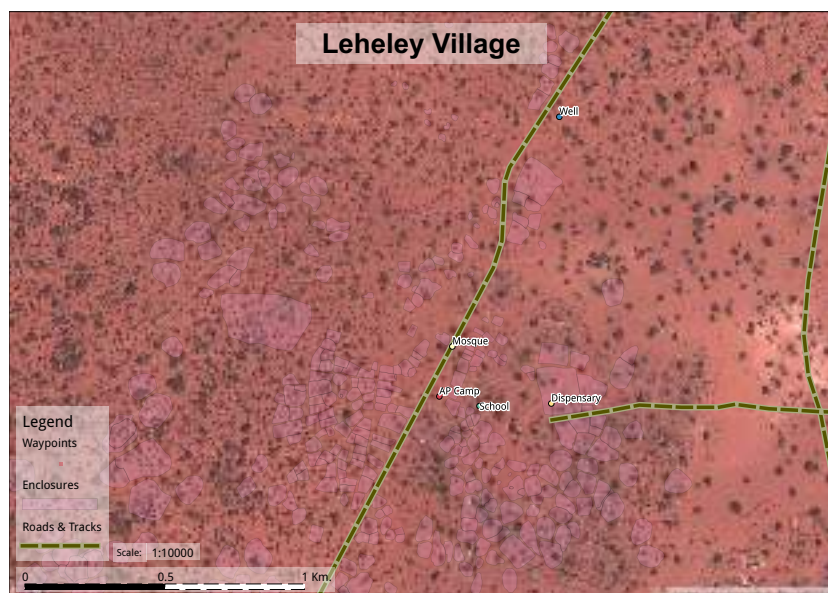


Lehele Village



Lehele, also spelled Lafaley, is the capital of the administrative division of the same name. It was founded in 1970 as a result of the *Dahun* drought which had disastrous effects on human and livestock. As in the other settlements, it was the supply of water from shallow wells which brought the initial 40 households to the village. These households quickly extended the number of wells and the village grew to its present size of over 1900 families. All the initial settlers were pastoralists and even though they came to the village empty handed, they made a livelihood through selling fire wood to Wajir and used the incomes to rebuild their animal stocks. Coping strategies have been essentially the same through the years. Each time there is a loss of livestock, it is rebuilt by other sources of income such as fuel-wood sales to Wajir. As shown in table 1.

, there is some diversification in the occupations pursued in the village. The group however felt that over the years, the village had learnt to cope better with droughts as child mortality had reduced. The major shocks that the village has endured over the years include droughts which have repeated every five years or more frequently. Some of the major ones were *Rahole* in 1980. This resulted in the drying up of the shallow wells and the entire village had to relocate 5km towards Wajir to find water. In 1984 a major disease outbreak called “Furaq” rapidly spread through the cattle population causing extensive losses. The *Kamadi* drought of 1992 was the worst in terms of child mortality and was followed by *Afarmajir* in 1996, a milder drought *Wardig* in 2001, named after a dam that was built near the Somali border towards which all the families migrated. In 2005 the *Aftag* drought led to the

Data collected for this village can be downloaded using this link in Excel format: <https://docs.google.com/open?id=0BxykXtTR0SU2TWdVaFhvdndGNEk>

Figure 1: A mosaic of Google Map based satellite imagery over the Leheley village with some landmarks, enclosures and roads digitised. The former were collected with a handheld GPS unit. The source data is scaled to 1:5000 which conforms to a cadastral scale and allows users to mark and identify features easily visible on the satellite image.

The map can be downloaded using this link: <https://docs.google.com/open?id=0BxykXtTR0SU2Mnppb0pfTF9KZEE>

Table 1: Occupations and employment they offer in Leheley village.

Occupation	Income & Employment
Pastoralism	30%
Agriculture	20%
Milk/meat trading	20%
Miraa selling	10%
Firewood	20%
Animal brokering	10%
Shop keeping	10%

cattle migrating to Somalia and finally the 2009-2010 *Simana* drought was the latest where losses were limited to livestock.

Other disasters faced since the village was settled include the 1992-1993 inter clan conflict which engulfed the entire region and the El Niño floods of 1997-1998 which wiped out shoats and caused major disease outbreaks in children as well. Other major disease outbreaks amongst livestock include the *Furuk* in 1984, *Gesdor* a persistent disease of cattle which has been brought under control by drugs and the 2007 *Fighiq* and 2012 *Dukan* camel disease, the latter presently in the area, which has drastically brought down the camel population.

Leheley has a comparatively larger infrastructure base than the other two villages surveyed. The bulk of these assets are government or community owned with the exception of water points which are largely private (table 2).

However, as in the other villages, access to water is usually open to the community. In terms of natural resources, water related resources are ranked the highest. Agriculture, is ranked behind water and pasturelands as an important resource. Access to all resources, other than agriculture, is open to the community. Details of relative importance of resources or resource related occupations and the proportion of users is shown in table 3.

The demography of Lehele is bias towards women which comprise 60% of the population. Each house has approximately 2-3 children (between 5 and 15) and a similar number of infants (<5 years). The percentage of adult women and men was put at 30% and 20%, and elderly (both men and women above 60 yrs) at 30%. Most of the village was categorised as poor (70%) or of medium wealth (25%) with the remaining 5% categorised as rich. The table below provides the yardstick (livestock ownership) used to define these wealth categories.

	V Poor	Medium	V Rich
% Households	0.7	0.25	0.05
Assets	<20 shoats	30-40 shoats 5-60 cows	>100 shoats, >60 cows
Occupation	Labour based: Quarry, digging wells, firewood collection	Pastoralism	Pastoralism

The mainstay of Leheley's economy is livestock of which the bulk is sheep and goats. Grazing for the bulk of the year is migratory except for donkeys and chicken which are kept in the settlement. Leheley has the largest camel population of the three villages surveyed, all of which are kept in pasture lands throughout the year. A summary of the livestock and grazing patterns is provided in table .

Various ranking exercises were conducted to determine the importance of local and external institutions to the village. The exercise on local institutional structures was an addition to the survey and will need to be repeated

Table 2: Infrastructure and facilities at Leheley and their ownership.

Facilities	Private	Community	Govt
School	0	7	3
Hospital	0	2	8
Water Points	8	2	0
Roads	0	2	8
Market	0	9	1

Table 3: Relative importance of major resources and the number of users in Leheley.

Resource/Occupation	Importance	Users
Pasture lands	25%	30%
Shallow wells	30%	25%
Forests/trees	15%	20%
Farming	20%	5%
Quarrying	5%	20%
Wildlife	5%	0%

Table 4: Wealth categories and their measurement and respective primary occupations.

Table 5: Livestock proportions and grazing patterns in Leheley village.

Livestock	%	Grazing	
		Local	Migratory
Sheep	30%	4	8
Goats	25%	4	8
Cattle	20%	2	10
Camels	15%	0	12
Donkeys	5%	12	0
Chicken	5%	12	0

in other villages during subsequent villages. All the ranking was done on a range of 1 to 5 with 5 indicating the highest rank and 1 the lowest. On occasion, the respondents assigned a 0 rank to indicate that a particular entity was totally absent.

Importance and access to community based organisations (CBO) was subdivided into the type of organisation which facilitated the formation of the CBO, i.e. government, NGO or the community themselves (local). In Leheley the only NGO formed committee was the rights committee which was considered defunct and wasn't given a rank. Details of the other CBOs are provided in table 6.

Similarly a ranking of governmental and nongovernmental institutions was done with respect to importance to the community and how easily these institutions could be accessed. Government institutions and NGOs tended to be ranked similarly in Leheley village with five institutions, three and two respectively, being ranked 3 out of five. In terms of accessibility, government institutions tended to be ranked higher as shown in table 7.

Finally, an analysis of seasonality of resources, natural hazards and occupations was done. Much of the natural resource activity was centred around the long summer rainy season and its subsequent months. The winter dry season had the lowest importance with respect to natural resources, other than forest resources and fire wood sales. It also had the highest incidence of fire. Malnutrition and diseases in children also tended to be highest during the winter dry season and summer rains. Details are provided in table 8.

Table 6: Ranking of community based organisations at Leheley by importance and accessibility.

CBO Name	Importance	Access
CBO - Govt formed		
School mgmt committee	5	3
Health mgmt committee	2	2
Village health committee	3	5
Locally formed		
Local peace committee	5	4
Relief committee	3	2
Women groups	1	3
Youth groups	1	1

Table 7: Importance and accessibility of institutions to the community at Leheley.

Govt Institutions	Importance	Access
Min of Education	3	4
Min of Health	3	3
Min of agriculture	1	0
min of internal security	3	3
NGOs		
CESVI	1	1
Mercy Corps	1	1
Save the Children	3	2
WASDA	3	4
ALDEF	2	2

Table 8: Seasonality in natural resource availability, occupation and hazards at Leheley village.

	Jiilaal	Gu'	Xaaga	Deyr
Resources				
Pasturelands	10%	40%	10%	40%
Water	10%	20%	50%	20%
Wood/Forest	40%	10%	40%	10%
Hazards				
Disease in Children	40%	40%	10%	10%
Disease in Livestock	20%	10%	60%	10%
Malnutrition	40%	30%	20%	10%
Fire	60%	0%	40%	0%
Drought	30%	20%	40%	10%
Occupation				
Pastoralism	30%	10%	40%	20%
Agriculture	10%	30%	20%	40%
Firewood sales	40%	10%	40%	10%
Quarrying	30%	30%	30%	30%
Milk Sales	40%	40%	10%	40%