

STATUS OF NEPALESE ORPHAN THROUGH PARENTAL DEATH IN FOREIGN LABOUR MIGRATION

Govinda Prasad Adhikari¹,

Thuma Kumari Paudel²

Abstracts

Migration is one of the components of the demographic Process. Parental migration has both positive and negative impacts on child development. Trends of death and injury in foreign labour migration are increasing. The death rate of male migrants is higher than female migrants in foreign employment. Parental deaths were observed higher for province one. The absence of the parents will impact the health and education of children. This study aims to analyse the impact on Nepalese orphans through parental death in foreign labour migration. This study has used quantitative information through secondary sources to achieve the research objectives. The major secondary sources are national and international publications, reports and journals. Information on school students, the injured or death status of the parents and scholarship status of children has been collected from the foreign employment promotion board of Nepal. All provinces are purposively selected as most foreign labour migrant provinces. Finally, data were presented in tabular and graphic form. Data were analysed in a descriptive method. The death of foreign labour migrants is increasing in Nepal. The absence of parents due to foreign labour migration in the family has increased negative effects on child health and education. The major causes of parental death are disease, accident, natural cause and investigation pending. The major death occurrence countries are Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Qatar. The government's major social programs to support orphan and their families are injury benefit compensation and student scholarship programs, medicine support, rescue, and transportation of the dead body, orientation and training and other support

Keywords: Allowance, child health and education, labour migration, scholarship program

Introduction

Migration is one of the components of demography. Labour migration is becoming a component of national development through remittance. These days, migration is becoming more helpful for the employment people. According to the Foreign Employment Promotion Board, thousands of Nepalese leave the country every year. They accept foreign employment with the hope of better opportunities for themselves and their families. But many of them never back home alive every year; few numbers of them make their journey the home in a coffin. The number of undocumented foreign labour migrants has increased the dying number of workers (Mandal, 2020).

About 169 million people were crossing the international border for work worldwide in 2019.

1 Mr. Adhikari is Lecturer of Population Studies at Padma Kanya Multiple Campus, Bagbazar, Kathmandu, Email: adhikari.gp.2020@gmail.com

2 Mrs. Paudel is Lecturer of Health and Physical Education, Mahendra Ratna Campus, Tahachal, Kathmandu

They constituted 4.9 per cent of the global labour force in the destination countries. These migrant workers are approximately 69 per cent of the world's international migrant population (ILO, 2021). In the last decade (2008 to 2018 BS), the department of foreign labour employment has issued over 4 million labour approvals to Nepali workers (MoLESS, 2020)

Researchers in labour migration have recognized that parental migration or parental absence from the home can harm child outcomes which may outweigh the positive effect of remittances. But Gibson et al. (2011) show that migration of household member's leads to worse diets and health outcomes for children. An orphan child who lost their parents in foreign labour migration has increased in Nepalese society. About 7,467 people have died in the destination country during the one decade (MoLESS, 2020). The government of Nepal has been providing a scholarship to the children of foreign-employed individuals who died, became physically disabled, or became seriously ill (MoLESS, 2071). About 378 students have received such scholarships in the year 2077/78 BS (MoLESS, 2078a). The death of parents will bring multiple problems to the family. One of the major problems will impact the health and schooling of children. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the impact on Nepalese orphans from parental death in foreign labour migration.

Objectives of the study

This study has focused on status of orphan on parental death at foreign labour migration of Nepal and its impact on child health and education

Methodology of the study

To achieve the research objective of this study has used quantitative data through secondary sources. Information of schooling students of injured / dead of the family, students of getting the scholarship and the total number of dead/injured person in foreign labour migration has collected from foreign labour promotion board Nepal. Finally, data were presented in tabular and graphic form. Data were analysed in a descriptive method.

Result of the study

It was found that the trend in foreign labour migration was increased for one decade. It increased from 219 thousand to 236 thousand from 2008/09 to 2018/19. On the other hand, the number of female migrants was increasing day by day. It was increased from 8.5 thousand in 2008/09 to 29.1 thousand in 2013/14, and the number of female foreign labour migrants has decreased to 20.5 thousand in 2018/19.

Table 1: Trends of labour permit in Nepal

Year	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total
2008/09	211,371	96	8,594	4	219,965
2000/10	284,038	97	10,056	3	294,094
2010/11	344,300	97	10,416	3	354,716
2011/12	361,707	94	22,958	6	384,665
2012/13	423,122	94	27,767	6	450,889
2013/14	490,517	94	29,121	6	519,638
2014/15	478,199	96	21,421	4	499,620
2015/16	477,690	96	21,412	4	499,102
2016/17	362,766	95	20,105	5	382,871

2017/18	331,679	94	22,419	6	354,098
2018/19	215,630	91	20,578	9	236,208

(Source: MoLESS, 2020).

Foreign labour migration by province in Nepal

There were 236 thousand persons were getting a work permit from Nepal Foreign Labour Migration Board in 2019. Out of the total foreign labour migrants, province one has the highest (24.4 percent) numbers in foreign labour migration, and Sudur Paschim Province has the least (2.6 per cent) number of labour migrant from Nepal. Province two has 24.2 percent, Lumbini Province has 18.8 per cent, Bagmati Province has 15 per cent, Gandaki Province has 12.3 per cent, and Karnali Province has only 2.7 percent foreign labour migration.

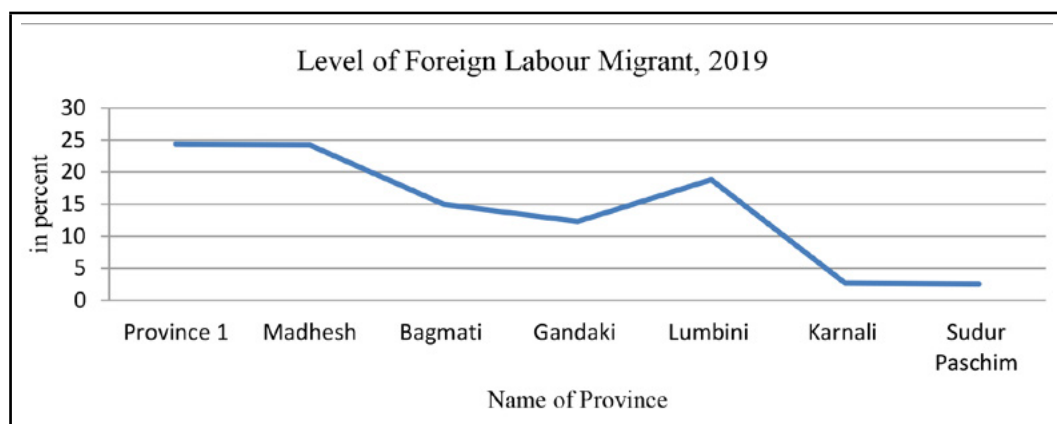


Figure 1: Level of foreign labour migration by province in Nepal, 2019

Trends of foreign labour migration and death in Nepal, 2076

There were 7467 migrants were death and 1513 migrants were injured during one decade in foreign labour migration in Nepal. Out of death, majority of them (7296) were male and (171) were female migrant. On the other hands, out of injured person, 1466 were male and 47 were female (MoLESS, 2020).

Table 2: Death and injury of foreign labour migrant

Year	Number of Death			Number of Injuries
	Male	Female	Total	
2008/09	87	3	90	8
2000/10	399	19	418	11
2010/11	541	8	549	29
2011/12	632	14	646	56
2012/13	716	11	727	93
2013/14	864	24	888	115
2014/15	1000	6	1006	184
2015/16	789	24	813	116

2016/17	737	18	755	206
2017/18	801	21	822	360
2018/19	730	23	753	335
Total	7296	171	7467	1513

The number of deaths was very small (90) in the year 2008/09 but it was significantly increased (1006) in the year 2014/15 and it was counted as 753 in the year 2018/19.

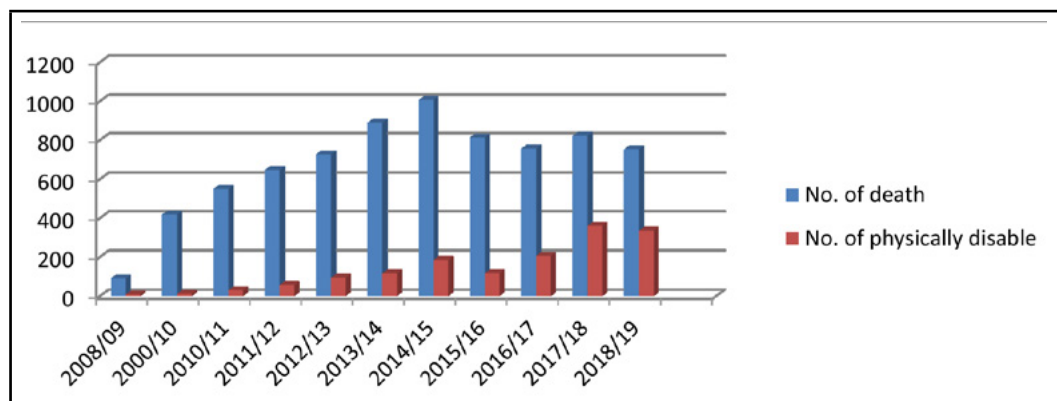


Figure 2: Trend of injury and death of foreign labour migrant Nepal, 2008- 2018

Foreign labour migration and death by province in Nepal

The death of foreign labour migrant was highest (508) in province 1, which was followed by Madhesh Province (452) and Lumbini Province (424). The Karnali Province (63) and Sudur Pachim Province (68) was observed least death in foreign labour migration in Nepal.

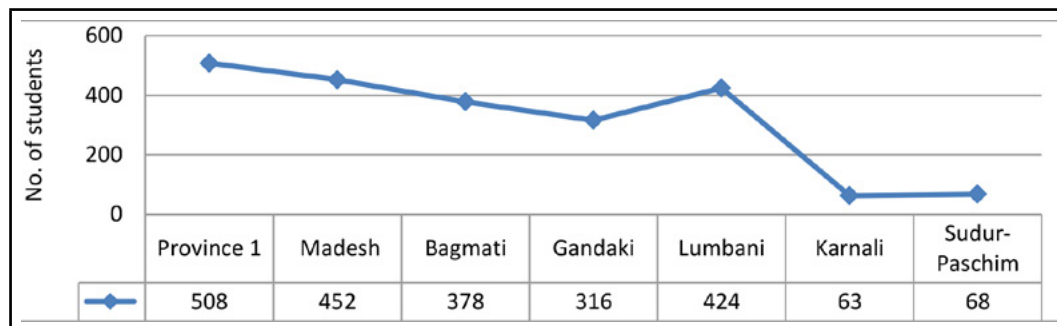


Figure 3: Death of labour in foreign labour migration by Province

Foreign Employment Promotion Board, also provide to the family of a deceased migrant worker. Foreign Employment Promotion Board has been provided with some compensation to the family of deceased migrant workers. There are 7467 families that have received such compensation during on decade from 2008/09 to 2018/19. The compensation also covers costs associated with delivering the remains of the deceased from the Kathmandu airport to their homes. This provides some financial and logistic support to the mourning family members. The family of deceased migrant workers also benefits from insurance payments of NRP 1 million (MoLESS, 2020).

Government's social contribution in foreign labour migration

The government of Nepal has set various social programs to support to the foreign labour migrants. According to the Foreign Employment Promotion Board of Nepal, foreign employee injury benefit compensation amount NRP 7 Lakh to be provided to the returnee migrants depending on the severity of the injury or illness of the migrant. Government also provided to the death and injured person's children for student scholarship program, the support was declared as 12 thousand for death and 8 thousand for injured person's children.

Table 3: Government's social contribution for foreign labour migration, 2077

S.N.	Activities	Male	Female	Total	Amount
1	Financial support to demise family	1213	29	1242	737,715,000
2	Financial support to injured/ serious ill person	138	5	143	73,302,200
3	Medicine support to labour family	3	1	4	200,000
4	Rescue of labour	226	187	413	26,762,700
5	Support to dead body transport from destination to Kathmandu airport	116	6	122	9,067,810
6	Support to deliver dead body of labour from Kathmandu airport to home.	748	22	770	1,794,964
7	Orientation and training	0	21	21	14,700
8	Foreign employment scholarship	2001	208	2209	20,882,000
9	Support for kind	0	0	92	4,600,000
Total					874,339,374

(Source: MoLESS, 2078a)

Government has provided financial support to 1242 demise family in the year 2077/78. There was Rs. 87 Karod for various social program for foreign labour migrant and there family. Very large amount (Rs. 73 Karod) was provided to 1242 demise family in the year 2077/78. And 7Karod was provided to 143 families for treatment of injured person 2 Karod for scholarship of 2209 student of such family. Other social programs are medicine support, rescue, and transportation of dead body from Kathmandu airport to home town, orientation and training and support for kids.

Student scholarship program

The government of Nepal has been providing scholarships to the children of foreign-employed individuals who died, became physically disabled, or became seriously ill while working abroad. Students under age 18 who have attended community schools (from pre-primary through Class12) are eligible for the scholarship (MoLESS, 2071). According to Foreign Employment Promotion Board Scholarship Program, 378 students received such scholarships in the year 2077/78 BS.

Out of 77 districts, 64 district's students have got scholarship from the government in the year 2077/78. Sarlahi district have highest (100) students for scholarship. There are 5 districts (most of them are from Terai province) which have more than 80 students, 9 district (most of them have

Gandaki province) have 60 to 80 students, 10 district (most of them have Bagmati Province) have 40-60 students, 14 districts (most of them have Lumbani Province) have 20-40 students and 25 districts (most of them from Karnali Province) have less than 20 students. On the other hands, 8 districts (most of them from Far-Western Province) have less than five students.

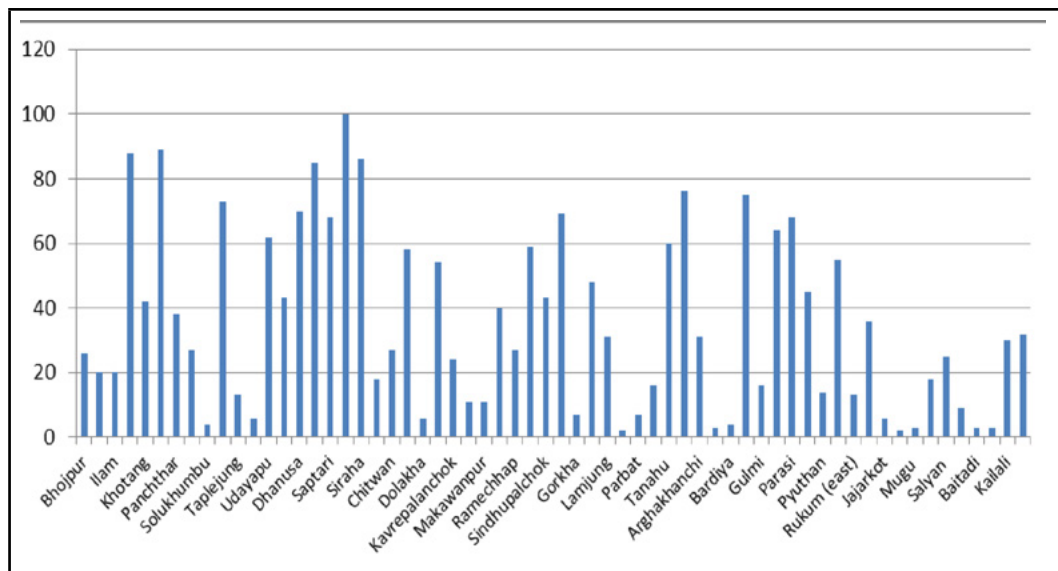


Figure 4: Student scholarship for death/injury in foreign labour migrations, 2077

Foreign labour migration and causes of death

Tens of thousands of Nepalis leave the country every year for foreign employment with the hope of better opportunities. They send billions of remittances, but many of them back home alive every year. For one decade, about 7467 Nepalese have died in foreign employment.

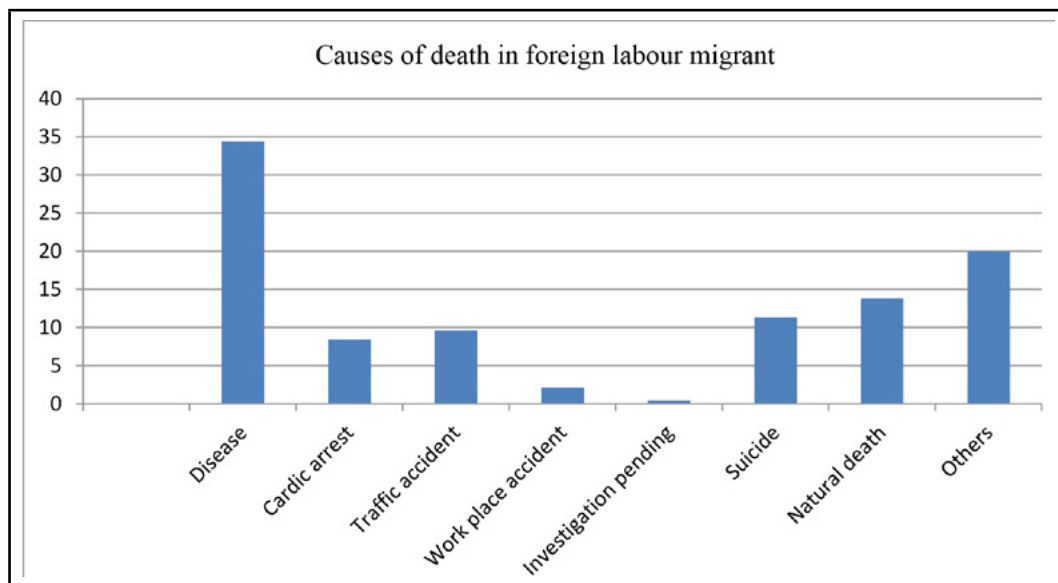


Figure 5: Causes of death during foreign labour migration

Out of a total (1242) death, the highest (1213) were male and 29 were female workers. About 34 per cent of labour death occurs due to disease, 14 per cent by natural death, 11 per cent by suicide, 8 per cent by cardiac arrest, 10 per cent by a traffic accident, 2 per cent by working place accident and 0.4 per cent (5 death) by investigation pending. Out of these various causes of death, natural death (14 per cent) and investigations pending (20 per cent) have seen the intention of the company's financial relation. The death of migrant workers occurs in different destinations. The death had occurred higher (362) in Saudi Arabia which is followed by 280 deaths in Malaysia, 239 in Qatar, 208 in UAE, 55 in Kuwait and 31 in Bahrain respectively (MoLESS, 2078b).

Discussion

The trend in foreign labour migration increased during one decade in Nepal, which increased from 219 thousand to 236 thousand for one decade. The migration of females has increased sharply from 8.5 to 29.1 thousand. At the province level, province one has the highest (24.4 per cent) numbers in labour migration and Sudur Paschim Province has the least (2.6 per cent) number.

There was 7467 migrant who was dead, and 1513 migrants have injured for one decade. The death occurring of males is higher than in female migrants. It was higher for province 1, then Madhesh Province and Lumbini Province.

The various social programs for the foreign labour migrants are foreign employee injury benefit compensation and student scholarship programs. The scholarship was Rs. 12 thousand for death and Rs. 8 thousand for injured family children. The other support to the family is medicine support, rescue, and transportation of the dead body from Kathmandu airport to hometown, orientation and training and support for kids.

The scholarship program is a long-term program for the children of foreign-employed individuals who died, became physically disabled, or became seriously ill at working abroad. Students under the age of 18 (from pre-primary through Class12) are eligible 378 students are receiving such scholarships in the year 2077/78 BS. Out of 77 districts, 64 district students have got a scholarship from the government in the year 2077/78. Sarlahi district has the highest (100) students for the scholarship, five districts have 80 students.

Out of a total (of 1242) death, 34 per cent of death occurs due to disease, 14 per cent by natural cause. The various causes of death like natural death (14 per cent) and investigations pending (20 per cent) have seen the intention of the company's' financial relations. This death occurs in the different destinations of migrant workers. Higher deaths occurred (362) in Saudi Arabia, 280 deaths in Malaysia, 239 in Qatar, 208 in UAE, 55 in Kuwait and 31 in Bahrain (MoLESS, 2078b).

The role of remittance from foreign labour migration will be helpful to the household budget, increase child schooling, child health, and a corresponding decrease in child labour. Several studies find evidence supporting this hypothesis. This study has discussed the impact of parental death on child education and health (Anton, 2010).

Parental migration has both (positive and negative) impacts on the children. Literature on migration shows the father's role as a disciplinarian (Zoller, 1995). Parental migration is significantly associated with academic, behavioural and emotional problems in children's health (Lahaie et al., 2009). In the case of Nepal, the level of single parents is increasing due to the foreign labour migration over one decade. The trend of foreign labour migration has increased from 219 to 519 thousand in one decade. The number of female migrants also increased from 8.5 thousand to 29.1 thousand. Cortes (2010) found that maternal migration has an overall negative effect on education. Similarly, Jampaklay (2006) found that long-term maternal absence hurts education in Thailand.

The death of a father in adolescence has a significant negative impact on school enrolment, maths

scores and sense of agency (Himaz, 2013). A study on parental deaths found that recent parental death is associated with reduced school enrolment among children. The results suggest that older children and elder daughters are at higher risk of dropping out when a parent dies (Gertler et al., 2004). In the case of Nepal, about 7467 Nepali died in foreign employment during one decade, and 1242 in the last year (MoLESS, 2078b). The majority of death occurred in males (1213), and 29 were female workers. The absence of parents will affect education.

Gibson et al. (2011) has shown that the migration of a household member leads to worse diets and health outcomes for children. Migration is associated with lower health inputs for children left behind, including breastfeeding and vaccinations. In the case of Nepal, the increasing level of foreign labour migration increased positive effects on the nutritional status of children through remittance.

A longitudinal study on the impact of parental death in middle childhood shows the different effects on schooling and psychosocial outcomes. It has a significantly negative on school enrolment (Himaz, 2013). Parental death is associated with reduced school enrolment among children (Gertler et al., 2004). In the case of Nepal, parental death in foreign labour migration may increase schooling and health problems in childhood.

Conclusion

Increasing trends in foreign labour migration for one decade increased remittance in Nepal. The migration of females sharply increased during this period. It was higher in province one and lowest in Sudur Paschim province. The death of males is higher than that of female migrants. It was higher for province 1.

Parental migration has a positive and negative impact on children's health and education. The migration of parents is helpful in academic, behavioural and emotional problems but hurts school enrolment. The parental death has a significant impact on a child's psychological health. The migration of a household member leads to worse diets and health outcomes for children. The migration of foreign labour increased positive effects on the nutritional status of children through remittance.

The major causes of death in foreign labour migration are disease, accident, natural cause and investigation pending. Major causes of death like natural death and investigations pending may be a connection with intention of the company's financial relations. The death in the country is highest (362), Saudi Arabia, Malaysia (280) and Qatar (239).

The role of remittance from foreign labour migration will be helpful to the household budget, increase child schooling, child health, and a corresponding decrease in child labour. Several studies find evidence supporting this hypothesis. This study has discussed the impact of parental death on child education and health.

To address the problem of foreign labour migration, the government of Nepal has set up various social programs. The programs are foreign employee injury benefit compensation and student scholarship programs. The scholarship was Rs. 12 thousand for death and Rs. 8 thousand for injured family children, medicine support, rescue, and transportation of the dead body from Kathmandu airport to home town, orientation and training and support for kids. The scholarship program programme for children is provided to students under the age of 18 years. Currently, 378 students are receiving such scholarships in the year 2077/78 BS. The scholarship receivers are the highest in the Sarlahi district.

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