rely on marketing not only to win the election, but also to be successful [16]-[35].

2.2. Functions of Political Marketing

Functions of political marketing are pre requisites for successful political marketing management. According to [10] [36]-[40], political marketing theorist, there are 8 generic functions starting from Product Function, which consists of three core components that are party image, leadership image and policy commitments and a mindset of voter-centredness [41] [42]. Distribution Function in politics consist two aspects; that are campaign delivery and offering delivery [12]. Cost Function: refers to the management of attitudinal and behavioral barriers of voters through calculated campaign strategies [43] Communication Function, consisting function of informing the primary exchange partner of the offer and its availability and it is often seen as the heart of political marketing

[44]. News Management Function which is closely linked to communication function targeted to secondary exchange partners or intermediaries of which media is an important part [45]. Fund Raising Function consists of fund raising tasks to strengthen its capacity. Parallel Campaign Management Function describes co-coordinating campaign management activities of a political party with those of parallel organizations [46]. Internal Cohesion Management Functions, concerned with relationship with party members and activists as well as the spoke persons [47].

2.3. Key Concept in Political Marketing

Voter as a consumer: Marketers work very hard at shaping the expectations of their customers. Expectations of customers are often influenced by the gaps in thinking that exist between their own perceptions and those of the service provider. One gap exists between the expectation of the consumer and management's perceptions of those expectations. A second gap exists between quality specifications and service delivery. The third gap is between management perceptions and service quality specifications. Finally, gap can exist between the service delivery and external communications [48].

Anticipating voter needs: Success in marketing goes beyond the simple identification of the needs of consumers, but also includes the ability to forecast what those needs will be in the future. Marketers must not only be able to measure and identify the needs and wants of their customers', but they must also have a vision which enables them to anticipate what those needs will be. Whether it is a candidate, issue or product, marketing is a critical component to understanding what voters, citizens or consumers want and need. Needs may be driven by both emotion and rationality, resulting in people desiring the same product or candidate for different reasons [10] [49].

Marketing research in politics: Significance of doing research rests with the concept that not all products can be sold to all consumers. Companies use marketing research to determine what to stress to different consumer groups. Politicians are no different. Marketing research and polling are of course not new to the field of politics [50]-[65]. There are many different types of polls that candidates rely upon, including benchmark surveys (usually conducted after a candidate has decided to seek office to provide a baseline of information); trial heat surveys (used to group candidates together in hypothetical match-ups early in the campaign); tracking polls (conducted on a daily basis near election day to monitor any late shifts in support); cross-sectional and panel surveys (conducted by the major polling firms over time to provide a picture of where the electorate stands at different points during a campaign); and exit polls (carried out immediately after the voter casts his or her ballot) [66].

Market segmentation and targeting in politics: In business, market segmentation and targeting are used to identify those groups of customers who the marketer directs his product and promotional campaign towards [67]. It is used by many companies who choose not to sell their product or service to every potential customer, but only those who are likely to buy it. In politics, market segmentation has been traditionally used by each of the political parties to choose which segments of citizens they target with their appeals [67] [68].

Candidate positioning in politics: Once the multiple constituents segments have been identified, the candidate has to position himself in the electorate market. Positioning is multi-stage process that begins with the candidate assessing both his own and his opponents' strengths and weaknesses. Positioning is the vehicle which allows the candidate to convey his image to voters in the best light possible [18] [45] [69]-[78]. The image is crafted through the media by emphasizing certain personality traits of the candidate, as well as stressing various issues [79].

Image management: The image management process has also been used by political parties to manufacture "new and improved" images that more accurately align them with their changing constituencies. Along with this process has come a constant shifting back and forth of people from one party to another and a blurring of the definition of ideology in this country. In marketing terms, ideology is a "labeling" process, almost similar in nature to the use of branding for products. People have historically used ideology as a way of labeling both themselves and politicians, and then making a connection between themselves and the candidate and or political party through the use of this label. These labels are no different than the ones we see on products, as well as attached to services offered by a whole host of professionals who advertise in the hope of creating an image which defines who and what they stand for in the minds of consumers [71]. As a result of this change, ideology is now driven less by party affiliation and more by marketing, and the latest poll results indicting the mood of the electorate. Today, the labels liberal and conservative in politics are no longer defined by the political parties, but by

the candidates themselves and the images their consultants craft for them. Along with this change has come a dramatic shift in power from the political party to the consultants [10] [80].

2.4. Political Market Orientations

There are three orientations; the first one is the Market-Oriented Party (MOP) which will use various tools to understand and then respond to voter demands, but in a way that integrates the need to attend to members' needs, ideas from politicians and experts and the realities of governing [81] [82]. A MOP party views and political judgment to design its behaviour to respond to and satisfy voter demands in a way that meets their needs and wants, is supported and implemented by the internal organization, and is deliverable in government. Political marketing is used to understand the public, rather than manipulate it. Parties may use their ideology as a means to create effective solutions to public demands, but party elites try to respond to market demand, rather than trying to influence its opinion [83]. The second orientation is The Sales-Oriented Party (SOP) which aims to sell what they decide is best for the people, utilizing effective political marketing communication techniques. Market intelligence is used not to inform the product design, but to help the party persuade voters it is right [84].

Finally the Product-Oriented Party (POP) which is the most traditional approach to party behaviour and as such attracts less attention. A product-oriented party argues for what it stands for and believes in. It assumes that voters will realize that its ideas are the right ones and therefore vote for it. This type of party refuses to change its ideas or product even if it fails to gain electoral or membership support [85].

3. Material and Methods

3.1. Description of the Study Area

Ethiopia is found in the eastern part of Africa between latitudes of 3° and 18°. and found in a favorable time zone for financial markets as it is situated at GMT+3:00, 8:00 Hrs. ahead of New York and 6:00 Hrs. behind Tokyo with capital city of Addis Ababa which center for many international organization including AU and called as the second Geneva of Switzerland [86]. Mean while following the failure of military junta lead by Mengistu H/Mariam, the country start to implement democracy which allow the right to form political party, participate in national and regional election [87] [88]. Currently more than sixty parties were found in the country; among this, CUDP and EPRDF was powerful in terms of competition which led in 2005 G.C. of Ethiopian election though it raises many controversies [89].

3.2. Sampling, Data Collection and Analysis

The study used descriptive research design because it enable to get a deeper understanding and rich explorations of the actual practice or application political marketing as it develops in a real-world setting and applied both quantitative and qualitative approach because, using both methods gain the best of both and increase its reliability [90]-[92]. And purposely takes Ethiopian people's democratic revolutionary front and collusion for unity party participated in 2005 and 2010 G.C. elections based on degree of acceptance and preliminary survey.

There were 61,763 Ethiopian people's democratic revolutionary front party members working on key areas of Addis Ababa city administrations [93] that were taken as a target population and determine the respondents using sample size determination formula from www.cengage.com/highered. Based on this, A total of 270 copies of printed questionnaire were distributed at EPRDF party session time randomly and collected only 248 of them. According to [94], sample size 30 - 500 is already adequate for most of the research [76]. For the CUDP that had 130,215 registered members; used Krejcie & Morgan, tables to find a total samples of 368 at 95% confidence interval and collect 304 questionnaires.

The data were gathered personally using structured questionnaires developed based on literatures and face to face interview were also conducted with public relation office of respective parties. Data presentation and analysis of both parties were done using latest version of SPSS by applying descriptive and inferential statistical techniques supplemented with thematic analysis for interview section.

4. Results and Discussion

Gender is equally distributed across respondents. As shown in **Table 1**, most of the respondents are between 25 - 54 years old (84.7%), with higher education (79.0%) and, membership time of most of the respondents are

Table 1. Summary of the Ethiopian people's revolutionary democratic front and *Coalition* for unity Democratic Party members characteristics.

		EPRDF		CUDP	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	109	44.0	165	54.3
	Female	139	56.0	139	45.7
	Total	248	100.0	304	100.0
Age	18 - 24	6	2.4	6	2.0
	25 - 34	53	21.4	109	35.9
	35 - 44	33	13.3	33	10.9
	45 - 54	124	50.0	124	40.8
	≥55	32	12.9	32	10.5
	Total	248	100.0	304	100.0
Educational background	High school complete	10	4.0	10	3.9
	Diploma	42	16.9	50	14.7
	Degree	160	64.5	198	67.9
	Second degree	34	13.7	43	12.6
	Above second degree	2	0.8	3	0.9
	Total	248	100.0	304	100.0
Membership time	Above 15 years	144	58.1	0	0.0
	11 - 15 years	38	15.3	0	0.0
	6 - 10 years	54	21.8	42	13.8
	0 - 5 years	12	4.8	262	86.2
	Total	248	100.0	304	100.0

Source: Survey Data, 2013/14.

between 6—above 15 years (95.2%).

4.1. Descriptive Analysis

Every variable in the questionnaires were examined by several statements to investigate the variable were transformed into index by computing mean values of the responses in relation to political marketing concept practices. There were 43 items respondents could rate the practices of political marketing dimensions with theoretical perspectives. The average mean and mean values are presented in [Table 2](#), together with standard deviation for each variables which defined as “the spread or variability of the sample distribution values from the mean” [95]. If the estimated standard deviation is large, response distribution values do not fall close to the mean of the distribution, the responses are inconsistent. On the other hand, if the estimated standard deviation is small, the response distributions are close to the mean, the responses are consistent [96]. 5-point Likert scale is employed.

High means express high agreement with the statements, while low means stand for lower agreement. Therefore in this comparative description of EPRDF and CUDP, the statements that describes Marketing application in politics has an average mean of 3.3095 (SD = 0.7053), and 2.04115 (SD = 0.48737) showing the application of marketing is rare and they simply give lip service for the concepts irrespective of the importance to bring considerable advantage. The dimensions that explain practice of Anticipating voter needs had average mean of 2.8537 (SD = 0.44066) and 3.0075 (SD = 0.4905) respectively showing low values, meanwhile consideration of voters as a consumer were very low with average mean of 2.0726 (SD = 0.49570) and 2.0148 (SD = 0.4969) correspondingly; on the use of marketing research and market intelligence and its application in politics had average mean of 2.5282 (SD = 0.5570) and 1.4803 (SD = 0.5004) still low and, moreover the use, effectiveness,

Table 2. Statistics indicating the application political marketing in Ethiopian people's revolutionary democratic front and Coalition for unity democratic party.

Dimension Used to Measure Practice of Political Marketing	EPRDF		CUDP	
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.
Marketing application in politics	3.3095	0.70530	2.0411	0.48737
Requirement of marketing department for the party	2.5887	1.0533	1.4803	0.50043
Giving lip service to the marketing concept.	3.1855	0.88044	1.4803	0.50043
Determining customer needs work only business world	3.7258	0.44701	3.7237	0.44791
Better plan vs. marketing strategy application	3.7379	0.44066	1.4803	0.50043
Anticipating voter needs	2.8537	0.70910	3.0075	0.49065
Party's devotion at determining voters 'needs and wants	3.7339	0.44283	3.6184	0.48658
Party decisions should be voter oriented	2.4355	1.0816	3.6184	0.48658
Conflicts on attempting to satisfy voter's needs and objectives.	3.7177	0.45101	3.6184	0.48658
The notion of being oriented on satisfying voter needs too vague	2.4315	1.0814	3.6184	0.48658
Political objectives overriding voter needs and wants	3.7339	0.44283	1.4803	0.50043
Determining the needs and wants is a philosophy of the party	2.3468	0.96114	3.6184	0.48658
Determining voter's needs increase political commitment	1.5766	0.50321	1.4803	0.50043
The voter as a consumer	2.0726	0.49570	2.0148	0.49679
Managing gap between consumer expectation and perceptions	1.5726	0.49570	3.6184	0.48658
Managing gap on quality specifications and service delivery.	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Managing gap on perceptions and quality specifications.	3.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Managing gaps of service delivery and external communications.	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Marketing research and intelligence application in politics	2.5282	0.5570	1.4803	0.52004
The party conducts market intelligence	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Surveying to find out what electoral services will need	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Survey to assess quality of policy and performance on post election	3.3992	0.74061	1.4803	0.50043
Degree of responses to the research output	3.5685	0.49628	1.4803	0.50043
Political communication	3.0754	0.57870	2.7020	0.49250
The party understands the important of promotion	3.5685	0.49628	3.6184	0.48658
The party has alternative promotional strategies	3.5645	0.49682	3.6184	0.48658
The party is effective on implementation of strategies	3.5524	0.49825	1.4803	0.50043
The party communication designed to persuade voters	2.2863	1.06218	1.4803	0.50043
The party appear united and professional in the campaign to voters	3.4879	0.50086	3.6184	0.48657
The party tends to eschew or avoid full-scale communication	3.4960	0.50099	1.4803	0.50043
The party campaign is informed by market intelligence and targeted	1.5726	0.49570	3.6184	0.48658
Market segmentation and targeting	3.5802	0.49660	1.4803	0.50043
The party members Understanding the use of distribution	3.5040	0.51690	1.4803	0.50043
The party member know Existence of segmentation strategy	3.6184	0.48658	1.4803	0.50043
Implementation of segmentation strategies	3.6184	0.48658	1.4803	0.50043
Candidate positioning and image management	2.8166	0.49177	2.5493	0.49350
The party builds the overall party image	2.5494	0.49351	3.6184	0.48658

Continued

The party build individual members image	1.4803	0.50043	1.4803	0.50043
Manage the image, leadership image and policy	3.6184	0.48658	1.4803	0.50043
Cascading of roles for members to represent party beliefs	3.6184	0.48658	3.6184	0.48658
Reaction pattern	1.5726	0.49570	2.193	0.40958
Competitors policy and tactical change takes the party forever	1.5726	0.49570	3.6184	0.48658
Degree of response to competitors for any assault	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Degree of response for changes in competitor's policy or direction	1.5726	0.49570	1.4803	0.50043
Measurement and parameters	2.2820	0.49520	1.4803	0.50043
The party has its own parameter to measure it over all performance	3.0838	0.49004	1.4803	0.50043
Customer in the electorate market transact without incurring cost.	3.4803	0.50043	1.4803	0.50043
Product development	3.5352	0.49950	2.5493	0.49305
The party product designs have significantly done by the party itself	3.5524	0.49825	1.4803	0.50043
The policy-design process show to include party views	3.5161	0.50075	1.4803	0.50043
The party leader elected to suit the party	3.5323	0.49997	3.6184	0.48658
Degree of believes on its product without consideration of publics	3.5403	0.49938	3.6184	0.48658

Source: Survey Data, 2013/14.

continuity of political communication had average mean value of 3.0754 (SD = 0.5787) and 2.7020 (SD = 0.4925) showing gaps in its practice. Furthermore the application of market segmentation and targeting has average mean value of 3.5802 (SD = 0.4966) and 1.4803 (SD = 0.50043) besides on the effort of Candidate positioning and image management, considering competitive reaction pattern, developing measurement and parameters, product design and development had average mean of 2.8166 (SD = 0.049177), 2.5493 (SD = 0.04935), 1.5726 (SD = 0.49570), 2.193 (SD = 0.40958), 2.2820 (SD = 0.04952) 1.4803 (SD = 0.50043), 3.5352 (SD = 0.4995) and 2.5493 (SD = 0.49305) for EPRDF and CUDP respectively showing the existence of gaps on application of political marketing dimensions though there is crude justification on the benefit that could result in by using political marketing in their political practice.

where, MP = Marketing practice, AVN = Anticipating voter needs, VC = the voter as a consumer MRI =, Marketing research and market intelligence application in politics, PC = Political communication, MS = Market segmentation and targeting, CP IM = Candidate positioning and image management RP = Reaction pattern, and PD = Product development.

Table 3 shows except for anticipation of voters' need all the variables had value of greater than 0.5 for both CUPD and EPRDF confirming there is strong relationship between marketing application with effectiveness on considering voters as consumers and working to meet the demand with value of 0.727** and 0.643 respectively, application of marketing communication elements such as advertising publicities, direct and network marketing and others (0.588** and 0.781), the practice of market segmentation and targeting (0.612** and 0.541**), positioning and image management (0.600** and 0.711) and keep eyes on competitors reaction pattern (0.556** and 0.737*) and striving to come up with new product or promising idea by striving on discovering unmet need of the electorates (0.506* and 0.651*) with 0.00 significance level indicating a high statistical significance of the results.

Principal Factor Analysis (PFA) was conducted on 18 items used in the study (measured on a Likert 5-point scale; 1 = "strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree"). The extraction method used was Principal Component Analysis with Varimax Rotation.

The Initial Eigen values-first 5 factors are meaningful as they have Eigen values >1 for EPRDF. Factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 explain 37.855%, 14.021%, 12.998%, and 6.938% (**Table 4**) of the variance respectively a cumulative total of 82.095% (total acceptable) KMO score was 0.751 and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity 5985.002 (df = 153; p = 0.000) though a loading of 0.722 considered as also significant (Stevens, 1992). For CUDP there were seven factors meaningful with a value greater than 0.1 and total acceptable value of 93%. Whereas the Extraction

Table 3. Correlation between marketing practices and application on Ethiopian people's revolutionary democratic front and Coalition for unity democratic party.

		MP	AVN	VC	MRI	P C	MS	CP IM	RP	PD
MP for CUDP	Pearson Correlation	1	0.490**	0.727**	0.512**	0.588**	0.612**	0.600**	0.556**	0.506*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	N	304	304	304	304	304	304	304	304	304
MP for EPRDF	Pearson Correlation	1	0.607	0.643	0.715	0.781	0.541**	0.711	0.737*	0.651*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	N	248	248	248	248	248	248	248	248	248

Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed). Source: Survey Data, 2013/14.

Sums of Squared Loadings which have the effect of optimizing the factor structure provides similar information by equalizing the relative importance of the five factors for EPRDF and seven factors for CUDP based only on the extracted factors. And as shown in the data set before rotation factor one accounted for considerably more variance; the remaining four (37.855% compare to 14%, 12.998%, 10.283% and 6.938% respectively) however after rotation it account for only 29.307 of variance compared to 16.682%, 14%, 135%, 11.511% and 10.460% respectively this leads us to the conclusion that a five factor solution will probably be adequate for application of political marketing data in case of EPRDF however in case of CUDP seven of them were sufficient for its application.

4.2. Qualitative Analysis

Though both parties did not have any marketing department, the task of marketing such as promotion, campaign management delivery (offer delivery and campaign delivery), searching for member, need identification and fund raising is under taken by bureau of regional departments with the collaboration of communication bureau of the parties.

Currently, EPRDF has 5.2 million members throughout the country who live with the societies and playing; an intelligence role on identifications of the society's problem. Furthermore, in order to chalked out again BORD with collaboration of Kebeles leaders and elders peoples conduct public secession to deal with problems and follow the following procedures (**Figure 1**) to recognize needs of the electorates and potential electorates.

Although experiencing of such type of communication with the public's were helps to identify existing problems, but regarding to identifications of the electorates latent demand there are difficulties unless intensive surveying and intelligence task done.

On the segmentations of the electorates market, EPRDF applied demographic and geographic bases even if CUDP had no a clear segmentation line rather swing left to right. The major focused area of the EPRDF is rural dwellers because they cover 85% of the populations (**Figure 2**). However, according to Cui & Choudry, such big segmentation is viewed as anti marketing because of not considering the customer as a unique individual but as standardized within the segments. In contrary to this, [96] argue that some organizations need to have larger segments and they refer to this as counter-segmentation so that they can be beneficiary over cost reduction.

The second segmentation is focused on urban dwellers by highly emphasising on poor dwellers specifically on women's and youths to achieve objectives through organizing them in to females (set) leagues and youth leagues. Bannon portray that: all markets are not similar in terms of their desired outcomes, motives and behaviors. Understanding of such special segment group who covers the larger population segment could play a great role in campaign management. Also it is clear that Market is not a mass of potential customers all with the same values, desires, aspirations and ability to be a customer for any given organizations and using of such segmentation in defined manner help the party over the acquisition and retaining of loyal customers in the electorates market.

To communicate their ideas, policies or directions, both parties used print Medias such as magazine, news paper, before the election campaign is began. However, during the campaign period the both uses TV, radio, sticker, pamphlet, hats and others that have the logo of the party even uses SMS to motivate the peoples to elect the party in addition to utilizing of public relation as means of penetrating the electorates market.

Table 4. Factor analysis on marketing practices and application on Ethiopian people's revolutionary democratic front and Coalition for unity democratic party.

comp	Total Variance Explained																	
	Initial Eigen values						Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings						Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings					
	Total		% of Variance		Cumulative %		Total		% of Variance		Cumulative %		Total		% of Variance		Cumulative %	
	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF	CUDP	EPRDF
1	8.236	6.814	34.317	37.855	34.317	37.855	8.236	6.814	34.317	37.855	34.317	37.855	6.105	5.275	25.438	29.307	25.438	29.307
2	6.056	2.524	25.233	14.021	59.550	51.876	6.056	2.524	25.233	14.021	59.550	51.876	5.182	3.003	21.591	16.682	47.029	45.989
3	2.298	2.340	9.573	12.998	69.123	64.874	2.298	2.340	9.573	12.998	69.123	64.874	3.194	2.544	13.309	14.135	60.338	60.124
4	1.916	1.851	7.984	10.283	77.107	75.157	1.916	1.851	7.984	10.283	77.107	75.157	2.298	2.072	9.574	11.511	69.911	71.635
5	1.665	1.249	6.938	6.938	84.046	82.095	1.665	1.249	6.938	6.938	84.046	82.095	1.944	1.883	8.099	10.460	78.010	82.095
6	1.185	0.954	4.938	5.302	88.983	87.398	1.185		4.938		88.983		1.934		8.060		86.070	
7	1.001	0.870	4.172	4.833	93.155	92.230	1.001		4.172		93.155		1.700		7.085		93.155	
8	0.444	0.406	1.851	2.257	95.006	94.488												
9	0.354	0.350	1.475	1.946	96.481	96.434												
10	0.223	0.179	0.931	0.995	97.412	97.429												
11	0.177	0.157	0.737	0.873	98.149	98.302												
12	0.112	0.092	0.468	0.512	98.617	98.814												
13	0.095	0.063	0.394	0.350	99.011	99.164												
14	0.065	0.057	0.272	0.319	99.283	99.483												
15	0.062	0.042	0.258	0.234	99.540	99.717												
16	0.042	0.026	0.175	0.145	99.715	99.861												
17	0.026	0.017	0.107	0.096	99.822	99.957												
18	0.019	0.008	0.081	0.043	99.903	100.000												

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis. Source: Survey Data, 2013/14.

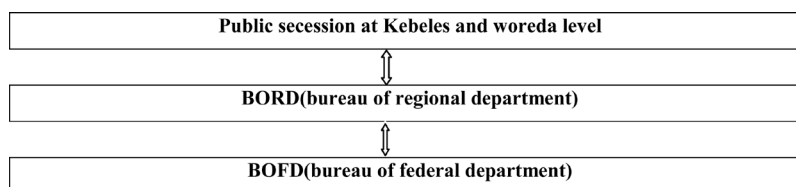


Figure 1. Process of need recognition in case of EPRDF source: Interview data 2013/14.

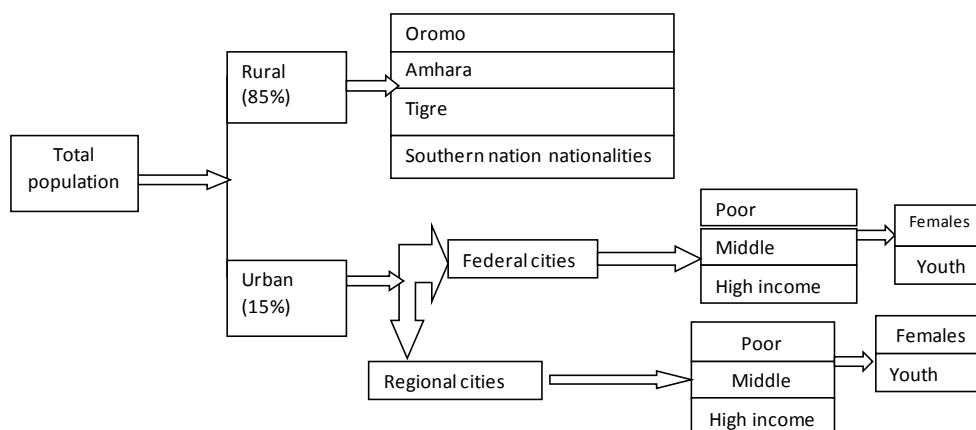


Figure 2. EPRDF segmentation Practices using geographic and demographic bases Sources: Interview data. 2013/14.

Though there is no clear parameters used to measure their act for CUDP, EPRDF employ dimension like following the principles of federalism, secularism, equality, unity and diversity, striving for national interest and considering poverty as the only enemy of Ethiopia in addition to parameters like focused on empowering females identification of the needy (child and disabilities), expansion of education to reduce illiteracy, increase accessibility health facilities, work on infrastructure development and believe on the principle of There is no permanent friendship in the absence of permanent benefit “are also the party philosophy”. Finally EPRDF were not striving on building a single candidate name in the name of the party rather striving over building of overall image but not in case of CUDP that builds individual as well as organizational brand by endorsing special promotional strategies such as providing of well educated and famous persons as brand celebrities.

5. Discussion and Recommendation

5.1. Discussion

Political marketing is a very useful tool for a successful pre-election campaign, and although relatively new, it has been practiced in one form or another for some time [9]. Parties that aware of its true meaning should try to be more inclusive though there are challenges country like Ethiopia where it has fixed days and years on which the election undertaken, once the writ is dropped; there are normally only a few month in which to campaign before Election Days. This brief time period makes it difficult for new or unknown candidates to gain the visibility they need by practicing the marketing task unless they already have a high profile and form strong share of mind heart and market. Having this the following conclusions is extracted from the three analysis part of the study;

The average mean score for marketing application in politics which had four variables = 3.3095 for EPRDF and 2.0411 for CUDP showing there is common understanding of marketing importance in politics by Ethiopian people’s revolutionary party and a low understanding by collusion for unity party members. Whereas; on anticipating voter needs, that had seven variables, EPRDF score average mean of 2.8537 reflecting gaps on identifying and feeling voters need and become market orientidness including gaps devotion of member’s party to feel demand of electorates. In contrary the average means score for CUDP was 3.1907 somewhat at positive level of anticipating needs though gaps are still there.

On consideration of voter as a consumers that includes Managing gap between consumer expectation and perceptions, service delivery and external communications, perceptions and quality specifications, quality specifications and service delivery with mean value of 2.0726 shows the reluctant practice of EPRDF on recognizing electorates market customers that gives vote in exchange to the promising ideas or products. Mean while CUDP also score low average mean values (2.0148) existence of optimizing expectation through delivering quality service and communications. Furthermore, for the application of Marketing research and intelligence in politics which includes four variables, both parties has means sore of 2.5282 and 1.4803 showing low practice of research and intelligence services. And concerning to Political communication that have seven variables, have means score of 3.0754 for EPRDF showing there is understanding and application though gaps are still existed. Also CUDP score average mean of 2.0148 that reflect on low understanding application of marketing communication tools. Meanwhile, on Market segmentation and targeting understanding, application and consistency as well effectively, average means score = 3.5802 and 1.4803 for both parties showing EPRDF has in a good position on application and usage of the concept but not CUDP

Finally on Candidate positioning and image management with mean score of 2.8166 showing gaps on practice of branding elements, reaction pattern with mean of 1.5726 Measurement and parameters with mean = 2.2820 shows EPRDF has perform at low level in all area specially on the understanding and reflecting to the competitors was very low however on Product development and design the means score shows (3.5352) EPRDF has largely develop product without considering the need of the voters despite the interview part portray the party developing the product based on the need of the voters. Similarly CUDP also not considering what consumer really need or anticipation of need rather they develop their own product and force strive to convince the voters with the mean score of 2.3966. Generally, both parties have no conducting return on investment which identify the electorate market satisfaction or conduct research over the policy whether the electorates are satisfied or yet not happy and both parties give high emphasis to the internal politics compare to the external customers.

Also the correlation analysis shows there were high correlation between the application of promotion with winning election, segmentation with winning election, conducting research and having intelligence, understanding reaction pattern of competitor, considering voter as a consumer, and anticipating need and, product development at 0.00 significant level. Not only this for EPRDF the diagonal of anti image correlation matrix which show sample adequacy and KMO are all above 0.5 and the R square that indicate all represents the proportion of variance of each item explained by the factors except one (existence of marketing department within the party) have value of greater than 0.5. Furthermore, the study extracted five components for EPRDF seven for CUDP with the total Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings value of 82.095% and 93% respectively. The reliability statistics for both parties analysis have value of 0.872 for EPRDF and 0.983 for CUDP showing the study output is reliable and consistence.

5.2. Conclusion

In overall, EPRDF considers the heart beat of the voter despite the fact of failure to address what the electorate market need. They simply reflect what the party ideology seams, representing social movement during election time, unresponsive to social change because of many of the strategy developed by the top political leaders and appointees and implemented by other and finally they are striving for vote production and mass mobilization through campaigns. Although the party design product ideas accordingly based on internal policy, intra and party acceptability in addition to identifying voter demands to some extent and assessing deliverability of demanded policies even if it will have its own effect over the minority use communication medias and political intelligences, it is possible to categorize the party in between the product oriented type of party and market oriented party because of the party take elements both models [80]. Meanwhile the EPRDF implement segmentation. “Parties may simply stand for what they believe in, or focus on persuading voters to agree with them, or change their behavior to follow voters’ opinions”. Having this, CUDP is striving over building of intra-organizational choice of policies, using of advertising and communication techniques to sell itself and get the power with a goal of persuasion in order to get the votes of the electorates, that makes them as sales oriented party despite the fact of failure to conduct research to understand what they need and want and having of thought of customers does not know what they need and want and to create a demand for the electorate which is against the marketing concept as well as the selling concept, believe and follow consumers are irrational at least as often as rational, motivated in large degree by emotions, habits and prejudices differing widely in personality structure, in

aspirations, ideals and buying behaviors. Based on this the party fails between selling and market oriented model.

5.3. Recommendation

Peoples votes for peoples, not just party's sake or platforms; The more voters feel they have a personal connection to a particular candidates and parties, the more likely they give extra consideration especially if they are part of the ever-growing "undecided" category. Making that personal and political connection, however, is a challenge especially in Ethiopia where campaigns typically only last a few months from the writ calling for a vote to the actual Election Day and not actually having effective political marketing practice rather practicing selling concepts in their practice. To solve such issue for both federal and provincial candidates, they must work on branding, positioning and need intensively made campaign delivery and need to out from traditional practice of election and electorates cultivation that highly focusing on shading of black color and creating fear, anxiety by raising past history that specifically having black scare on certain ethnic groups. And need to effectively recognize what a promising idea do voters, need? How they want to serve by those groups and even they need to highly engaged in public relation works and cultivate public meeting culture to apply outside in approach and need to engage in philanthropic activities and should;

- Consult political marketing expertise or setup department that help to reach electorates market in a short period with limited budget and time by identifying the electorates need, want as well demand and be able to increase their chances of success or mentioning current positions.
- strive on understanding the principles of political marketing that helps parties to win consistently the heart and mind of electorates in order to survive in this new kind of electoral market, where voters act like consumers, parties act like businesses. Last but not list, knowingly or unknowingly for years politicians have relied on basic marketing skills-campaign buttons, posters, political rallies and campaign speeches to familiarize voters with a name, a party, and a platform that makes the use of marketing in politics is indispensable and understanding how it works and implanting it can help all parties regardless of their orientation in addition to its ability of supporting for the development of comprehensive voting system that make the citizen to feel included in each action.

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