Environmental Beliefs and Values of Borana Oromo in Ethiopia: A Focus on Narratives
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Background
The Borana, who live mainly in southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya, are an Oromo-speaking people. They are estimated to number at least 300,000. About a quarter of them roam in Kenya (Boakye and Oyserman, 2007:56). According to Halket (2007:64), the Borana of southern Ethiopia, one of the many pastoral societies in eastern Africa, have gone through several phases in the history of pastoral development.

Results and Discussion
This study explored dominant environmental beliefs and values of the community as conveyed in its ecological narratives. It was guided by the following research questions:

What are the dominant environmental beliefs of the community as conveyed in its ecological narratives?

What are the dominant environmental values of the community as implied in the narratives?

What are the varieties of discourses that the community members use to situate themselves within the natural environment?

Environmental Beliefs and Values

- Necessity and Survival
- Scarcity and Security
- Hopelessness
- Seniority
- Obedience and Disobedience
- Rituals
- Ideology of Communalism
- Ideology of Interdependence
- Environmental Ideology

Ritual Ceremony of the Borana People

Borana Pastoralism

Methods
The methodology for this study was based on Fairclough’s three-dimensional model of discourse analysis, which considers discourse as a text, as a discursive practice, and as a social practice, each of which is interrelated to the larger social, economic, political, military contexts in which they find themselves.