

City Centric Migration and Security Concern in Nepal

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Abstract

This article tends to focus on the trend of internal migration and its security concern in Nepal. There are different social and security concerns of migration which are not taken seriously. The repercussion might be in different fields and effects can be seen after short or long epoch. Migration and its linkage with the security are varied. It is the subject of interest for people who want to develop and make their birth land, village or cities prosperous. Current tendency of migration in Nepal indicates that the extensive out-migration of people to foreign countries is either for job or to study. Effects on migrants and communities they leave, rural to urban migration, differ according to the type of migrants, the volume of migration, and the nature of the places involved. The volume is increasing in recent days that people are migrating from rural to urban part of country even in district level. Migrants leaving rural areas are not generally replaced by other migrants. This loss of population in the rural areas and their potential contributions affects the dependency ratio, rates of unemployment and underemployment, levels of human capital, and potential for innovation. This article examines the pattern of migration and also it tries to explore the push and pull factors of migration. The security concerns of migrationS which involves different forms like human security, physical security, environmental security etc are analyzed in this article.

Key words: Migration, security, human capital, gross domestic product, push and pull factors

Introduction

In cushy meaning migration is the act or instance of moving from one place to another which may be temporary or permanent depending on the duration of absence from the place of origin and the duration of stay in the place of destination.. There are different meanings in different disciplines like ecology, biology, natural science, information technology, arts and media. There are different definitions of migration since various scholars define in various ways. Migration is one of the basic factors affecting change in population of an area along with fertility and mortality. Shryock, Stockwell and Siegel (1976) define "Migration as a form of geographic or spatial mobility involving a change of usual residence between clearly defined geographic units. It should be noted that in present definition temporary movements are not included". Mejo (2013) defines migration as a process of moving, either across an international border or within a state. It is population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever is its length, composition and causes. It includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people and economic migrants.

People move from one place to another with the intentions of settling in a new location. As the migration history of Nepal is concerned, it began after the treaty of Sugauli in 1816 AD, Nepali people started to migrate to India to be recruited in the British Indian Army. The establishment of the first Army Battalion (Sirmour Battalions) was the major turning point in the emigration of Nepali people. There were Nepali from Kathmandu who used to go to Tibet for business in limited numbers but they played a very insignificant role in Nepali emigration phenomenon. Besides, the recruitment in British-Indian Army, new agricultural programs, carried out by the then British-India in the provinces such as Assam, Darjeeling, Burma attracted many peasants from Nepali hills to work and settle there. Later, people also started to go to India for employment which still continues. Nepali goes to India to work as watchmen (guards) and hotel boys. The recent trend shows the flow of Nepali to Asian, European, American and Gulf countries and many more for skilled and unskilled jobs (Gautam, 2008). A person who moves from home to another place because of natural disaster or civil disturbance may be described as a refugee or, especially within the same country, a displaced person. This refers to a change of residence within national boundaries, such as between provinces, cities, or municipalities. Businessmen travel in different parts of country and also abroad. Unlike pilgrims, the traders who move faster look for profit and if possible set up new settlement (Swain, 2006, p. 15). People may migrate as individuals, in family units or in large groups due to different reasons which can be named as pull and push factors.

In historic times, since about 3000 BC, various clearly identifiable groups of people have moved from one area to another area of the globe. In doing so, they have profoundly influenced the human story of the society. In prehistory the movement of a group is usually evident through traces of a shared language, which the migrants bring to a new place. The spread of cultural influence, such as styles of pottery or religious practices, shows that there was a close link between regions but will not necessarily prove permanent migration. There are specially two areas which are directly affected by the migration. First is the area of origin where people leave the area and the fertile land remains unfarmed and food security for country can be in threat. And the second is destination where people go and occupy the area. Conflict in different forms can be occurred in new area such as religious, ethnic and other social conflicts. Physical security and environmental security might be in threat because of dense population. In this circumstance, this article tries to find the current trend of migration in Nepal, describe the pulling and pushing factors of city centric migration and analyze the security concerns of city centric migration in Nepal.

Review of literature

Migration has become the most bothering issue for developing and least developed states. Ravikant (2017) found that due to the political and economic instability, migration has been a rite of passage particularly for young men in their transition into adulthood. It has been a pulling-pushing factor as a door-opener to formal and informal education and gaining the experiences that is central to further mobility. Mukharji (2006) presents the experiences of migration in Asia defining all the basic terms related to migration and covering almost all the factors related to the subject. Since the author seems to be oriented for Indian college students, it is more focused on Indian context. However, the description given about the main phenomena, migration, urban economic structure and polarized investment in the research is based on Asian context. A very sad story of massive poverty induced migration of illiterate labours into different mega cities of South Asia is really heart touching for all. Ravikant (2017) includes the different aspects of the subject matter like emigration, immigration and Diaspora relations in India, Global migration and local development in Nepal, Nepal India open border and life line and other related facts about migration.

Swain (2006) argues about the sociology of migration in India and specially focusing on Marwari immigrants including the circumstances, psychology and compulsions that force their migration and their strategies to come to terms with the culture in an alien land. It casts ample light to help understanding migration and its cross-cultural dynamics. Sah (2003) describes about different aspects of migration including involuntary migration: issues and methods, interface of different authorities and other related facts related to the research subject. Cohen and Layten-Henry (1997) present different aspects of migration through different perspectives with different phenomena of migrations. Freeman (1986) describes about the migration and political economy of the welfare state. National welfare states are compelled by their logic to be closed systems that seek to insulate themselves from external pressures and that restrict rights and benefits to members. Baubock (1991) presents a notion of citizenship which goes beyond its nominal meaning of 'membership of a state'. Citizenship is seen as a normative as well as an analytical concept, which refers to the equality and universality of rights embedded in the institutions of political communities.

Hollingsworth (1971) mentions that distance has a very great influence upon the decision to migrate, but no very clear law relating the distance moved to the frequency of movement has emerged. However, one can usually say that almost all the volume of migration into or out of an area is short-distance. This has the corollary that the size of the area considered is itself important, because for a fairly large area much of the movement will be inside it and not be counted as migration. Thus people change house much more often than they change the district in which they live; and they change the region, or country, or continent that they live in much less often still.

Nogle (1997) affirms that in all US states, new arrivals of immigrants are fuelling the growth of the foreign-born population. For a few states, though, the most recent immigrants do not arrive from abroad; many come from other parts of the US, resettling after their initial arrival. Very little information has previously been available on the number or characteristics of foreign-born persons who migrate within the US. Using 1990 census data, it calculates the flow volume between states and from abroad; also, a multinomial logistic regression model of destination choice is estimated for resettlers and for migrants from abroad.

Methodology

The methodological design of this article is descriptive and analytical. Qualitative method is used to present the facts in this article. While preparing this article, available books and internet sites related to migration are referred. This paper is based on secondary data basically from secondary and tertiary sources referring various national and international past literatures and websites of related organizations. It is also based on the data available with Department of Foreign Employment (DoFE), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Nepal Living Standard Survey (NLSS) and other related website of different offices.

This article is based on the functionalism theory since migration is a function of persons in society. Functionalists believe that without collective conscience, shared values and beliefs, achieving social order is impossible and social order is crucial for the well-being of society. They believe that value consensus forms the basic integrating principle in society. As a structural theory, functionalism sees social structure or the organization of society as more important than the individual. Functionalism is a top down theory. There is a relationship between all these parts and agents of socialization and together they all contribute to the maintenance of society as a whole.

Pulling and Pushing Factors of Migration

The seasonal movement of a complete population of animals and birds from one area to another is also known as migration. Migration is usually a response to changes in temperature, food supply, or the amount of daylight, and is often undertaken for the purpose of breeding. Mammals, insects, fish, and birds all migrate. But human migration is caused by different pulling and pushing factors. There are different histories of migration. The largest migration is estimated around 14 million Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims were displaced during the partition of India, the largest mass migration in human history. The largest documented voluntary emigration in history was the Italian Diaspora from Italy between 1861 and 1970 in which about 13 million people left the country.

Migration can be classified into two terms: International and internal. International can be subdivided into Emigration and Immigration. Internal migration can be subdivided into life time migrant, inter-zonal; inter-regional, intra-zonal, inter-district, rural urban stream and periodic migration. According to Song and Cook (2015), different pulling and pushing factors as shown below create the circumstances for migration:

Pushing factors	Pulling factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment • Less opportunities • Inadequate resources • Desertification • Famine or drought • Political fear or persecution • Slavery or forced labour • Poor medical care • Poverty • Natural disasters and Life threats • Desire for more political or religious freedom • Landlord/tenant issues • Bullying • Environmental Pollution • Poor housing • Mentality • Discrimination • Poor chances of marrying • Condemned housing • Civil War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job opportunities • Better life standard • The feeling of having more political or religious freedom • Enjoyment • Better Education • Better medical care • Attractive climates • Security • Family links • Industry • Better chances of marrying • Trade and business • Development • Entertainment • Better environment • Peace

International Migration

International migration occurs when people cross state boundaries and stay in the host state for some minimum length of time. International migratory movements may be classified as temporary or permanent movement of individuals or families, movement of whole nations or tribe, movements of citizens or aliens, movement of voluntary or forced and movement for study, work and other purpose. International migration in Nepal has been a matter of great concern in the context of open border with India. The unrecorded movement of Nepali and Indians across Nepal-India border and the role of remittance in the economy mean that the implications of short-term and circular movement (international) are far reaching. Internal and international migrations are not comparable in terms of their impact in the economy and polity in the country. International migration situation can be

Source: Song and Cook (2015)

discussed under two headings: emigration or going abroad and immigration or entry of aliens. The World Bank's Migration and Remittances Fact book (2011) estimates the total number of immigrants for 2010 to be 215.8 million or 3.2 percent of world population. In 2013, the percent of international migrants worldwide increased by 33 percent with 59 percent of them targeting developed regions. At present, nearly half of all households in Nepal have at least one member abroad or a returnee (World Bank, 2011).

The number of labor migrants is increasing every year and so is the scale of remittances they send back. The top destinations to which Nepali migrate either for work include the Gulf countries, Malaysia and Korea or for study comprises the US, UK, Germany, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and also countries where there is no distinction between international and domestic students such as in France, Greece, Japan and so on. However, there is no strict and universal definition of who are student migrant and how distinctly they could be categorized from labor migrants or other form of migrants. Almost half of these migrants are women, which is one of the most significant migrant-pattern changes in the last half century. Women migrate alone or with their family members and community. Even though female migration is largely viewed as associations rather than independent migration, emerging studies argue complex and manifold reasons for this. Often a distinction is made between voluntary and involuntary migration, or between refugees fleeing political conflict or natural disaster vs. economic or labor migration, but these distinctions are difficult to make and partially subjective, as the motivators for migration are often correlated. The World Bank's report estimates that, as of 2010, 16.3 million or 7.6 percent of migrants qualified as refugees. At the end of 2012, approximately 15.4 million people were refugees and persons in refugee like situations, 87 percent of them found asylum in developing countries. Migration can lead to economic insecurity among the native population in terms of replacing the natives from scarce job and putting extra burden on the country's economy in terms of health, sanitation and other social services (Ravikant, 2017).

Nepali people began to migrate on a large scale mostly to Gulf countries and Malaysia after 1980. When the globalization movement started, there was an oil boom in gulf countries, and shortage of unskilled and semi skilled human resources in the destination countries. This was accelerated by unemployment and high under-unemployment and later conflict (1996 – 2006) in Nepal. In the last two decades Nepal has experienced a dramatic growth in international and internal migration, especially from rural areas to urban centers and foreign countries such as America, Germany, Britain, Canada, Japan, Qatar, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other countries including India (Gautam, 2008). The current scale of foreign labor migration from Nepal is unprecedented, providing an alternative to hundreds of thousands of youth who are unable to find satisfactory, or even any, employment within the country. Foreign labor migration is now an intrinsic part of everyday life for a majority of Nepali. It has also become a source of lucrative business for those involved in sending workers abroad. As per the report of Ministry of Foreign Employment Nepal, 2012, there are approximately 800 licensed organizations related to foreign employment business for labor migration. The main incentive for emigration is the promise of higher wages. The countries of destination profited from increased supply of low paid active labors whereas the countries of origin saw labors market pressures ease. It shows that the growing impact of migration is felt especially in the economic sector of Nepal. However, there is no proper policy to utilize the remittance amount. Hence, about 80 percent of the remittance amount has used in consumption. The bulk of the economic gains from migration accrue to migrants and their families, and these gains are often large. Wage levels in high income countries are approximately five times those of low-income countries for similar occupations, generating an enormous incentive to emigrate. Essentially migrants can earn salaries that reflect industrial-country prices and spend the money in developing countries, where the prices of nontrade goods are much lower (WB, 2006). Obviously, the labor market and economy of Nepal can't absorb all the available human resources and those employed are not satisfied with the offered wages. Migration and remittances have the potential to improve well-being, stimulate economic growth and reduce poverty directly and indirectly, while their effects on inequality are much more ambiguous. The money that migrants send home remittances is an important source of extra income for migrants' families and for developing countries: in aggregate, remittances are more than twice as the size of international aid flows.

This fact shows its relevancy to the economic condition of Nepal where a large chunk of a GDP pie is covered by the remittance money. Moreover, as the report of Fiscal Policy 2011/12, Nepal received about 42 billion rupees as foreign aid whereas in the same period Nepal received about 360 billion rupees as remittance. In 2010, some 214 million people, almost three percent of the world's population lived

outside their country of origin. The majority of migrants cross borders in search of better economic and social opportunities. A relatively small percent of migrants, about 10.5 million in 2011 are refugees fleeing armed conflict. New patterns of migration have arisen, and many countries that once sent migration abroad for example, Argentina, Ireland and South Korea are now experiencing migrant inflows as well. South Korea is emerging as new potential for Nepali migrant workers with the introduction EPS.

The government of Nepal started to grant permission to work in the foreign country from the year 1993. The advent of democracy in 1990 has given some impetus to go for foreign employment because it is convenient to have passport even by the common people. Workforce migration has retained strong and steady trend among the Nepali youths. As stated by the Department of Foreign Employment (2012), in the last six years approximately 1.72 million youth went abroad for employment. This consistence growth is mainly because the 4.5 percent economic growth rate has not been able to absorb some 400,000 new entrants in the labor market annually. The international migration rate is increasing day by day in recent year which can be seen in the table 1.

Table 1: Number of Nepali Labor Migration by Year

Fiscal Year	Number of Nepali Labour Migrants
2006-07	204,433
2007-08	249,051 (Increased by 21.82 percent)
2008-09	219,965 (Decreased by 11.76 percent)
2009-10	294,094 (Increased by 33.70 percent)
2010-11	354,716 (Increased by 20.61 percent)
2011-12	384,665 (Increased by 8.44 percent)

Source: Department of Foreign Employment, 2012

Internal Migration Trend in Nepal

Internal migration is a continuous process of society. Internal migration is defined as movement of population within a country with change in address and associated with change of usual place of residence within the national boundary. This refers to a change of residence within national boundaries, such as between states, provinces, cities, or municipalities. An internal migrant is someone who moves to a different administrative territory. Migration is one of the major demographic factors to bring change in population size, structure and distribution. It is generally defined as a geographical form of population movement involving change of usual place of residence. Although the role of armed conflict, which challenged the overall personal security of youths for various reasons in villages, was a major factor especially for migration, this was expressed as a factor by a nominal number of the absentees’ families.

Historically Nepal has witnessed four distinct motions of internal migration. The first motion of internal migration came during the unification of Nepal by King Prithivi Narayan Shah and his successors until the early eighteen century. Internal migration in this period was mainly under the compulsory labor services imposed by the then rulers, called Jhara labour, in which youths were used for different purposes such as transport of military and other supplies, construction of temples, palaces, bridges, forts, etc. Jhara labour was a kind of forced and generally unpaid labor. Resettlement program from hill to Terai is another motion of migration and after the advent of the democracy in Nepal in 1951, the third motion if migration was occurred. The fourth beckon can be taken after the period of armed conflict in Nepal. During and after armed conflict, many individuals and families have left their hometown and flew away for better and safety life.

The temporary or permanent relocation volume of internal migration depends on the size of the defined geographical area. For example, area can be defined as a ward of a rural municipality and any movements between wards could be regarded as migratory movement. Likewise, the geographic area could also be defined as a municipality or a district or Terai, Hill and Mountains. It should be noted that the larger the geographic area smaller the migratory movements. The defined geographic areas, time unit are also play an important role in the measurement of internal migration. In Nepal, internal migration data usually comes from national censuses where data on place of birth and place of residence is usually collected and information is provided for migratory movement on a lifetime basis. In Nepal till the fifties, Terai area was infested with high prevalence of Malaria. Till then internal migration from Hills and Mountain Region to Terai area was very limited. After the successful control of Malaria in the Terai region migratory movement from Hill and Mountain areas to Terai started to increase. Major factors in this migratory movements included harsher condition in the Hills and Mountains for example; limited supply of arable land, lack of employment and educational opportunities, and lack of infrastructural facilities in these areas. Moreover, availability of arable land in Terai immediately after the control of malaria and better infrastructural facilities, migration from Hills and Mountains to Terai was increased rapidly. This

migratory movement of people from Hills and Mountains to Terai was also facilitated by the resettlement program set up by the government in the late sixties. The trend of migration is city centric. People are seen Terai centric in the following table:

Table 2: Population Distribution by Ecological Zones Nepal

Census years	Mountain	Hill	Mountain & Hill	Terai	Total
1952/54	-	-	5349988 (64.8%)	2906637 (35.2%)	8256625
1961			5991297 (63.6%)	3421699 (36.4%)	9412996
1971	1138610 (9.9%)	6071407 (52.5 %)	7210017 (62.4%)	4345966 (37.6%)	11555983
1981	1302896 (8.7 %)	7163115 (47.7 %)	8466011 (56.4%)	6556828 (43.6%)	15022839
1991	1443130 (7.8)	8419889 (45.5 %)	9863019 (53.3%)	8628078 (46.7%)	18491097
2001	1687859 (7.3 %)	10251111 (44.3 %)	11938970 (51.6%)	11212453 (48.4%)	23151423
2011	1781792 (6.7 %)	11394007 (43.0 %)	13175799 (49.7%)	13318705 (50.3%)	26494504

Source: CBS, Nepal

in the Terai region. People move from one place to another place due to different reasons. The 2001 census included five main reasons for migration such as trading, agriculture, employment, study/training and marriage. Economic reasons were the main motivators for moving from one residence to another within the region. However, when moving from one region to another it was mostly for employment reasons followed by social and environmental reasons. The relative importance of the types of reasons for moving from residences to residences within the region or in another region was dependent on how long people had been living at their previous residence. As a comparison, a residence within the same region was chosen mainly for environment, social and economic reasons and these reasons were of similar importance. In the contexts of Nepal, political instability has always been the major challenge and constraint in development of country. Decade long armed conflict, changing of government time to time and dispute among political parties and leaders has hindered all sector of Nepal and also directly affecting the development of country. People have to think for them to sustain peacefully. The migration is city centric which can be anticipated from the population of Kathmandu valley shown in table 3. As the data presented in the table above, the population Kathmandu valley is increasing in large scale in recent days. It is not only cause of birth rate but the migrants occupied more area of valley than native citizens.

Table 3: Population of Kathmandu

Population of Kathmandu		
Year	Population	percent
1991	675341	3.65
2001	1081845	4.67
2011	1,744,240	6.58

Source: CBS, 1995, 2003, 2012 & Population Report 2014

Migration and Security Concern

Migration and security are inter-linkage with one another. Migration can contribute to human development, especially if the rights of movers are improved (UNDP, 2009) but can cause human security threats. It is said that migration is a much talked, poorly understood and loosely handled issue in Nepal. It is an influenced by various social, economic and cultural factors owes a lot to the internal and international migration of various caste/ethnic groups in the country at various time scales. To what extent migration is good or bad can be debated but migration has been established as livelihood option of Nepali household from past to the present. There are numbers of questions that is related to subject matter. Why people migrate from one place and why they are easily leaving their birth place is the recurring questions. It is not easy to leave the birth place and there might be different social and security impacts due to migration either it might be planned or unplanned. However, most of the policies have shown limited success and that reiterates the fact that the problems of controlling human mobility are quite difficult even in a small, ethnically homogeneous country with a strong central government (Mukherji, 2006).

The history of the migration-security nexus cannot be conceptualized without the notion of state and the citizenship and identity that the state provides. Gradually the notion of security in migration and the state's need for controlling migrant populations led to the emergence of policy agendas, institutions and processes of migration (Torpey, 2011). In geography, this security concern reinforced notions of physical borders and boundaries. In social aspects it gave birth to the notion of the 'alien' and the 'native' and the rationale that forms the basis of social interaction between them and the state. On the political front, it reasserted the legitimacy of the state to control 'alien' populations and the state's capacity to provide identity and define who would be 'native' and 'alien'. These interdependent systems then led to the birth of processes of immigration and documents related to identity and movement, such as passports.

The issue of migration as a human security threat is said to have re-emerged in the present decade primarily due to the overwhelming increase in different forms of migration. Refugees, IDPs induced by conflict, development interventions, climate change, internal and international labour migrants, student and highly skilled migrants and the general increase in mobility of people have made certain issues relevant for the security of the state as well as that of the people. The security concerns of migration can be analyzed as follows:

Migration and human security: There are many aspects of human security that are affected by migration. The conventional terms as a national security might be also in threat due to international migration and refugee problems. Migration must be treated not only as a matter for humanitarian concerns but also as a political problem which must be placed in the mainstream of agenda as a potential threat to peace and security. Large-scale immigration, particularly of a domineering population can often result in human security threats. More recently, the Beijing government has actively encouraged the influx of ethnic Chinese into Tibet in the name of security.

Economic security: Many of the security issues associated with immigration, particularly illegal immigration and asylum seeking, relate to economic security. However, there are evidences to suggest that migrants create jobs, directly and indirectly. Indeed, many countries have policies of giving favorable status to wealthy immigrants with an entrepreneurial bent who are prepared to invest in job creation activities. Canada has operated such a scheme since 1986, New Zealand since 1987 and the United States since 1991. The Australian government estimates that between 1994 and 1995 each wealthy business person who created jobs in mentionable numbers. Most of the analysis here has been from the perspective of receiving nations. However, there are significant migration-related economic security issues for sending nations. On the positive side, remittances from migrants can be substantial and particularly valuable for local communities, families and individuals in sending countries. In the developing countries, most of young people try to settle abroad specially European and American states. Often it is the best educated and more entrepreneurial who move, leading to a brain drain which can have serious impacts on the economic, political and even the cultural security of the countries they left. Also the man power can be lacking in industrial and agricultural sector in such countries.

Political security: Immigrants are often blamed for being involved in international terrorism particularly where a significant element of political exile and dissent exists. For example, Palestinian exiles in Lebanon became a political and security problem for Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel and other countries. The problem for the security of some sections of diasporas is that of rejection by the host because of racism, ethnic tension, economic jealousy, cultural friction or political instability. The Indian community in Fiji is leaving that country in increasing numbers because of discrimination by the native Fijian population but once Mahendra Chaudhary of Indian origin was able to be prime minister of Fiji..

Social security: Threats to social security often relate to crime and disorder internally in society. Immigrants, particularly the young, are often blamed for crime of varying kinds at a national level. Internal disorder can occur when immigrant communities hold demonstrations that protest at conditions in the host or origin country. Immigrant groups themselves often become the targets of right-wing and anti immigrant demonstrations. Another area of concern is the decline in the education and skill levels of immigrants.

Cultural security: Cultural threats are usually a matter of difference and the ability and willingness of host and incoming group to accept each other. Often this has to do with 'ethnic affinity' which itself can vary according to circumstances. 'Who is or is not "one of us"' is historically variable in different society and cultural groups.

Environmental security: Generally it is said that migrants have an adverse impact on environmental systems. The environmental degradation associated with global capital's voracious resource demands has created large numbers of environmental refugees who appear set to become a prominent. The pattern of society differs due to the migrant population. Environmental pollution and other effects also can be caused by migrant populations.

Conclusion

In order to achieve quality of life people migrate. There are numerous powerful push and pull factors behind a decision to migrate like as employment and opportunities, economic disparities, family reunification, poverty, environmental degradation, armed conflict, demographic pressures, natural disasters etc. On the other side, globalization has played the catalytic roles for international migration in the present world. International migration can have important benefits for development of home countries

and contribute to the welfare of host societies, to develop livelihood of the community to reduce poverty at the individual level through which investments fund can be provided and structures can be established. Ideologies and support networks can be reinforced for development activities. The significant migration from Mountain and Hill to Terai can be explained by different pull factors like resettlement program, availability of fertile arable land, employment opportunities and better communication and transportation facilities. A survey conducted by Central Department of Population Studies in 1996 indicated that out of the total population in Nepal, 22 percent were internal migrants. Migration rate among females was far higher than males. It does not necessarily mean females are more mobile than males rather it could be due to marriage migration, because in this survey, movements from one municipality to other were also regarded as migration. Persons aged 15-39 were more mobile than other age groups.

Regarding migration and security, the idea of surveillance of human movement is said to have begun in Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. People who were mobile needed to be registered in a given territory and documentation was later extended to the mobile population. Thus the notion was to control movement. Migration automatically affects the security of specific area or places where they move from and move to. The form of threats differs in different situation and different places in time gap. The security concerns of migration are not same in all time and all territory. It differs as the situation and other dimensions related to society. It can be managed using different mechanisms. The concerned authority must assure people that they are safe and secured. If people can feel safe socially and physically, they wouldn't leave their birth place easily. The migration rate would be decreased in coming days in such condition that security concerns of people are addressed properly.

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