

Cause and Consequences of Youth and Adult Migration

(A Case Study of Jugal Rural Municipality -1, Selang, Sindhupalchwok)

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ABSTRACT

This study attempts to analyzed the cause and consequences of youth and adult migration of Jugal Rural Municipality-1, Selang, Sindhupalchwok District. One Hundred One respondent aged 13 years and above have been selected by purposive non- probability sampling methods. Descriptive research design, quantitative research method and deductive approach are applied. Data were collected through direct interview applying the pre-structured questionnaires. Main reasons of migration of youth and adult are the better and quality education, better work opportunities, better income in destination and low infrastructure and advanced technology, weak development policy of government, family pressurize and no employment opportunities in the place of origin. Lack of human resources, low agricultural productivities, increment of remittance dependency, more cost of goods and services, brain drain, poor government policy and lack of security are the main consequences. Based on findings, there is still area for further study i.e access of better education of child due to migration, contribution of migrants for rural development, role of migrants to enhance of rural life of Nepal.

Keywords: *youth, migration, causes, impact, consequences.*

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Migration is as old as humanity itself. Throughout history, people have migrated in search of better lives, to flee conflict or seek safety, or simply to find new opportunities. It may surprise people that most migration is regular, safe and orderly – regionally focused and often directly connected to work. What captures attention in headlines is just part of the story. Migration is an issue that has been deeply affected by misinformation and politicization, and dominant narratives have strayed far away from balanced, accurate accounts of migration – both its simple truths and its complex situation-specific realities (IOM 2024).

Migration refers to the movement of people from place of origin to place to destination basically movement of individual or group of people from one administrative area to another administrative area in certain time period for economic motive or to search for better life within country or out of country. There are two types of migrants, national migrants or international migrants. Globally, practice of migration from rural to urban or less opportunities areas to high opportunities areas (Castle, S., de Haas, H., & Miller, M. J., 2014).)

Migration continues to be part of the solution for many societies, economics and family around the world. In the face of negatively skewed discussions, it can be easy to lose sight of the fact that international migration remains relatively uncommon, with a mere 3.6 per cent (or 281 million) of the world being international migrants (see discussion in Chapter 2 of this report). The vast majority of people do not move across borders to live. We also know that most international migration is safe, orderly and regular. Migration can also provide an important skills boost, which can be critically important for destination countries experiencing population declines. In addition to enhancing national income and average living standards, immigration can have a positive effect on the labour market by increasing labour supply in sectors and occupations suffering from shortages of workers, as well as helping address mismatches in the job market. These positive labour market effects are not just evident in high-skilled sectors but can also occur in lower-skilled occupations. Immigration increases both the supply of and the demand for labour, which means that labour immigration (including lower-skilled workers) can generate additional employment opportunities for existing workers. Globally, narrowing of mobility options for people from developing countries since 1995 and the need for more regular migration pathways, human security in migration, gender dimension of migration

and climate change, food insecurity and migration are the globally emerging and challenges (IOM, 2024)

Globally, a total of 281 million migrants are migrated. Out of them, 52 percent are male, and 48 percent are female. 253 million are youth and 28 million are children below 18 years (IOM, 2024).

As Lee (1966), there are two basic dimensions are playing vital role for migration one is push factor which playing vital role in origin place to motivation for individual to leave the place of origin or where they are presently residing and another Pull factors which are playing vital role to attractive to migrants in place of destination.

In Nepal, youth migration has become a defining characteristic of the country's socio-economic landscape, significantly influencing household dynamics, economic structures, and national development strategies. As (2021) census of Nepal, around 21,00000 youth have been absent at their origin place due to migration (Government of Nepal, 2021)

Kathmandu, the capital, is a major destination for migrants due to its diverse job opportunities in construction, manufacturing, and services (Rana & Rajbhandari, 2020). This migration is often permanent, contributing to rapid urbanization, especially in cities like Kathmandu, Pokhara, and Lalitpur. However, it also leads to challenges such as overcrowding, strained infrastructure, and the growth of informal settlements. While urban areas offer better economic opportunities, rural areas are left with aging populations, leading to imbalances in demographic structures (Sharma, 2019).

Urban to Rural Migration: Although less frequent, urban-to-rural migration is an emerging trend in Nepal. This migration typically occurs when individuals or families leave urban areas in search of a more peaceful, affordable, and less stressful lifestyle. People may move to rural areas for reasons such as retirement, the desire for a slower pace of life, or a lower cost of living compared to expensive urban centers. In some cases, individuals may also relocate to rural areas for agricultural or entrepreneurial ventures, especially in regions close to urban centers where commuting is feasible. This trend is gradually gaining momentum, particularly in peri-urban areas where rural and urban features blend (Koirala, 2018).

Objectives

To analyze the cause and consequences of youth migration of the study area

Significance

This primary based research is important to researchers, local level planners, teachers, students and other concerning individuals and organizations.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

This primary based information study was conducted in Jugal Rural Municipality-1, Selang, Sindhupalchok. Brahmin/Chhetri, Tamang are majority inhabitant and Dalit and other caste/ethnics are minority inhabitant besides these majority, Newar, Mijar, Magar, Rai, Bhujel are also residing in the in-minority numbers in the study area but they are not selected on the research sample. One hundred one (101) respondents aged 13 years and above were selected by purposive non-probability sampling methods to collect the data. Descriptive research design, quantitative research method and deductive approach was applied. The primary data have been collected through direct interview with respondents using the pre-structured questionnaires. Secondary data have been collected from different published and non-published documents, scholarly journal articles, research report, annual report and other relevant documents. The collected primary data was analyzed using the latest data analysis software tools. During the data analysis, the authors have been generated different graphs, frequency table, cross table to make meaningful result, data consistency and measurement of reliability and validity.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Table1: Age Sex Distribution of Respondents

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Teenagers (13-19 Years)	4	6	5	14	9	9
Young Adults (20-39 Years)	25	39	10	27	35	35
Middle-aged Adults (40-59 Years)	27	42	17	46	44	43
Elderly (60 Years and above)	8	13	5	14	13	13
Total	64 (63%)	100	37(37%)	100	101	100

Source: Field Study, 2024

Out of 101 respondents, 63 percent are male and remaining 37 percent are female. While analyzing the age highest percent (43%) are aged middle-aged adults (40-59 years) and second highest (35%) are young adults (20-39 years) aged old, third highest (13%) are elderly 60 years and above and lowest (9%) are teenagers (Aged 13-19 years) old. However, the highest percent of migrants are middle adults comparing to others (table 1)

Table 2: Caste/Ethnics Groups of Respondents

Caste/Ethnics	N	%
Brahmin/Chhetri	67	66
Tamang	29	29
Dalit (Pariyar and Kami)	5	4
Total	101	100

Source: Field Study 2024

As table 2, among the 101 respondents, Brahmin/Chhetri are highest (67 %), Tamang are second highest (29%) and third are of Dalit (Pariyar and Kami) 4% but besides these three major ethnics Brahmin/Chhetri, Tamang and Dalit, Newar, Mijar, Magar, Rai, Bhujel are also residing in the study area but they are not selected on the research sample because their number were very minimal. The research area is dominated by Brahmin/Chhetri in the southern and Tamang in the northern of the study area.

Table 3: Educational Status of Respondents

Educational Status	N	%
Literate	92	91
Illiterate	9	9
Total	101	100

Source: Field Study 2024

Out of 101 respondents, 91 percent are literate, and 9 percent are illiterate. However, literate are more than 9 times more comparing to illiterate (table 3)

Table 4: Level of Education of the Respondents

Level of Education	N	%
Some Primary	27	25
Secondary (SLC)	33	36
+2/ Intermediate	21	25
Bachelor and above	11	14
Total	92	100

Source: Field Study 2024

Out of 92 literate respondents, highest percent (36%) have secondary (SLC) level of education, second highest percent (25%) are +2 level of education, third highest (16%) have only primary level education, fourth highest (14%) have Bachelor and

above level of education and lowest percent (9%) respondents have lower secondary level education. However, migrants are selective (table 4).

Table 5: Reasons for Migration of Respondents (Multiple Response)

Reasons	N	%
For better and quality Education in destination	80	94
For better working opportunities and high wage rate of Foreign	77	90
Employment opportunities more income in destination	30	35
Lack of Infrastructure and Advanced Technology	69	81
Weak policy of Government	57	67
Following Friends and family pressure	25	29
Less opportunities of employment	65	64

Source: Field Study, 2024

Out of 101 respondents, 94 percent are migrated for better and quality education, 90 percent are for better working opportunities and high income in abroad, 35 percent are for employment, 81 percent are migrated for lack of infrastructure and advance technology in Nepal, 67 percent are migrated for weak policy of government, 29 percent are migrated due to friends and family influences, and least percent (15%) are migrated due to other reasons but they have not explain what are those other categories of reasons. However, highest percent are migrated for better and quality education, better working opportunities and high income in foreign countries. It seems better life and economic is the main motives of migration (table 5).

Table 6: Brain Drain and Its Impact

Impact of brain drain	N	%
Positive Impact		
A number of People perceive brain drain as positive, potentially due to remittances sent back home by emigrants and they also bring the new skills idea and techniques gained abroad that can be beneficial upon return.	24	24
Negative Impact		
Brain drain lead to a loss of skilled workforce, impacting local businesses, services, economic growth, innovation, healthcare and education sectors, production sectors, agricultural, social, cultural sectors and it also affecting an environmental sectors.	65	64

Impact of brain drain	N	%
Not significant impact		
Some respondents may perceive brain drain as not significantly affecting their hometown's development due to other compensating factors or limited impact on local resources.	12	12
Total	101	100

Source: Field Study, 2024

As table 6, highest percent (64%) respondents said that there is negative impact by the brain drain i.e, brain drain lead to a loss of skilled workforce, impacting local business, services, economic growth, innovation, healthcare and education sectors, production sectors, agricultural, social cultural and environmental sectors. However, second highest percent (24%) respondents said there is positive impact due to the brain drain i.e remittance sent back home by emigrants or and brings the skills, new ideas, and technique for new business and economic development. Thus, their life style can be changed as well as living standard could be the improved. However, both positive and negative impact are almost equal of the brain drain. Lowest percent (12%) respondents said that not any significant impact due to brain drain.

Table 7: Possible Future Consequences According to the Respondents (multiple responses)

Consequences in future	N	%
Lack of the skill labour	55	55
Reduces Productivity of Agriculture and Industry	45	45
Increases dependency on foreign incomes and rising cost of goods and services	33	33
Fewer Domestic Specialist	25	25
Reduces in Social Cohesion and cultural integration	68	68
Decreases the skills and innovation	55	55
Hinder the growth and development of Educational Institution	59	59
Poor governance and lack of security	48	48
Remains the old and unskilled people in country	70	70

Source: Field study, 2024

Out of 101 respondents, the highest percent (70%) responses the possible future consequences of migration are remaining the old and unskilled people in country.

Same way, second highest percent(68%) responses the reduction the social cohesion and cultural integration, third highest percent (59%) responses hinder the growth and development of educational institution, fourth highest percent (55/55 %) responses the labour shortages and decreases the skills and innovation respectively, sixth highest responses the poor governance, seventh highest responses the reduces the productivity of agricultural and industries, eighth highest responses the increases dependency on foreign incomes and rising cost of goods and service and least percent (25%) responses decreases the domestic specialist. However, there are many negative consequences of the migration (table7)

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Migration is one of the major factors to enhance the socio-economic and life style of an individual people basically in rural area of Nepal. Migration has been associated many reasons and it creates the multiple consequences. As the study result, youth and adult were leaved their place of origin or migrated for better and quality education opportunities, better employment opportunities, good wage of work, better income, better life in destination place and less development infrastructure, lack of advanced technologies, weak policy programs of government, friend and family pressure for migration, unemployment, no opportunities of better and quality education in place of origin are the main reasons for their migration. Brain drain,lack of labor, low productivities of agriculture and industries, remittance dependency increment, rising cost of goods and services, reduction in social cohesion and cultural integration, decrement of skills and innovation of individual, hinder growth and development of educational institution, lack of security, poor rural life of old aged people and children and un-skills human resources heaping in the origin place are the major consequences of migration of youth and adult.

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