



MIGRATION OF YOUTH FOR EDUCATION: SELECT CASE STUDIES

Rahul Shyam RPM^{1*}, Thakur Prem Kumar²

Abstract

India has a huge migrant population. Migration has been a common phenomenon since the dawn of human existence. There are more people traveling than ever before, and many of them are grappling with conflicts or the effects of climate change. People migrate for a variety of reasons, but the most common are to enhance their living conditions or to escape poverty. Education is a significant motivation for migration, especially among young people. Education is necessary for success and growth. Transfers and migration may improve school performance and future human capital, but they also raise worries about brain drain and the consequences for the families who are left behind. It is difficult to effectively describe migration. Many people regard migration as a problem or even a risk. It is anticipated that developing states with large youth population would see significant development if they spent on young people's education and health, as well as safeguarding and protecting their rights. In this paper, we have discussed about the youth migrating for purpose of education. This research will not claim any generalizability, the findings are vivid examples, of youth experiences in their individual unique ways. This study confirms that migration is important for education for an individual's life and for future, migrating individuals learn for improving their quality of life and of people and skills for economic growth. Finally, Youth are the most active and productive members of society.

Keywords: youth, migration, higher education, future, India

^{1*}MA Sociology, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab

²Department of Sociology, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab

***Corresponding Author:** Rahul Shyam RPM

*MA Sociology, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab

DOI: - 10.48047/ecb/2023.12.si5a.0110

Introduction

Migration is a phenomenon in which an individual moves physically from one location to another. It can be permanent or temporary or circular or seasonal, depending upon the needs, purposes and requirements of the individual. Migration has been essential to development for as long as human society has existed. It has recently attained unparalleled dimensions and as a result, policymakers, scholars, and people in general are paying immense attention. It is crucial for attaining the Goals for Sustainable Development and is at the core of the conversation about development of the world.

According to Dodani and LaPorte (2005) migration and remittances have the potential to boost educational performance and develop upcoming human capital, they also pose issues around “brain drain” and the effects on the offspring who are missing behind. Any kind of individual can migrate, nevertheless of the reasons why, whether it is over national borders or within a single nation. Migrants are too tough to explain. Many people see movement as a problem or even a threat. Additional than this migration has deep impact on both the environment and human life as well. As a result, migration affects all environmental areas intentionally and is one of the three main factors that determine how many people live in a particular area.

According to Griffen and Drake (2009) people migrate through several stages to reach their preferred destinations. Lack of preparedness, difficulty adjusting to the new environment, local system congestion, language obstacles, cultural differences, and undesirable abilities would commonly because of migrants anguish. The geographical determinants influencing mobile populations are primarily impacted by migration, which differs dramatically in both form and task from inter patch movements typical of meta populations and within-population mixing caused by postnatal dispersion. The educational outcomes of non-migrants in the country of destination may be influenced by migrant children and migrant adults. Migration has several layers and calls for a comprehensive strategy.

Literature Review

Despite being a popular concept during the early Agrarian era, migration has evolved through time. Migration today has a distinct pattern and goal, and it is becoming more commonly recognized. The movement of individuals from one location to another for a specific reason is characterized as migration. In the ancient world, India was at the zenith of her might. According to Pradhan (2019)

people flock to India from all over the world in quest of glory and to learn new skills. Throughout history, students from all around the world have come to Indian colleges to pursue their studies. Migration, has resulted in brain drain in India, as well as a lack of intellectuals in the country of migration or opportunities. Student migration, on the other hand, is the most prevalent. Many students today do not want to complete their undergraduate and graduate degrees at home. They look outside their borders in search of more exciting opportunities. Individuals who are knowledgeable, skilled, and in good health typically relocate in quest of work, education, and professional growth. In general, younger people and males travel more than older persons and women. There is potential for both internal and international migration. Higher education is a valued resource in society, contributing to economic effectiveness and productivity. Education is a long-term asset in human capital. It is seen as a tool for social growth, cultural development, economic progress, and fairness and equality. In India, student migration is common. Students are transferring to institutions at the local, national, and worldwide levels to improve their education. Students are migrating for education from district to district, state to state, and nation to country in order to advance academically and professionally. Students are enrolling in more higher education institutions than ever before in the contemporary era. In the previous ten years, 11 crore young people (aged 15 to 32) have traveled inside the nation, either for employment, education, or to marry (Census, 2011).

The terminology of migration

Varied forms of migration have quite different impacts; hence it is critical to use specific terminology to distinguish between them. Researchers have created a lexicon to understand the many manifestations and consequences of migration. This refers to transitory migrations, which occur when people relocate from one place to another and remain for three months to three years before returning home. This type of migration has a stronger influence on the communities that are left behind as well as the communities that are moved. Short-term migrant families may earn additional currency, but they might also stay missing a parent or a mature adolescent who substantial community and financial obligations had aimed at the household. As a result, a youngster who is not developing normally may lose a parent at a key age. The expenditures of relocating for a short period of time may outweigh the benefits to the family. Before

choosing if a temporary relocation would help their situation in the long run, families must balance the benefits and drawbacks. The donor communities lose the migratory workers' labor, abilities, human capital or social capital, income, food, commodities, and services, as well as their contributions to their families and communities on a social and religious level.

Why do people migrate?

1. Economic Factor (Push/Pull Factors)

Migration's economic explanation is quite similar to the economic justification for markets in general. Individuals acting in their own economic self-interest will boost efficiency, overall productivity, and, at least on certain criteria, wellbeing. This is true for where individuals choose to live and work as much as it is for how they choose to buy and sell items and services.

Higher income, more job prospects, a higher standard of life, as well as educational opportunities, is all pull factors. If economic conditions continue to deteriorate, more individuals will surely migrate to countries with better prospects. Economic concerns may also have an impact on one's ability to acquire finance and credit, as well as purchase or gain access to essential supplies. Prior to the 2008/09 financial crisis, boom times were frequently followed by downturns that limited companies ability to generate and consumers' ability to spend. Some important considerations are as follows:

- a. Migration for better economic conditions, jobs, and so on.
- b. Migration to avoid overpopulation and its consequences.
- c. Migration can be either internal or external. (Rural to Urban, Region to Region, Country to Country).

2. Political Factor (Push Factors)

The governments have the authority to create new labor-related laws, such as the National Minimum Wage. Governments may also impose new health and safety regulations that force firms to alter their operations, such as by providing workers with training.

Persecution based on ethnicity, religion, race, politics, or culture may cause people to flee their home country. War, conflicts, and government persecution, or the fear of government persecution, are all required. Humanitarian refugees are more likely to flee armed conflict, breaches of human rights, or persecution.

Because different nations must different policies regarding humanitarian migration, this will have an

impact on where they settle. These folks will most likely relocate to the next safe country that admits asylum seekers.

3. Social-cultural Factors (Pull Factors)

Social and cultural factors are very important in migration. Family conflicts and the need for independence can also contribute to migration, especially among the younger generation. Better communication technologies, such as transportation, the influence of television, effective network communication. Migration is aided by the cinema, urban-focused education, and the resulting shift in attitudes and values.

Social and cultural variables have a significant influence on the migration process as well. Family tensions and the desire for independence that is, the desire to be free of the supervision of family elders can occasionally lead to migration, especially among young people. A few factors, such as having acquaintances from different cultures or having traveled before, may ease the sociocultural degree of adjustment to a new society.

4. Environmental factor (Push/Pull Factors)

Climate migrants are a subgroup of environmental migrants who have been compelled to depart their home countries their homes "due to quick or gradual changes in the natural environment caused by at least one of the three implications of climate change: sea-level rise, extreme weather events, and drought and water shortages."

Environmental factors a range of environmental elements have an influence on our health. This includes everything from air pollution to carcinogen-laden food to pesticides, lead, and increasing computer use. Understanding genetics necessitates knowledge of environmental factors. Environmental influences can induce genetic damage that leads to illness.

Environmental consequences include pesticides or industrial rubbish that we are exposed to where we live or work, unhealthy lifestyle choices such as smoking or eating poorly, and stressful events (such as racism). While expenses have decreased, accuracy has increased. Meanwhile, environmental components continue to be many, complicated, difficult to standardize, and highly unpredictable over time.

The conditions stated above are fundamental predictors of migration. Depending on the individual's position, some of these elements are more evident than others. Recent studies emphasis the dynamic and diverse character of migration. New terms are being coined to highlight the

predicament of migrants. Youth has emerged as one fast moving population for various reasons.

Youth Population

Youth are the most active and productive members of society. The number and strength of a country's young population determine its capacity and potential for growth. It is anticipated that developing states with a large youth population would see significant development if they spent on

young people's education and health, as well as safeguarding and protecting their rights. It is beyond a doubt that today's youthful generations will be tomorrow's inventors, creators, builders, and leaders. India has one-fifth of the world's youth population, and this demographic advantage might be key to reaching India's lofty goal of becoming a trillion-dollar economy (MOSPI, 2022). Table 1 below shows the youth migrant population for various census years.

Table.1 Internal Migrants by Gender in India, 1971–2011

Year	Lifetime Migrants (in millions)			Percentage of migrants		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1971	159.6	49.6	110.0	29.1	19.0	43.1
1981	201.6	59.2	142.4	30.3	17.6	43.9
1991	225.9	61.1	164.8	27.4	14.6	41.2
2001	309.4	90.6	218.7	30.1	17.5	44.6
2011	449.9	143.5	306.5	37.2	23.0	52.3

Source: Census of India 1971 - 2011

Drivers of youth migration

Young people move for a variety of reasons. Moving is commonly linked to key life milestones like as graduating college, obtaining and starting a career, or getting married. With 71 million young people worldwide unemployed as of 2016, searching for employment remains a migration is an important element driving migration in developing as well as developed states. Many young people travel because they want or need to get away from violence, destitution, and disputes, or when they have been evacuated as a consequence of war or global warming. Youth therefore make up a sizable portion of those migrating for humanitarian reasons, including as unaccompanied children, refugees, and seekers of asylum.

Movement is required for human survival and is essential. Since the beginning of the human race, there have been movements of people, or migration (Liebig and Mo, 2013). Migration is a long-term relocation that involves going outside the boundaries of an administrative entity. Migration has long been recognized as an important factor in the growth of social and economic elements of life. Migration produces some intriguing patterns, migrants travel only a short distance to and within their native country, often for economic reasons. This is known as internal migration facilitated by skill sets individuals have. This paper looks into these concerns and keeps youth as a pivot to understand developing migrations trends.

Aim of this research

1. To understand the reasons behind rural-to-urban and urban-to-urban migration.

2. To understand migration of youth to urban areas for better academic opportunities.

Research Questions

This section deals the research questions and elaborates on the reasons known in general. The aims, objectives and research questions are informed by researchers own perspectives of migration for education. The research questions are –

1. Why do youth migrate from Rural to Urban and Urban to Urban areas?

a) Rural To Urban

People are increasingly shifting from rural to urban regions in search of employment. The agricultural grounding of rural places does not employ all of the people that live there. Even the small-scale and cottage enterprises in the community are inadequate for employing the entire rural population.

b) Urban To Urban

Youth will migrate from one metropolitan area to another in search of better economic prospects, better amenities, and a higher standard of living.

2. What is the primary reason for youth migration?

a) Reason for youth migration is lack of employment opportunities in the rural areas and their own places of belonging. When related to migration it is also about what youth call 'exposure'.

b) Better life and employment prospects and educational infrastructure facilities in the urban areas.

Objective of this research

This research tries to uncover the youth experiences of higher education. And, their

experiences from it. Youth move from one place to another in quest of better economic opportunities. Youth migrate to access these new possibilities while certain locations and industries lag behind in terms of their ability to support populations. There is much disagreement about what variables lead to population shifts, with some placing greater emphasis on individual rationality and household conduct than others (de Haan and Rogaly, 2002).

Methodology

This paper takes a qualitative approach to discuss youth migration for education. Qualitative research flourishes when it provides in-depth textual representations of people's actual feelings towards a particular study issue (Bradshaw et. Al. 2007). In-depth, open-ended questions have been used for the purpose to let the respondents speak for themselves. The findings for this research are presented as case studies for it seems best for representing this research. Payne and Payne (2004) cite that case study is a thorough enquiry into a single instance of a social process which are understood as a unique social unit. Youth in this case are one such distinct social unit. Representation through case study is also justified as this research has been carried out on a limited time and scale. This facilitated to focus and complete work. However, this research will not claim any generalizability, the findings are vivid examples, of youth experiences in their individual unique ways.

Sampling

Sampling is a way of selecting individuals or groups of individuals in order to make conclusions about and evaluate the community as a whole. Sampling is an essential part of every research study. There are various sampling procedures available, strategies include targeting to reach respondents. In this research we have use convenience sampling to locate participants. The next section discusses relevant cases that we have found are most suitable to represent the findings. There were fifteen respondents who were interviewed for this research. Of which there were nine male and six female respondents. The **table 1 and 2 below** show the gender representation and educational qualification of the respondents.

Table 1: No. of Respondents based on gender

No. of Males	No. of Females
9	6
Total No. of Respondents = 15	

Table 2: Educational qualification of the respondents

No.	Males	Females
1.	B.E	BDS
2.	MBBS	MCA
3.	B.Tech	MCA
4.	BSC (Bio.Tech)	MA
5.	MCA	LLM
6.	MCA	MA
7.	B.Tech	
8.	BA. LLB	
9.	MBA	

Findings

Hari Kailash, a 20 year old male respondent shared experiences about his own migration trajectory for education from Tamil Nadu to Punjab, he observed – *“When people like me travel we take the experiences and lessons learned with ourselves for a long long time. And that memory couldn't be quantified by money. Travelling is education itself. Meeting people, knowing different cultures broaden one's perspectives. This whole process of migration is helping me like ways”*.

Another respondent Aruna a 24 year old female respondent observed *“Migration increases the number of youth workers and also enriches the cultural variety of a place”*. She added that *“migration has diverse effects on nation as well as individuals, like us. Who move in search of better opportunities. I myself have been away from home for past four years. Why? In search of opportunities career wise and for future, and family”*. These are snippets from the shared experiences of migration for education.

What follows is that most of the respondents, including the researcher himself converge at – the lack of opportunities, exposure of various kinds required for jobs and education and thereafter are major contributory factors towards shaping the experiences. Next follows are select case studies from findings which are representative of the research objectives, questions and fulfils the aims of time constrained research.

Case 1 of Hari Kailash

Hari Kailash and his family moved from Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu when he was nine years old in search of an improved existence. It was an exciting moment for him and his family when they joined his mother in Aruppukottai, Tamil Nadu, where she had resided for five years. Though his parents move to Aruppukottai living was difficult, they worked hard to achieve their aim to create an improved existence for their family. He is now doing B.A.LLB at a private university in Punjab. The researcher also got a chance to get in touch with the respondent's mother who was on a short visit to her son. She opined that it was time to

change. She remembered from her past that, “At times, we were stuck in queue for four hours for bread and milk, and at times everything were going out when you reached the front of the queue.” To which she added that now her son would be able to at least do away with those humiliations. Her key motivation for leaving Andhra Pradesh were poverty and a lack of social mobility. She desired for her kids to have more possibilities than she did. This stuck-ness was because Hari Kailash’s father had a lot of police cases, and after completing his (Hari Kailash) studies in B.A. LLB, he would be able to clear all of his father’s cases. In such a tough familial condition, he only went to Punjab for study.

Case 2 Aruna Devi

She comes from a well to do middle class family, was born in the year of 1999 at that time her father working as general manager in IBM in Bangalore. After 8 years her father was planning to move Tamilnadu at that time he has offer letter in Sun Group of networking same as a general manager. He moved to Tamilnadu and he stayed peacefully and build a new life also.

Now, she is pursuing MBA at a private university in Punjab. In her family there 3 members and she is the single child of her family. At first her father was not accepting to send her only daughter to a far-off place, for studying. She had to convince her father for studies. It was tough time for her to convince her father. But, she and her father are now happy as just after completion of her MBA degree, she has a job offer from a reputed agency as marketing manager. She is very happy as this will give her financial freedom. She rightly remarked that “*Migrating, moving from her own place has played a key role in her transformation. It is everything and it plays a vital role in everyone’s life, mainly the young population, and their future*”. Like her father she is migrating here and there but she says she is satisfied of her position and is optimistic towards the future that is yet to unfold.

Conclusion

In conclusion we can say that migration has become a phenomenon that is bound to happen. Independently of dependent of other factors of human condition. Migration of people has existed for a long time. Mankind enabled to get free from the limitations of space thanks to migration, which has aided in the development of society and the economy. Urbanisation is one of the most critical stages in the modernization of a civilization. Migration in India has been influenced by both push and pull factors, including regional injustices,

rural-urban disparities, and an urban planning bias. Numerous studies have shown that small farmers and landless individuals relocate to urban areas in quest of jobs.

This research uses qualitative research method to answer questions for this research. Zapata-Barrero (2018) According to him, one of the important indicators of the way migration research has evolved in recent decades is the use of qualitative research. This qualitative study attempts to clarify the causes of movement as well as the migration for youth to metropolitan regions in pursuit of better academic possibilities. It asks questions Why do youth migrate from Rural to Urban and Urban to Urban areas? What is the primary reason for youth migration?

In my perspective, migration occurs for reasons like for educational purpose, and for the standard of an individual. This research focus on the children of migrants, their educational accomplishments, human capital accumulation, and later career opportunities. Migration provides advantages and possibilities for individuals, their new homes and home countries on social, political, and economic levels, giving it global relevance. Meanwhile, unreliable, hazardous, and disordered migration has a negative impact on social and economic progress. As a result, the Sustainable Development Goals highlight migration and migrant needs.

From my point of view, we will be migrating for educational purpose and for standard living of life in future. I’ve migrating for the educational purpose since its about 5 years, in my state there are enough number of institutions where I can join. But I came here (Punjab) for higher studies (PG) because this private university has good placement services and for developing my knowledge by interacting with others individuals and this is consisting of international students and students from all over India. Migration thought me more skills for economic growth, improving the quality of life of people and youth in case are one such distinct social unit. Migration gives an opportunity of greater standard of living. People advance when they identify favourable possibilities in employment, higher education, and careers, among other things. Migration increases the number of youthful workers and cultural variety; host states may benefit from migration. I found that moving has really benefited my studies and health. Everyone must move at some point in their lives. Migration adversely affects the education of children from migrant families. Individual travelling to work sites either drop out of school at beginning villages or stay nominally enrolled. Individual often ending up completely dropping

out of schools or struggle with learning gaps caused due to lengthened absence. Individual left behind at their source village experience significant emotional and behavioral difficulties due to the absence of the parents. In turn, it affects migrant's education, standard of life. While there have been several attempts to strengthen educational situation of these individual, most of these have not recognized the factor of migration. It is feasible to conclude that migration is an inescapable process in which individuals travel through several phases in order to reach their desired destinations. Because migration is so crucial in a country's geographical and economic dynamics, it can only be directed. Both at the migrants starting points and their intended destinations. As a result, migration is multifaceted, necessitating a comprehensive technique to grasp and categorize its diversity.

References

1. Bradshaw C, Atkinson S, and Doody O. (2017). Employing a Qualitative Description Approach in Health Care Research. *Global Qualitative Nursing Research*. 4. doi:10.1177/2333393617742282
2. Dodani, S., & LaPorte, R. E. (2005). Brain drain from developing countries: how can brain drain are converted into wisdom gain? *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, 98(11), 487–491. <https://doi.org/10.1177/014107680509801107>
3. Griffen, B. D., & Drake, J. M. (2009). Environment, but not migration rate, influences extinction risk in experimental meta populations. *Proceedings. Biological sciences*, 276(1677), 4363–4371. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2009.1153>.
4. Liebig, T. and J. Mo. (2013). The Fiscal Impact of Immigration in OECD Countries, *International Migration Outlook 2013*, OECD Publishing, Paris, http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/migr_outlook-2013-6-en
5. Payne G. & Payne J. (2004). Case study (p. 31-35). *Key concepts in social research*. SAGE Publications.
6. Pradhan, Sheshan. (2019). Problem of migration in India. <https://pscnotes.in/problem-of-migration-in-india/>.
7. Zapata-Barrero, R., Yalaz, E. (2022). Qualitative Methods in Migration Research. In: Scholten, P. (eds) *Introduction to Migration Studies*. IMISCOE Research Series. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-92377-8_25.