

Book Review

Book: DEMOGRAPHIC AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRANSITIONS IN NEPAL

Development Implications

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Demography is a multidimensional subject and also defined as narrow sense of Population Studies. The demographics of population through the analysis of fertility, morality and migration are the most important variables in understanding change in the economic and social character of the nation. There are relationships between fertility and population growth in one hand and level of poverty in other. Knowledge on impact of maternal mortality, infant mortality and causes of death or illness provides basic tools to improve the well being of the population of country.

The importance of demographic data as well as well awareness with statistical analysis is the basic foundation of book. The book is devoted in analysis of demographic components (mortality, fertility and migration) providing important and fundamental ground for projecting the demographic future of Nepal.

There are nine chapters in the book. **Introduction** is included in the first chapter, where subsections; rationale and scope of study, modernization and demographic and epidemiological transition, general model of modernization and demoepidemiological change in Nepal ad traditional cultural practices and health in Nepal are motioned. Nepal's current situation with respect demographic, health scenario and how modernization factors, demographic variables and epidemiological changes interact in Nepal explained.

Chapter two explains the **demographic transition in Nepal**. Introduction subsection is related with an overview of demographic transition with its fundamental propositions. Pre-and post second world war situations and fertility transitions subsection describes the demographic transition situation in European society, where demographic transition from high to low birth and death rate with the transformation from an agrarian to an industrial one and from a complex extended family to smaller nuclear family unit. Population trend with growth rate in various censuses, mortality trend, life expectancy at birth, child mortality, and fertility trend with age-specific fertility rate and total fertility rate were described in subsection the demographic situation on Nepal.

Epidemiological transition and Nepal explained in chapter three where in introduction subsection, the theory of epidemiological transition is regarded as a supplementary to the demographic transition theory and provides a more comprehensive view of population dynamics. In the subsection the global epidemiological situation, the history and achievements of epidemiological situation with causes of death between developing and developed country in the year 1993 AD. In epidemiological situation in Nepal subsection the history and achievements with various plans and policies of Government of Nepal explained. Health and development in Nepal is another subsection where health related education and practice and identification of major health problems are discussed.

Chapter four is entitled with **Birth intervals in Nepal**. In introduction section the role and importance of birth interval in socio-economic and demographic scenario of the country and the role of cultural and educational differentials in birth intervals. In subsection factors affecting birth interval various factors related with it are discussed. Data and methodology, measurements and limitations subsections describe the source of data and methods of analysis.

Socio-Cultural practices and women's autonomy among Nepal's ethnic groups and their effects on fertility and family planning is the title of chapter five. In introduction subsection the nature of Nepalese society is explained. Various literatures related with the importance of social and cultural values are highlighted in subsection literature review. Women's role in major ethnic groups as well as in Chhetri and Brahmin society is explained under subsection Nepal's case.

Determinants of Infant Mortality in Nepal are discussed in chapter six. In introduction subsection various theoretical frameworks related with infant mortality is explained. In infant mortality subsection various sources of data related with IMR in Nepal and comparing with other countries are discussed. Socio-economic and cultural related factors, health care factors, demographic factors and lifestyle factors are discussed under subsection determinants of infant mortality: theoretical base subsection.

Chapter seven explains on **maternal mortality in Nepal**. In introduction subsection the definition and level of maternal mortality in developed and developing counters is highlighted. The history, level and trends of maternal mortality in Nepal, comparing with South Asian countries are discussed. In causes of maternal deaths subsection various causes related with it are mentioned. Likewise, in separating women's health from maternal mortality subsection highlights on reproductive health issues which is more complex but neglected field of study in the developing countries.

Chapter eight is entitled with **Regional migration in Nepal: Beyond the push and pull factors**. In introduction subsection social, historical and environmental factors are considered as main motivational factors in internal migration. The determinants

and government's policies related issues are mentioned in the history of migration in Nepal subsection. Mainly, the current internal migration level and trends is the concern of subsection current internal migration in Nepal. The types and patterns of internal migration, migration trends and characteristics of the migrants, determinants of internal migration in Nepal and consequences of migration are discussed in each subsections related with concerned issues and explanation.

Chapter nine is **Conclusion** which interlinks modernization, demography, and epidemiology with the help of macro data analysis. The author concluded that Nepal is just beginning to enter the third stage demographic transition.

Finally, the book is valuable not only to demographers but also to social scientists including anthropologists, policies makers in Nepal, funding agencies and development partners of Nepal, researchers, students and well-wishers of Nepal can draw valuable and useful knowledge and information.

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