TRANSPARENT CAPITAL: INDIAN TEXTILES, GLOBAL STANDARDS, AND THE ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTAL STATE

Dr. Manjusha Nair
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
George Mason University

India-Africa Summit Forum, New Delhi 2015
INDIA-AFRICA FORUM SUMMIT 2015:
“BRIDGES ACROSS THE INDIAN OCEAN”
Ethiopia
Kenya
South Africa
Bishoftu
“Ethiopia has become Africa’s investment hub for textile and garment industry.”

Fistum Arega, Ethiopian Investment Commission Commissioner
African states and society, operate within a profoundly transnationalized global context (Jim Ferguson, 2006)
Bishoftu station in the Djibouti train line

Adama expressway
Inside the stitching room
# THE WORKPLACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Management</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>50-60</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Management</td>
<td>Indian (except HR)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainers</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisors</td>
<td>Ethiopian</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>Male 108 Female 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office staff</td>
<td>Ethiopian</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop-floor Workers</td>
<td>Ethiopian</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>19-21</td>
<td>Female 487 Male 123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE SHOP-FLOOR

The Strike on October 26, 2018

Quality check

Packing
“Ethiopians and Indians eat with hands; Indian dosa and idly are just like Ethiopian injira.”

“Ethiopian women would look like Indian women, if only they were a little fairer.”

“Ethiopia is not Africa; It is an old civilization just like India.”

“There is no need to be aggressive to the workers. Try to convince them. Give them counselling. Indian style threatening does not work. Understand them. Bond with them. Give a healing touch. You will learn a lot.”

“They are kids Manjushaji, not workers.”
Children in Delo village using the Kanoria water pump