# Personal stories of male transitions to adulthood in Adele Keke, Kersa wereda, East Harerghe

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##  Rich young man 30s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| $$hhd head$$ | $$M$$ | 28 |
| $$wife$$ | $$F$$ | 25 |
| $$mother$$ | $$F$$ | 50 |
| $$son$$ | $$M$$ | 12 |
| $$son$$ | $$M$$ | 10 |
| $$daughter$$ | $$F$$ | 8 |
| $$daughter$$ | $$F$$ | 7 |
| $$son$$ | $$M$$ | 2 |
| $$sister$$ | $$F$$ | 18 |

### Youth in the community

As this young male responded, there are different opportunities and challenges facing boys in Adele Keke as they grow up these days. For example, there are some youths who completed their secondary school education but are sitting idle as they did not get good enough results in their examinations. However, recently the government has organised them to work together but they still have not started working. On the other hand, some youths became employed in government offices and many others are students. As for him, when he was a teen, there was only one school in Adele Keke; but now four schools are operating there. There is also shortage of land for youths these days. When he was a teen, there was excess land in the kebele and it was accessible for youths and others.

5 years ago, there were re-settlement opportunities for the members of the community including youths but this has recently been stopped. There are also different work opportunities for youths in the kebele as well as out of the kebele but it is not enough as he mentioned.

Regarding getting married, there are good opportunities for youths as they can get married when they have completed their education and when they get good work. But the problem is that some youths get married before they complete their education, some even before they go to high school and some in the high school. Many youths still do not get married until they complete their education and get a job. He also said that there are some youths with independent households and the opportunity they have is that they are able to change their livelihood if they work very hard and if they do this they do not have any problem. The same holds true for having children. So far, no youth faced serious problems on this as they can feed and buy clothes for their children in spite of the economic problems they have. Youths in Adele Keke participate in some ways in different development activities in the community. The problem is that sometimes they do not have interest to participate in the community. He emphasised that when he was a teen, as the majority of the youths were farmers and herders, they fully participated in community affairs but nowadays some youths are not ready to participate in the community as they lack awareness and simply follow their own ways. The same holds true for religious participation. This youth highlighted that the government promised the youths to give them credits after they are organised in groups/teams but later, they are not getting credits on time and this is creating great problems the lives of the youths in the kebele.

He said that the opportunities and problems facing teenage boys are similar to those of adolescent girls and it holds true for them too.

###  Your life story

This youth was born in Adele Tabia. He lived and grew up in this area playing together with other children until the age of 10. He lived together with his brothers, sisters, mother and father in the household. He experienced one major shock when he was growing up as his elder brother died. He is now married and has moved to his own house. During his childhood, he also experienced serious mental illness but as he grew older, he became free from this illness and now he is fully healthy. Of course it had a great effect on his life during that time but now as he is cured it has no effect on his life.

He started school in 1986 EC and attended up to grade 6. But he terminated it and now he is a farmer. He wants to educate his children but has no plan to resume his education as he has to work on his farm. He started his work by farming at the age of 16 as soon as he stopped his education. This was to help his father and soon he got married and started to lead his household independently as he got a land share from his father. The education has helped him to plan his work and save and use money. It also helped him to read newspapers and other documents. He showed interest in girls at the age of 16 and even had a girlfriend when he was 16, but he had no sex with her as the culture does not permit youths to have sex before marriage. He started sex when he married his current wife. He mentioned that his mother and father were keen on him getting married as he is the oldest child for them; as a result he got married at the age of 22 and became the head of the household when his father died. He got his first child in 1991 EC and now has 5 children. There was no problem and he is now living in his own house in Adele Tabia. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are: the kebele chair (his uncle), a close relative, and two sisters.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

His children are attending school at Adele Keke primary school. But he complained that there is a shortage of teachers, especially in science fields. He has been using irrigation for his chat, potatoes, and other vegetables as he has constructed a water point and his farm and his house is also near the Adele lake by the side of the main asphalt highway. He also once received credit of 1,500 birr from the Oromia Credit and Saving Organisation and repaid the debt after a year. He hired labourers for his farm and also bought fertiliser with the money. Until recently, there was no youth cooperative in the kebele; but recently, the youth cooperative known as ‘Garad-Adele Youth Cooperative’ which involves 12 youth members was inaugurated and is in process to start working. He is a member of this cooperative and it has planned to bring and sell goods such as corrugated iron sheets, nails, maize, sorghum, fertiliser, wheat, soap, and the like. His family has been also using health extension packages. For example, he has constructed a separate house for livestock and has also constructed a good latrine. In the future he plans to install a bathroom for his household. Every six months mosquito killing pesticides are applied to the houses of the village and there are no mosquitoes. There is also livestock vaccination once in three months.

Regarding political intervention, he is a member of the ruling party. He became a member 2 years ago and he is still an active member and recently he received 15 days training in the kebele and he has been working as a sub-kebele official and working to mobilise the community on the development activities together with the other kebele and sub-kebele officials. He is currently, working as the leader of the kebele development committee in his village (i.e. Adele Tabia). He is also a leader of the 1-5 cell networks under this development team. He also participates in the youth organisations like the ‘Garad-Adele youth cooperative’. However, currently he withdrew from iddir and equb as he is helping his sister who is attending her diploma programme and as a result, he lacked money. There have been no cultural interventions such as concerning HTPs that affected his household’s livelihood.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to rear Holstein Friesian breeds widely and this is his number one priority, and also rearing poultry as a second priority. He also wants to work on his farm and also to do business with his minibus. But his minibus was recently damaged and it was in a garage in Dire Dawa town and he hopes that it will soon be out and start working. Of course, he has concrete plan to achieve these aspirations . For instance, the house for the Holstein Friesians has already been constructed. He also aspires for the community to live in peace and prosperity.

## Middle wealth young man 30s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| household head | M | 32 |
| wife | F | 27 |
| son | M | 9 |
| son | M | 10 months |
| daughter | F | 7 |
| daughter | F | 5 |
| daughter | F | 3 |

### Youth in the community

This middle wealth youth said that there are no as such observed problems facing boys in their late teens. According to him, maybe they have different problems in their family’s home. However, they have different opportunities like access to schools, no discrimination, on girls and the like. Regarding access to land, though there is acute shortage of land in the kebele, some youths do not plough their lands on time to get a good harvest. So, if they do this on time, they have a good opportunity to get a good harvest. However, he mentioned that those youths especially who got married and own land, do not get improved seeds and fertiliser on time and this might be a problem for them. Also, some youths do not work hard to get a good job. For example, some simply quarrel with each other and other people and as a result, could not have a job opportunity. Some youths who do not have good economy could not marry a wife and as a result, go for abduction. But, when they become economically independent, they are able to marry a wife. If they work hard, they can form an independent household and there is no problem in this aspect. There is no problem for youths regarding community participation and on religion, they have access to mosques, sheiks and madrassa school but some youths are not active religious followers.

As he stated, the same applies for the adolescent girls in the kebele.

According to him, when he was a teen, there was only one school in Adele Keke; but now four schools are operating there. There is also shortage of land for youths these days. When he was a teen, there was excess land in the kebele and it was accessible to youths and others. 5 years ago, there were re-settlement opportunities for the members of the community including youths but this has recently been stopped. There are also different work opportunities for youths in the kebele as well as out of the kebele but they are not enough as he mentioned.

Regarding getting married, there are good opportunities for youths as they can get married when they have completed their education and when they get good work. But the problem is that some youths get married before they complete their education, some even before they go to high school and some in high school. Many youths still do not get married until they complete their education and get a job. He also said that there are some youths with independent households and the opportunity they have is that they are able to change their livelihood if they work very hard and if they do this they do not have any problem. The same holds true for having children. So far, no youth faced serious problems on this as they can feed and buy clothes for their children in spite of the economic problems they have. Youths in Adele Keke participate in some ways in different development activities in the community. The problem is that sometimes they do not have interest to participate in the community. He emphasised that when he was a teen, as the majority of the youths were farmers and herders, they fully participated in community affairs but nowadays some youths are not ready to participate in the community as they lack awareness and simply follow their own ways. The same holds true for religious participation. This youth highlighted that the government promised to give the youths credits after they organised in groups/teams but later, they are not getting credits on time and this is creating great problems in the lives of the youths in the kebele.

He said that the opportunities and problems facing teenage boys are similar to those of adolescent girls and it holds true for them too.

### Your life story

He was born in Gelan village in Adele Keke and grew up in this area by playing together with other children and also by looking after cattle until the age of 12. He lived together with his brothers, sisters, mother and father in the household. He experienced one major shock when he was growing up as his father died when he was a teenager. He is now married and has moved to his own house. During his childhood, he also experienced no serious mental illness. But as he grew up sometimes he experienced minor illnesses. He was living with his mother until he got married but when he married, he moved to his own house.

 He started school in 1978 EC and attended up to grade 4. But he terminated his education when the Derg fell and started his own business. He started farming by planting chat, sorghum, maize, beans and the like starting from the age of 15. His education has helped him to plan his farm work and save and use money properly. It also helped him to read different documents. He showed interest in girls at the age of 15 and even had a girlfriend when he was 15, but he had no sexual intercourse with her as the culture does not prohibit youths to have it before marriage. He simply used to chat with her without having sex and as a result there was no problem. He started sexual intercourse when he married his first wife. But, he stayed with her only 4 months and then they divorced each other. He mentioned that he married his second wife as he himself chose her and currently they are living together and have 5 children. He said that as it is very difficult to live without a wife, and he married his second wife. His family was keen on him getting married and he got married in 1993 EC (i.e. both marriages). He got the first child in 1995 EC and now has 5 children. There was no problem for his wife during the births and now they are living in their own house in Adele Tabia village. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are the Coca Cola distribution owner, and his brother; they advise each other on the various issues.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He mentioned that when he grew up there was only one school in the kebele, i.e. Adele Primary School which is found in Ganda Elemo (Ganda=Village) where he attended his primary education up to grade 4. When he grew up, there was no irrigation except the concept of irrigation. There were no water points except the lake and the rain water for irrigation. It is recently that water points have been introduced to the kebele. There was no cooperative during his teenage years. There was no health intervention during that time and the community went to Haramaya when they got sick. Regarding political interventions, the EPRDF formed the government after the fall of the Derg and it started to introduce different political interventions such as the use of Oromiffa in education, government offices and media. There were no cultural interventions like interventions on HTPs as these practices have been stopped in the kebele recently.

Concerning his participation in the community, he responded that he has currently paid 25 birr for land tax for a year. In addition, he contributed 50 birr cash for Oromia Development Association last year. He added that the community also voluntarily contributes some money and give it to militias on the occasions of festivities to buy things like chat, cigarettes, and the like. He also participates in Gere (i.e. development teams) as well as 1-5 cell networks and participates in party meetings as he is a member of the ruling party. He also actively participates in social affairs like iddir and equb in his village. Different government interventions are playing an important role in his household’s life. For example, there are different schools in the kebele as opposed to the former times where there was only one school in the kebele, his children are attending primary school in Adele Keke and go for high school to Kampo in Haramaya wereda which is very near to the kebele. He is also using irrigation for his chat and also has been growing vegetables like onions, potatoes, radishes, and the like as he has constructed one water point for both himself and his brother. He also received credit of 1000, 1200, 2000 and 3000 birr in four terms from Oromia Credit and Saving Organisation and used it to buy improved seeds and fertilisers and to construct a water point. He backed the debt with the loan or interest. He also bought fuel for the motor that he uses for pumping water for irrigation. This has changed his household’s livelihood greatly. He stated that there is no youth cooperative in the kebele. There has also been extensive education and awareness and vaccination by the health extension workers and this has changed his household’s livelihood. He has already constructed his own latrine in his village (i.e. ganda Galan). He said that formerly, he was living in Gelan village but recently he constructed his house in Adele Tabia and moved here; but he has not yet constructed a latrine in his new house in Tabia but he wants to construct it soon.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He has good aspirations. For example, he aspires to:

- teach his children in a good manner

- work hard and become an investor. In addition, he aspires for the community to develop their own households by helping each other and to see Adele Tabia to be developed into a town. He has concrete plans to fulfil this and it includes that as he is a member of the youth cooperative and all the 12 members of the cooperative want to work hard and benefit themselves and then benefit the community and become investors.

## Poor young man 30s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| Household head | M | 31 |
| wife | F | 27 |
| son | M | 10 |
| son | M | 8 |
| daughter | F | 5 |
| daughter | F | 3 |
| daughter | F | 1 |

### Youth in the community

This poor young man responded that there are different opportunities and challenges facing boys in Adele Keke as they grow up these days. For example, the schools are expanding in the kebele these days and the youths are getting education in their near localities. However, the problem is that the community lacks awareness to send their children to school. The youths also lack follow up from their families. As he said, the youths do not have access to land as there is a shortage of land in the area. The other related problem is that they do not plough effectively and use even the small land at hand. They need to work hard to use the small lands available to them. The work chance that the youths in Adele have is primarily farming as there are no other work opportunities there. There are some youths who have completed their education but who could not get the necessary result to go to college/university and are simply sitting with their families in the kebele. On finding a wife, and getting married, there are no problems as such for youths but the major problem in connection with marriage is that some youths who married quarrel with each other over minor issues and as a result, immediately run to court to get divorced. On the other hand, these youths have the opportunity to get married as they have access to women. Some youths get married when they are living with their families and then have many children and as a result cause trouble to themselves and their families. Maybe the opportunity they have is that if the government coordinates and groups them together, they have wide opportunities to work together and improve their households’ livelihoods. Regarding having children, formerly, they used to bear as many children as possible, but now they have the opportunity to use family planning. He also stated that the adolescents participate in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir’ and other community development activities and therefore, there is no problem for these adolescents on community participation. Most youths participate in religious affairs but some do not as modernisation has been increasing. He said that the opportunities and problems that adolescent boys and girls have are similar but there are a few differences. For example, girls participate less than boys in education because their families want them to get married and do domestic work at home. As a result, some women terminate their education and get married.

### Your life story

He was born in Adele Keke, ganda Kucho, and he used to keep goats from the age of 6 to 10, farming from 10-12. Starting from the age of 13, he was farming and attending his education. During his teenage years, he was living with his father, mother and his sisters. During his teenage years, his family suffered critically from the lack of the helpers as his father was too old to work. He lived with his family before he left home when he got married and he did not experience any serious illness. He entered school in 1988 EC and completed grade 10. When he was in the school, he used to like his school. He got married while he was at school but he managed to complete grade 10. At the same time, he was working on his farm and it was farming which affected his education rather than his marriage. Recently, he went to Adama University, Asella campus, and took training on livestock breeding or AI (Artificial Insemination) for 45 days but he still has not started working as the equipment for this purpose is not available to him from the wereda. He started an interest in girls from the age of 15. However, he did not have any friend prior to his wife. He got married in 1993 EC and started sex when he married to his current wife and as a result, there was no problem. He had no experience of sex before that time. He has five children and got the first child in 1994 EC There was no problem for his wife during the births and now they are living in their own house in Kucho village in Adele Keke. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are: his father, mother and wife. He has one qindi of land that his father has shared to him.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He responded that formerly there was only one primary school in the kebele but now four have been constructed. He attended his primary school (1-4 grades) in Adele Primary school and 5-7 in Kampo, Haramaya higher primary school. Therefore, this has helped him and the community greatly as their children accessed the schools nearby and they are attending their education without any problems. He has been using irrigation for his chat farm. When he was a teenager, there was no concept of irrigation in the community. The only option was rainwater but recently, the concept and practical use of irrigation have been introduced to the community. Accordingly, the community has constructed water points and bought water pumps and are using irrigation for their chat farms. This poor youth of course does not have his own motor pump but is using his father’s motor pump and irrigating his own chat. Therefore, this has improved his household’s livelihood to some extent. But the problem for him is that his farm is very far from the tabia where the water for irrigation comes and this has created a great problem for him to cover all the costs for the irrigation. He also stated that he did not receive credit so far and has no Holstein Friesian breed livestock as he could not buy them. He is not a member or user of any cooperative in the kebele. He is not using fertiliser or improved seeds as he is poor and could not afford to buy them. But his father uses fertiliser and improved seeds. Formerly, when he was a teenager, there were no grinding mills in the area and as a result, women used to grind cereals by putting the grain in the traditional grinding implement and prepare traditional foods like ‘Lafiso’ in local Oromiffa (a thick/thin injera made of sorghum). Now however, the grinding mills are many in the kebele and people are using them and this is also a great change that recently has come to the community. In the former times, there was no latrine in each village and all the people in the kebele used to excrete faeces in the farms under the chat. But now, the majority except some people have constructed latrines and are using them. Babies are also using a pot for urine and faeces. Due to the lack of latrines in the former times, people used to contract different diseases such as diarrhoea and as a result many people died in the kebele. Now it is safe as the hygiene and sanitation of the people and environment has been improved. Regarding the political interventions, formerly there was corruption in the kebele but recently it has been reduced. The community uses its own language, culture, and self-administration. There are no HTPs and thus no cultural interventions.

He has 1 qindi of land and pays tax of 26 birr. He also pays 12 birr for party membership and 70 birr for Oromia Development Association. This poor youth also participates in different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. For example, currently, he is a village leader and actively participates in development teams and 1-5 networks. He also actively participates in community organisations like iddir and equb. Currently, he is teaching basic Adult Education in his village. As there are no youth organisations in the kebele, there is no participation in this respect. As explained above under question Government interventions which have affected your life in detail, all the current government interventions are playing an important role in his household’s livelihood. For further understanding, please read the detailed description presented above.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to work hard and improve his household’s livelihood more and in the future, he wants to build a house in Adele Tabia. To achieve his future plans, he has concrete plans. For example, he has started to construct a water point which is a major source for his chat irrigation which in turn will bring money to materialise his other future plans and then improve his household’s life style. His aspiration for the community is that he wants to teach the community the Basic Adult Education so as to help them read and write, apply different government interventions like health extension packages, and implement them well.

## Rich young man mid-20s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| household head | M | 25 |
| wife | F | 24 |
| son | M | 7 |
| daughter | F | 5 |
| son | M | 4 |
| son | M | 3 |
| son | M | 1 |

### Youth in the community

This rich young man in his mid-20s responded that there are different opportunities and challenges facing boys in Adele Keke as they grow up these days. For instance, there are schools in the kebele these days and the youths are accessing schools in their near localities. Some go to primary schools in Adele Keke, some also go to Adele Kampo (Haramaya wereda) for primary and high school and still others go to Kersa and Dangago for high school using different methods of transport. Some youths also go to colleges/universities such as Haramaya, Addis Ababa, Jimma and the like. However, the problem is that the community lack awareness to send their children to school. In addition to this, some youths do not have an interest to go to school and some who have interest lack financial support especially if their families are poor. The youths also lack follow up from their families. The youths also do not have access to land as there is shortage of land in Adele Keke kebele. The land available in the kebele is not even enough for the families, let alone for the youths. So they are expected to attend their education hard to improve their livelihood and become economically independent. Regarding work, there are a lot of problems for youths. For example, some youths go for labour work to different towns like Haramaya and Aweday, and come back after some time. However, there are some opportunities for youths in the kebele as well as elsewhere in terms of work or jobs. Some youths recently grouped together and formed a youth cooperative in the kebele. Concerning finding a wife and getting married, there are some problems for youths as some youths do not have enough wealth to support their livelihood when they get married. As a result, they get married in their late 30s and 40s. On the other hand, those youths who have enough wealth could get married early and bear children and educate them before they get older to support them.

Regarding having children, some youths who are poor but who have children get problems. For instance, their children do not have good and enough food, no clothes, uniforms or other needs to support their education. But the opportunity is that children replace the family when they die as they keep the wealth of their family as their family, especially father and mother, is seen in the children. The same problem holds true when they form independent households but they still have the opportunity that they would get the land share and this would minimises disputes among children especially in the families with large households. He also stated that adolescent participate in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir’ and other community development activities and therefore, there is no problem with these adolescents in community participation. Most youths participate in religious affairs and there have been no observed problems for youths in this respect in the kebele. As he mentioned, some youths contribute money for the construction of mosque and other matters even more than their families.

### Your life story

He was born in Adele Keke, Gelan village and he used work under his father between the ages of 6 to 10 in which he was taught about farming. During his teenage period, he lived with his father, mother, brothers and sisters. His father died when he was 12. But his father had shared the land between his four brothers before he died. He did this to avoid conflicts among his brothers including himself. After the death of his father, it was his mother who reared all his brothers and sisters and it was he who got married before his other brothers. He lived with his family before he left home by getting married. He of course constructed his house before he got married and as soon as he got married he moved to his own house. He had no serious illness in his life. He started school in 1997 EC and completed grade 3. When he was in the school, he used to like his school but he terminated after grade 3 as he started to work as a barber and planned to open a shop in addition to farming. He stated that he wants to continue his education in the future especially if there is an evening programme in Adele Keke primary school.

He fully and widely started his household’s farming when he got married but before that he was farming a little with his brother. He also started shop work three years ago in 2002 EC and his education has helped him a lot in his shop business in such a way that he can read and write people’s names, in selling and calculating costs and the like. He started an interest in girls from the age of 15. For example, he used to play with girls during the wedding ceremonies, during the Muslim festivities like Id-Arafa and the like. However, he did not have any sexual intercourse with his girlfriend as the culture prohibits youths from sex before marriage. He started sex when he married his current wife and as a result, there was no problem. He has five children and got the first child in 1997 EC. There was a problem for his wife during the first birth as she was seriously sick and the first birth was also not successful, but finally she was ok and now they are living together in their own house in Gelan village in Adele Keke. His religion is Muslim and he is an active religious youth. His important persons are: Ato Ahmed Abdurrahman (the kebele chairman), his mother, his brothers and his wife.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He explained that his children do not go far as currently the schools especially the primary schools are many in the kebele. This has been a great change and benefit to him and the community in general. As he added, except the benefit or opportunity, there have been no problems for youths regarding school provision these days. He has been using irrigation on his chat farm as he has bought his own motor pump and is irrigating his own chat. Therefore, this has improved his household’s livelihood to a large extent. Formerly, he did not use irrigation and also used to sow seeds by scattering them but now he sows in lines or rows. He also uses intercropping as he was taught by the DAs. As he is using this farming technology his household is able to get different vegetables from the farm and as a result is not buying anything from the market except items like sugar, salt, fuel, oils, and sometimes coffee. He is also participating in social organisations such as iddir and equb. For instance, he has been contributing some money twice a month and 5 birr as a permanent capital and this has been saved in the bank. He once even took 12,000 birr and opened a shop with this money. This has changed his life style and now he has become a rich, model youth farmer in the kebele. He used to hire motor pumps during the start of irrigation but eventually he bought his own motor and is currently using it and irrigating his chat farm. His household has been using grinding mills from the two nearby villages namely, Ganda Galmo and Ganda Tabia. (N.B. ganda=village in local Oromiffa). Currently, he has planned to install his own grinding mill and has started to construct a house for this purpose in his village. (i.e. Galan village). He has constructed a latrine for his household in a good manner and is using it. Also he has separate houses for people and livestock. His household members are also trying to keep their own hygiene. For example, his wife regularly keeps her house and surroundings clean. Regarding political interventions, he is a member of the ruling party and pays 13 birr as membership fee. He supports all the government interventions as they are changing his household’s life style. Cultural interventions are becoming less important as the different HTPs are becoming reduced in the community.

But the problem for him is that his farm is very far from the tabia where the water for irrigation comes and this has created a great problem for him to cover all the costs for the irrigation. He also stated that he did not receive credit so far and has no Holstein Friesian breed livestock as he could not buy them. He is not a member or user of any cooperative in the kebele. He is not using fertiliser or improved seeds as he is poor and could not afford to buy them. But his father uses fertiliser and improved seeds. Formerly, when he was a teenager, there were no grinding mills in the area and as a result, women used to grind cereals by putting the grain in the traditional grinding implement and prepare traditional foods like ‘Lafiso’ in local Oromiffa (a thick/thin injera made of sorghum). Now however, the grinding mills are many in the kebele and people are using them and this is also a great change that recently has come in the community. In the former times, there was no latrine in each village and all the people in the kebele used to excrete faeces in the farms under the chat. But now, the majority except some people have constructed latrines and are using them. Babies are also using pots for urine and faeces. Due to the lack of latrines in the former times, people used to contract different diseases such as diarrhoea and as a result many people died in the kebele. Now it is safe as the hygiene and sanitation of the people and environment has been improved. Regarding the political interventions, formerly there was corruption in the kebele but recently it has reduced. The community uses its own language and culture, and is self-administering. There are no HTPs and thus no cultural interventions.

He has land and pays tax of 30 birr. He also contributes 100 birr for Oromia Development Association. This rich youth also actively participates in different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks. He also actively participates in the community organisations like iddir and equb. He is not a member of the youth cooperative but wants to join the one recently inaugurated in Adele Tabia.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

In the coming five years, he wants to put in grinding mills and start a cereal crops store. He also wants to increase his shop by purchasing a lot of shop materials. He also wants to improve his farm especially wants to buy additional plastic pipes for irrigating his chat using a motor pump. Also aspires to continue his education in an extension programme. Of course he has a concrete plan to materialise these future plans. Thus, he has already started to construct a house for a grinding mill and cereal store. He also aspires for the community to work hard and develop just as he worked and improved his life style greatly. He even told the RO and the RO himself observed during the interview that a lot of people come to his house and his farm to discuss and share experience with him.

## Middle wealth young man mid-20s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| $$ hhd head$$ | $$M$$ | 25 |
| $$wife$$ | $$F$$ | 22 |
| $$son$$ | $$F$$ | 5 |
| $$daughter$$ | $$M$$ | 3 |
| $$son$$ | $$M$$ | 1 |

### Youth in the community

This middle wealth young man in his mid-20s highlighted that there are opportunities and challenges facing boys in their late teens as they grow up these days in Adele Keke. For example, there are many schools in the kebele these days and the youths are accessing them easily unlike the former times when there was only one school in the kebele. The only problem he observes regarding school provision is that the youths also lack follow up from their families and some of them also do not use their time properly. As there is great shortage of land in Adele Keke, youths do not have access to land. Their opportunity today is to learn and study hard to get employed by the government as well as NGOs. Regarding work, youths have some opportunities to go for different work to different towns like Haramaya, Awoday, Dire Dawa and Harar. However, there are some challenges to youths in the kebele in terms of work or job. Some youths simply wander without any work in the kebele. On finding a wife and getting married, there are of course problems for youths as some youths do not have enough wealth to support their household after they are married. Regarding having children, some youths whose background is from a poor family bear children and then get problems such as that they do not have good and enough food, no clothes, uniforms or other costs of school. But the opportunity is that they rear their children as much as possible though they are poor. The same thing applies to youths when they form independent household. He also stated that adolescents participate in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir’ and other community development activities and therefore, there is no problem for these adolescents in community participation. Most youths do not as such participate in religious affairs as they focus on their education. He mentioned that the same applies to adolescent girls in the community as they grow up these days.

### Your life story

He was born in Adele Keke, Mude village, and he used to keep cattle until he was 10 and lived in this village together with his family. He lived with his family before he left home by getting married and he did not experience any serious illness or major shock. He entered school in 1992 EC and attended grade 1 and partly grade 2. When he was in the school, he used to like his school. He got married in 1993 EC while he was in the school as his family made him marry and as a result he could not even complete grade 2. At the same time, he was helping in farming and all these factors affected his education and it finally terminated in the middle of grade 2. However, he is now keen to resume his education and very ambitious even to complete grade 10. It seems that he is planning and committed to return to school from the coming year. He started an interest in girls starting from the age of 15 as he got married at the age of 16. However, he did not have any friend prior to his wife. He got married in 1993 EC and started sex when he married to his current wife and as a result, there was no problem. He had no experience of sex before that time. He has three children and got his first child in 1994 EC There was no problem for his wife during the births and now they are living in their own house in Mude village in Adele Keke. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are: his father, mother and wife.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He said that when he grew up there was only one primary school in Adele Keke kebele. But now there are four different primary schools in the kebele and this is a great change to the community. When he grew up, there was no irrigation except rain water. Now however, the water points have been introduced to the kebele and he has been using irrigation for his chat as he has his own motor pump. He stated that this has greatly improved his household’s livelihood. He has shares one water point with his father and has his own motor pump which he bought before he got married. He also has a small shop but did not receive any credit so far. There was no youth cooperative during his teenage years but recently one youth cooperative was founded in the kebele and he is also a member. There were no health interventions when he was a teenager and the community went to Haramaya when they got sick. Now there are two HEWs in the kebele and they have been teaching and giving different services to the community on various health issues in the kebele. So, this has improved his household’s and the community’s health. Regarding political interventions, the current government has introduced different political interventions such as the use of Oromiffa in education, government offices and media and many other political rights to the community in the sphere of the country at large. He could not give ideas on cultural interventions but simply stated that HTPs were recently minimised in the kebele.

He has land and pays tax of 25 birr. Also contributes 60 birr for Oromia Development Association and also actively participates on different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks. He also actively participates in the community organisations like iddir and equb. He is a member of the youth cooperative which was recently inaugurated in Adele Tabia.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to improve his livelihood by working hard. For example, wants to work on his farm and get good result from it and support his household’s life. Of course, he has concrete plan to achieve this. For instance, he has already bought motor pump and constructed water point. He also aspires for the community to live in peace and prosperity by improving their life style.

## Poor young man mid-20s

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| $$hhd head$$ | $$M$$ | 24 |
| $$wife$$ | $$F$$ | 18 |
| daughter | F |  8 |
| son | M |  4 |

### Youth in the community

This poor young mid-20s man said that youths in Adele Keke have different opportunities and problems as they grow up these days. For example, some youths who completed their secondary school education do not get job opportunities. In addition, those youths who scored low grades in their education mostly remain at home instead of going to different areas to seek jobs. However, these days, many youths have encouraging motivation to work and education/learning especially as there are many schools constructed in Adele Keke. He added that when he was a teenager, there was only one school in Adele Keke; but now four schools are functional and this is the real that has come to the society in general and youths in particular. Concerning access to land, there is shortage of land for youths these days in the kebele in each village. He thinks that almost all the youths do not have access to the land in the kebele. When he was a teenager, there was excess land in the kebele and there was access for youths and others but nowadays there is not. Those youths who have their own land however, can work on their land and be prosperous.

Regarding finding a wife, youths can face problems to support their household when they get married before they have economic wellbeing. As the land is very small and there is shortage of land, they face critical problems when they form independent households. He added that for those youths with independent households and those with good land access and other opportunities, things may be good for them to change their livelihoods and lead a smooth life. On the other hand, though they face difficulties as they form independent households, it is good for them as they learn responsibilities and independent life. In the case of having children, the youths face problems if they were already immersed in problems before they got children; otherwise, they do not have problems when they get children. Some youths fully participate in the community while others do not fully participate in different community activities in the kebele. The same holds true for religious participation. As he stated, the same ideas hold true for adolescent girls in the community.

### Your life story

He was born in Adele Keke, Tabia village, and he used to play with his peers. Starting from the age of 13, he was farming and attending his education. During his teenage years, he was living with 10 members of his household including him. During his teenage years, he did not experience any serious shock. He entered school in 1988 EC and completed grade 4. When he was in the school, he used to like his school. He got married while he was in the school but he managed to complete grade 4. At the same time, he was working on his family’s farm and it was affected his education as his other brothers were young during his teenage years. He showed an interest in girls starting from the age of 14. He did have a friend prior to his wife. But he did not have any sex with her before his current wife. He got married in 1993 EC and started sex when he married his current wife and as a result, there was no problem. He has got only two children and got the first child in 1995 EC There was no problem for his wife during the births and they are now living in their own house in Adele Tabia village in Adele Keke. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are: his father, mother and his wife and DB (his immediate friend and advisor).

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He said that his children go to the schools without any problem as the schools are next door, especially the primary schools are many and near. Therefore, this has been a great change and good for him and the community in Adele Keke. As he added, there have been benefit and opportunity, there have been no problems for youths regarding school provision these days. He has been using no irrigation for his chat farm as he does not have his own water point or motor pump as he is poor. Therefore, this has affected his household’s livelihood negatively. He is not a member of any youth cooperative so far. But he is participating in social organisations such as iddir and equb. Regarding health interventions, there is no clinic or health post in Adele Keke. He has constructed no latrine for his household but is using the latrine of his neighbours. He said that he wants to construct one for himself in the future. Also has no separated houses for people and livestock. He has one small Holstein Friesian. But from the education that HEWs are giving them, his household members are trying to keep their own hygiene and the hygiene of their surroundings. Regarding political interventions, he is a member of the ruling party and pays 12 birr as membership fee. He supports all the government interventions as they are changing his household’s and others’ life style in the kebele. During his teenage years, there were no cultural interventions in Adele Keke but there were HTPs in the community but now they have been reduced as the government has been implementing different cultural interventions to eradicate HTPs.

The above explained government interventions played a great role in his life as he grew up though he is still poor as he has only 1 qindi of land and is not using irrigation for his small chat farm. He has 1 qindi of land and pays tax of 20 birr. He also contributes 40 birr for Oromia Development Association and also actively participates in different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks.

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to open a shop and construct a large good house separated from livestock, and he also wants to construct his own water point. To achieve his plans, of course he has mental plans but he will try to implement them in the coming five years. He also aspires for the community that it has to emphasise education, [work] on farm and working hard to prosper.

## Rich young man in late teens

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| $$hhd head$$ | $$M$$ | 19 |
| $$wife$$ | $$F$$ | 18 |
| $$mother$$ | $$F$$ | 54 |
| $$brother$$ | $$M$$ | 18 |
| $$son$$ | $$M$$ | 1 |

###

### Youth in the community

This rich young man his late teens said that there are different opportunities and challenges facing boys in Adele Keke as they grow up these days. 10 years ago, he used to go after cattle; there was no farming during that time but keeping cattle. Then he entered school at the age of 10. As he added, there was no encouragement from the side of the family on education as they simply wanted their children to go after cattle and help in farming (for boys) and in domestic work (girls). For example, there were no chairs in the school, and the students were simply sitting on the locally made desks. He emphasises that still in the kebele the quality of education in the kebele has not improved as the government and the community did not give much emphasis to it. He added that in general, the former problems with education in the kebele are still there even these days but in spite of these problems, some students are achieving very good results in their education. This young rich man also described the opportunities that are there for the community in general and youths in particular in the kebele today. He stated that even if some teachers are faded by teaching, some are still energetic and enthusiastic in teaching and the community also has been constructing additional schools and classes even though they have low awareness on education. He remarked that a lot is expected from the government and the community to improve the quality of education in the kebele.

Regarding access to land, most of the youths do not have access to land as there is shortage of land in Adele Keke kebele. Even today, a good number of the youths simply remain going after the cattle and some on farming. But the land available in the kebele is not enough for the family let alone for the youths. There is even a traditional land sharing culture in the community which is known as “Miraza”. But the family gives ‘Miraza” to its boy when he get married; otherwise, they think that the youths will not use the land properly as they are not yet mature enough. So, they are expected to attend and work very hard on their education and look for better work to improve their livelihood and become economically independent. Regarding work, there are different opportunities for youths in the kebele. Accordingly, some youths go for labour work to different towns like Haramaya, Awoday, Harar, Gara Muleta wereda. The government recently grouped together youths and made conducive environment for them to establish a youth cooperative in the kebele. Accordingly, it has the name ‘Garad-Adele’ youth cooperative. On finding a wife and getting married, there are some problems for youths as some youths simply get married before they have enough wealth to support their family. As a result, they do not have the opportunity to educate themselves and get a good job and thus remain on the small land or in labour work. On the other hand, youths who have enough wealth could marry any time and lead their life successfully. The other opportunity they have is that if the couples marry each other based upon love, there is no problem even if there is lack of wealth. In addition, the youth friends or lovers do not get in to any sexual practices or they do not come and live together before they are formally married according to the Muslim religious law of marriage as the community follows this law. The other opportunity is that the family shares small lands to the married youths and supports them until they become fully able to support themselves. The family do not let the youths down whatever happens. Regarding having children, some youths who are poor and bear many children not proportional to their wealth face great problems to support their family and put themselves in difficulty. For example, those youths who are at a low economic level and whose children lack many needs may feel much and get depressed as it is difficult for them to fulfil the needs of their children like the costs of school, food, clothes and the like. He also stated that the adolescents participate in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir’ and other community development activities and therefore there is no problem with these adolescents in community participation. Most youths participate in religious affairs and there have been no observed problems for youths on this respect in the kebele. As he mentioned, some youths contribute money for the construction of mosque and other matters even more than their families.

He mentioned that the same applies for adolescent girls in the community as they grow up these days.

### Your life story

His life in the first 6 years was just playing with his peers and sometimes keeping cattle. He said that until the age of 10, he was walking under the foot of others (i.e. members of his family and his peers) to learn herding and other community activities including farming. He was born in Adele Keke, Mude village, and was living with his family until he got married and constructed his own house and left home. However, he experienced a certain shock when his father told him to terminate his education and get married while he (this youth) was attending grade 6. But he refused to stop his education but ploughed the land during his free time and managed to complete grade 6 successfully. But the next year, when he was in grade 7 in 2000 EC, his father died and he completed his grade 8 school in the subsequent years but stopped in 2003 EC as his father had died and he should work on the farm land as his younger brother was also a student. His father before he died had built a house for him before he got married; he got married in 2002 EC and is now living in his own house with his household. His mother also has her own house but he is still using all the property including land together with his mother. He is the household head. He has no serious illness so far. In the future he plans to resume his education if things become conducive for him.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He described that there are five different primary schools including the Madressa School in the kebele. This has been a great change and benefit to his household and the community in general. He added that, it is just the great benefit regarding school provision to the community in Adele Keke. Thus, there have been no problems for youth regarding school provision unless the problem arises from the youths themselves. Therefore, this has greatly changed his household as well as the community in Adele Keke. He has been using irrigation for his chat farm as he has bought his own motor pump and is buying water from the owners of the water point in Adele Tabia and irrigating his own chat. Therefore, this has improved his household’s livelihood to a greater extent. He is also participating in social organisations such as iddir and equb. For instance, he has been contributing some money twice a month and 5 birr as a permanent capital and this has been saved in the bank. His household has been using grinding mills from the two nearby villages namely, Ganda Galmo and Ganda Tabia. (N.B. ganda=village in local Oromiffa). Also he has got a separated house for people and livestock. His household members are also trying to keep their own hygiene. For example, his wife regularly keeps her house and surroundings clean as she has been getting health education from the HEWs in the kebele. Regarding political interventions, he is a member of the ruling party and pays 12 birr as membership fee. He fully supports all the government interventions in place in the kebele as they are changing his household’s life style as well as the community in Adele Keke kebele. He could not respond on the cultural interventions as the HTPs are being eliminated recently in the community.

He has about 2 qindi of land and is using irrigation for his chat farm and pays tax of 30 birr for land. He also contributes 60 birr for Oromia Development Association and also actively participates in different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks. As there have been no youth organisations in the kebele so far, he did not have a chance to participate in them. But recently one youth cooperative was inaugurated including 12 members but this young in late teens is not a member. He also actively participates on different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir.’

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to improve his farming especially the chat farming especially to produce good chat by using irrigation widely and this is his number one priority, and also building a house for different business at Awoday town as a second priority. He also wants to buy and sell cereal crops like maize, wheat and others using the house that he built in Adele Tabia as a store. Of course, he has a concrete plan to achieve these aspirations. For instance, the house to be used as a store has already been constructed. He also aspires for the community to live in peace and prosperity.

##

## Middle wealth young man in late teens

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| Household head | M | 19 |
| wife | F | 18 |
| son | M | 2 |
| daughter | F | 1 |

### Youth in the community

Regarding education, there was only one school when he was a teen. He entered school in Adele primary school and left to Kampo (Haramaya) and attended grade 5-7 there. But as his mother died, he stopped at grade 7. However, those youths who lose their mother and father face a great problem when they learn and drop their education and go for labour work as it is very difficult for them to get food and other support in their learning. Now there are 4 schools, unlike the former times. Regarding access to land, there is shortage of land due to the high population. He added that formerly, farm land was so accessible to youths, unlike now. As a result, there is no opportunity for youths to get land except sharing the land with their father. Even the land itself has decreased its productivity compared with former times. Regarding work, these days, agricultural inputs like fertiliser and improved seeds are very expensive and even when these inputs are bought at a high price, and used on the farm, they will be lost if there is no rain. It is even sometimes difficult to get a harvest which covers the cost of the inputs. The opportunity in the work is that they (youths) sell chat when its price is high and use the cash for different purposes. His final remark was that work opportunity is now better than the former times as youths are trying to work hard to come out of poverty. The great opportunity youths have concerning getting a wife is that if the couples are married based on love but are too poor to support themselves, the community, especially the iddir in their village, contributes money and supports them. The problem is that if the youth does not have anything to support his household after marriage, he will go to labour work leaving his wife alone. This is the major problem that youths in Adele Keke are currently facing. The same situation happens to boys and girls who form independent households. As he pointed out, most youths want to participate in different community affairs but the economic constraints draw them back from their full participation. Most youths participate in religious affairs and there have been no observed problems for youths on this respect in the kebele. As he mentioned, some youths contribute money for the construction of mosque and other matters even more than their families. He also mentioned that the above opportunities and problems facing adolescent boys are similar to those of adolescent girls in the kebele.

### Your life story

His life in the first 12 years was playing with his peers, keeping and feeding cattle and fetching water in addition to attending school. He said that he started school at the age of 5. He lived in Adele Keke, Gelan village together with his family. However, he experienced a major shock when his mother died. He started school in 1990 EC but interrupted it when his mother died. In the future he plans to resume his education if things become conducive for him. He experienced one serious illness during his childhood. He started work such as farming, fetching water, feeding livestock at the age of 10. His education helped him a lot especially the mathematical operations in all his livelihood in such a way that it helped him to calculate the profit, cost and work accordingly. He started an interest in girls from the age of 10. For example, he used to play with girls during the wedding ceremonies, during the Muslim festivities like Id-Arafa and Id-A Adaha. However, he did not have any sexual intercourse with his girlfriend as the culture prohibits the youth from sex before marriage. He started sex when he married his current wife and as a result, there was no problem. He got the first child in 2002 EC. There was no problem for his wife during the birth of his children. His religion is Muslim and is active religious youth. His important persons are: his wife, his father, and two other men.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

This middle wealth young man in his late-teens responded that there are several primary schools including the Madressa School in the kebele unlike the former times where there was only one school in the kebele. This has been a great change and benefit to his household and the community in general. His children are also attending the primary school in Adele Keke. Therefore, this has greatly changed his household as well as the community in Adele Keke. He has been using irrigation for his chat farm as he has bought his own motor pump and is buying water from those owners of the water point in the Adele Tabia and irrigating his own chat. Formerly, 10 years ago, there was no irrigation, no motor pumps, and they were only depending on rain water. Therefore, this has improved his household’s livelihood to a great extent. He is also participating in social organisations such as iddir and equb. For instance, he has been contributing some money twice a month and 5 birr as permanent capital and this has been saved in the bank. His household has been using grinding mills from the two nearby villages namely, Ganda Galmo and Ganda Tabia. (N.B. ganda=village in local Oromiffa). Also he has got a separated house for people and livestock. His household members are also trying to keep their own hygiene. For example, his wife regularly keeps her house and surroundings clean as she has been getting health education from the HEWs in the kebele. Regarding political interventions, he is a member of the ruling party and pays 12 birr as membership fee. He fully supports all the government interventions in place in the kebele as they are changing his household’s life style as well as the community in Adele Keke kebele. For example, recently the government has employed a kebele manager with a permanent salary. He could not respond on the Cultural interventions as the HTPs are being eliminated recently in the community.

He has about 2 qindi of land and is using irrigation for his chat farm and pays tax of 30 birr for land. Also contributes 60 birr for Oromia Development Association and also actively participates on different development activities in the kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks. As there have been no youth organisations in the kebele so far, he did not have chance to participate in them. But recently one youth cooperative was inaugurated including 12 members but this young in late teens is not a member. He also actively participates on different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir.’

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to improve his chat farm to get good income using irrigation widely and this is his number one priority, and also planting different crops and vegetables as a second priority. Of course, he has a concrete plan to achieve these aspirations.

## Poor young man in late teens

### Your household

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Relation to hh head** | **Sex** | **Age** |
| household head | M | 19 |
| wife | F | 18 |
| daughter | F | 1 month |

### Youth in the community

This poor young man in his late teens explained that there are different opportunities and challenges or problems facing boys in Adele Keke as they grow up these days. For instance, there are five schools including a Madressa in the kebele currently and the youths are accessing schools in their kebele without going far. In this, some go to primary schools in Adele Keke, some also go to Adele Kampo (Haramaya wereda) for primary and high school and still others go to Kersa and Dangago for high school. Some youths also go to colleges/universities such as Haramaya, Addis Ababa, Jimma and the like. However, the problem is that the community lacks awareness to send their children to school. In addition to this, some youths do not have an interest to go to school and some who have interest lack financial support especially if their families are poor. The youths also do not have access to land as there is shortage of land in Adele Keke kebele. Even if there is small land, there is shortage of rain when needed. He also expressed that regarding work, there are a lot of problems for youths as they grow up these days. However, there are some opportunities for youths in the kebele as well as elsewhere in terms of work or jobs. Some youths recently grouped together and formed a youth cooperative in the kebele. Concerning finding a wife and getting married, there are some problems for youths as some youths do not have enough wealth to support their livelihood when they get married. As a result, they get married in the late 30s and 40s. On the other hand, those youths who have enough wealth could get married early and bear children and educate them before they get old to support them. Regarding having children, some youths who are poor but who have children get problems. For instance, their children do not have good and enough food, no clothes, uniforms and other needs to support their education. But the opportunity is that children replace the family when they die as they keep the wealth of their family as their family, especially father and mother, are seen in the children. The same problem holds true when they form and independent household but they still have the opportunity that the youths would get a land share and this would minimises disputes among children especially in large families. He also stated that adolescents participate in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir’ and other community development activities and therefore there is no problem with these adolescents in community participation. Most youths participate in religious affairs and there have been no observed problems for youths in this respect in the kebele. As he mentioned, some youths contribute money for the construction of mosque and other matters even more than their families.

### Your life story

He was born in Gelan village in Adele Keke and grew up keeping or herding cattle until the age of 10. He lived together with his brothers, sisters, mother and father in the household. He experienced one major shock when he was growing as his father died when he was a teenager. He is now got married and moved to his own house in Gelan village. During his childhood, he also experienced no serious mental illness. But as he grew up sometimes he experienced mild illnesses like cold. He was living with his mother until he got married but when he married, he moved to his own house.

 He started school in 1991 EC and attended up to grade 7. But he terminated his education as he could not get a person who could support him on his education. He started farming by planting chat, sorghum, maize, beans and the like starting from the age of 15. His education has helped him to plan his farm work and save and use money properly. It also helped him to read different documents. He showed interest in girls at the age of 15 and even had a girlfriend when he was 15, but had no sexual intercourse with her as the culture does not allow youths to do it before marriage. He simply used to chat with her without doing sex and as a result there was no problem. He started sexual intercourse when he married his first wife. His family was keen on him getting married and he got married in 2003 EC and he got the first child this year. There was no problem for his wife during the birth and now they are living in their own house in Adele Tabia village. His religion is Muslim and he is a middle active religious youth. His important persons are his brother, his wife and his mother.

### Government interventions which have played a role in your life

He said that there was only one primary school in the kebele when he was a teenager but recently there are many schools in the kebele. Therefore, this has been a great change and good for him and the community in Adele Keke. As he added, there is benefit or opportunity, and no problems for youth regarding the school provision these days. But, some youths due to lack of awareness are not using this opportunity as they do not want to go to school. He has been using no irrigation for his chat farm as he has not got his own water point or motor pump as he is poor, though recently, he started to construct his own water point in his farm. Therefore, this has affected his household’s livelihood negatively. He is not a member of any youth cooperative so far. But he is also participating in social organisations such as iddir and equb. Regarding health interventions, there are no clinics or health post in Adele Keke. He has constructed no latrine for his household but is using the latrine of his elder brother who is a rich youth model in the kebele. He said that he wants to construct a good latrine for himself in the near future. Also he has no separated house for people and livestock yet but has a plan to do so. His household members are benefiting from the education that HEWs are giving in the kebele. Regarding political interventions, he is not a member of the ruling party and is paying no membership fee. But he supports all the government interventions as they are changing his household’s and others’ life style in the kebele. These days there are some cultural interventions in the kebele as there were HTPs in the community 10 years ago but now they are being eliminated as the government, NGOs and the community have been working hard in implementing different cultural interventions to eradicate HTPs.

He has small qindi and pays tax of 30 birr for land together with his three brothers. But he is exempted from the contribution to Oromia Development Association as he is poor and the kebele officials understood this for him. He also actively participates on different development activities in the kebele and sub-kebele as well as in his village. He also actively participates in the development teams and 1-5 networks though he is not a member of the political party. As there has been no youth organisation in the kebele so far, he did not have chance to participate it. But recently one youth cooperative was inaugurated including 12 members but this young man in his late teens is not a member. He also actively participates in different community affairs such as ‘equb’, and ‘iddir.’

### Aspirations and plans for the future

He aspires to improve his chat farm to get good income using irrigation widely and this is his number one priority and also planting different crops and vegetables as a second priority. Of course, he has concrete plan to achieve these aspirations. His concrete plan is that he has already started constructing a water point to help him in irrigating his chat. Therefore, he greatly hopes that this will help him to improve his livelihood.