

## Socio-economic and Demographic status of Emigrants' Households of Baghchaur Municipality

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### **Abstract**

*This study deals with the “International Labour Migration (A Case Study of Baghchaur Municipality in Salyan District. The primary data was collected from the study area of Baghchaur Municipality. The general objective of the study is to examine the scenario of international labour migration pertaining to study area. Main objectives of the study are to examine the socio-economic and demographic status of emigrant's households, influencing factors, direction and magnitude, and the impact of emigration in the place of origin. The analysis and interpretation of data were carried out by using frequency tables, cross tabulation, with selected dependent and independent variables. International labour migration is seen in direction and destination with increasing volume in study side.*

**Methods:** *Simple random sampling procedure was applied to collect the primary data and information about the emigrants by using questionnaire. Descriptive research design was used and the total number of international labor migrants were 118 from 100 households. There are 118 respondents were found whereas 111 were male and 7 were female.*

**Results:** *India has the highest volume of emigrants and the flow is increasing now towards Malaysia from Nepal. Skilled migrant workers get high paid jobs. Reliability of human resource agencies have also played the crucial role in finding the work and wage. Amount, frequency and regularity of remittances depend upon the types of works, companies and the destination country. International money express, banks, and western union money transfer are mostly used channels for sending money. The rise in income is evident in the emigrant's household but the expenditure increasing. Unemployment, insufficient agricultural land and poverty are the key factors for emigration associated with origin. Due to the low level of education migrant workers get highly paid in destination countries compared to Nepal. Availability of unskilled works in the destination countries seems appealing to the low educated migrant workers.*

**Keywords:** *Migration, Emigrants, Remittances, Labour*

### **Introduction**

Nepal's HDI value for 2019 is 0.602 which put the country in the medium human development category positioning it at 142 out of 189 countries and territories. Every, two in five persons in Nepal live below absolute poverty line and every other person in the rural area is poor (NPC, 2003). Unemployment refers to the share of the labor force that is without work but available for and seeking employment. Nepal unemployment rate for 2021 was 5.05%, a 0.33% increase from 2020. Nepal unemployment rate for 2020 was 4.72%, a 1.63% increase from 2019. Nepal's demographic indicator is still very low compared to those of the south Asian countries. Migration is the result of social, political and economic consequences of the specific area. Several causes like political upheaval, natural calamities and religious war force people to migrate. People choose to migrate due to economic reasons (i.e., low employment opportunities, indebtedness,

poverty). The migrants constitute of different groups with conservative, innovative, temporal and spatial characteristics. Therefore, economists, geographers, sociologists, demographers etc have studied the history of migration. Researcher and other specialist have also developed the theory and literature on migration. Migration is an event that occurs in a time interval and hence the temporal aspect is also important, as is the spatial when such movements occur within a country they are referred to as internal migration while if they involve crossing national boundaries they are referred to as international migration and emigration refers to migration out side the country and immigration inside the country from the other countries (UN, 1956). Nepal has long tradition of labor migration to India starting from early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The traditional from of labour migration to India still continues in a larger scale seddon et al (2001) cited that about 250000 Nepali migrant workers are employee in public sectors in India. It is assumed that number of Nepali migrant workers employed in private sectors in India would be twice as many that employed in public sectors. It is to note that labour migration to India is not governed by the regarding foreign employment. It is taking place as a free migration which does not require visa and work permit and largely facilitated by open border between Nepal and India. Geographical proximity, cultural affinity and the network also play important role in inducing and perpetuating migration of Nepalese workers to India. Like in India, number of Nepali workers in overseas countries has been found increased tremendously in recent years. A conservative estimate for the year 1997 by Seddon, 2001 indicated that there were about 100000 Nepali workers overseas. Among them, 44000 in East/south east Asian countries, 40000 in Gulf countries, 15000 in the western countries, and the rest of 1000 in other countries. The most recent guesstimate by Adhikari et al in 2006 put the comparative figure to 858000, increase by 8.6 times since 1997. According to this estimate the largest 551000 or 64.2 percent of the total Nepali workers in overseas were in Gulf countries followed by 251000 in the east south East Asian countries or 29.2 percent, 25000 in Europe, Australia, 23000 or 3 percent in north America 2.7 percent and the rest in other countries.

### Results

It is basically to meet the household needs that the migrants had to migrate to foreign land. The migrants' family varies from joint to single. However, the family size is very diverse. Table 1 shows the family size of the migrants' households.

**Table 1 Distribution of Household by Family size**

Family size in persons	Number of household	Sampled population				
		Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total
1-3	13	26	8.6	22	7.7	48
4-6	59	154	51.2	147	51.8	301
7-9	17	57	18.9	61	21.5	118
10 and above	11	64	21.3	54	19.0	118
Total	100	301	100.0	284	100.0	585

Source: - Field Survey, 2019

The total population of the 100 household is 585 members, out of which 301 are males and 284 are females. Table 4.1 clearly shows that the family size ranging from 4 to 6 members occupies

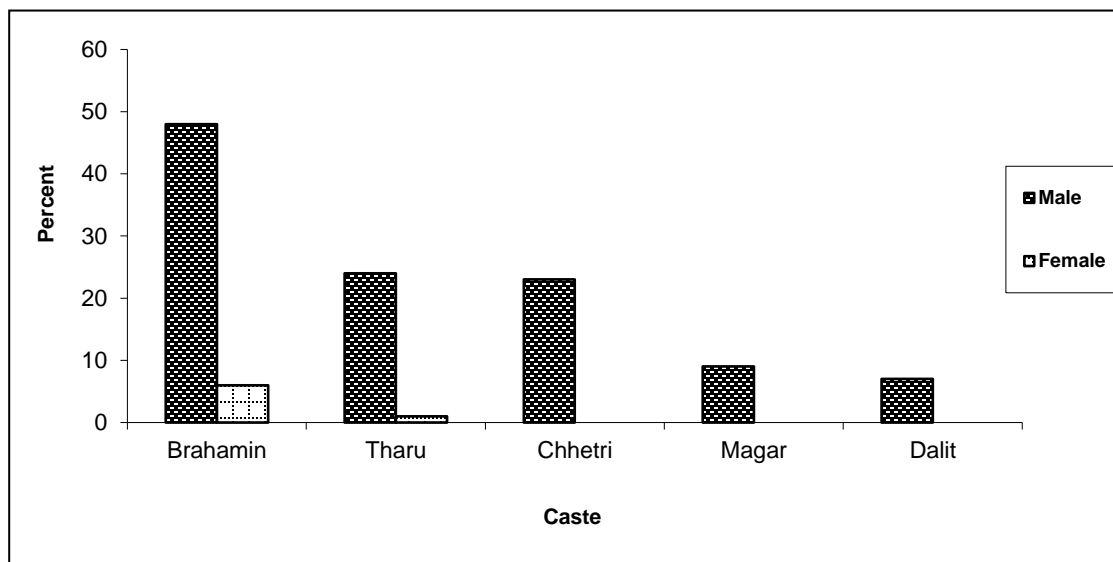
the largest share. It comprises of 59 households and it includes 154 males and 147 females. The family size of 7 to 9 members occupies the second position. It comprises of 17 households. The bigger the family size is, higher the demands of wants and resources. The family size ranging from 1 to 3 members includes just 13 households.

**Table 2 Distribution of Emigrants by Age and Sex**

Age group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
15-25	32	27.1	2	1.7	34	28.8
26-35	64	54.2	4	3.5	68	57.6
36-45	13	11.1	1	0.9	14	11.9
46 and above	2	1.1	0	0.0	2	1.7
Total	111	93.5	7	6.1	118	100.0

Source:- Field Survey, 2019

Out of total 118 youths, who are migrated to work abroad, Brahman constituted the largest



single group which includes 54 migrants and its share of percentage is 45.8. Out of 54 Brahmin migrants 48 are male and 6 are female migrants. **Fig. 1 Distribution of Emigrants Caste/ethnic Composition**

Source:- Field Survey, 2019

### Emigrants Attitudes

People who have positive thinking towards labor migration express that due to the scarcity of employment and weak economic condition they are compelled to go abroad for the employment. Therefore, labor migration is considered as only right solution of these problems.

**Table 3 Attitude of Household in Labour Migration**

Attitude	Number of households	Percent
Positive	16	40.0
Negative	9	22.50
Neutral	15	37.50
Total	40	100.0

*Source:- Field Survey, 2019*

People whose attitude is neither positive nor negative, it is called neutral. But the neutral could not stay in middle points mainly their inclination is fairly fall in positive aspect, because the improvements of facilities on foreign employment they are agreed to positive aspect.

#### **Volume and Destination of Emigration**

The number of Nepali workers working abroad is very high. Moreover, Nepali emigrants are scattered to different parts of the earth. The volume and destination of the emigrants of Bhagchaur MUNICIPALITY is shown in table

**Table 4 Volume and destination of emigrant**

Countries	Male	Female	Volume	Percent
India	26	0	26	22.0
Malaysia	24	0	24	20.3
Qatar	18	1	19	16.1
Saudi Arabia	17	2	19	16.1
UAE	13	2	15	12.7
Australia	3	2	5	4.2
Iraq	5	0	5	4.2
America	4	0	4	3.4
South Korea	1	0	1	0.9
Total	111	7	118	100.0

*Source:- Field Survey, 2019*

The largest stream of international labor migration is directed to India. India captures 22.0 percent with first position and Malaysia ranks second with 20.3 percent. The third position is captured by Qatar and Saudi Arabia with 16.1 percent of each. UAE, Australia, Iraq, America and South Korea have captured the lower percentages of 12.7, 4.2, 4.2, 3.4 and 0.9 respectively. The total

number of emigrants directed to India, Malaysia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE is 103 which accounts for 87.3 percent of total emigrants.

#### Types of Works of Emigrants

Work type	Number of migrants	Percent
Indian army	10	25.0
General worker	7	17.5
Machine operator	6	15.0
Office work	6	15.0
Security	4	10.0
Night watcher	4	10.0
Carpenter	2	5.0
Driver	1	2.5
Total	40	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2019

It is clear from above table and chart that 25 percent of the employers work in Indian army. General labors are also sharing 17 percent of the total. General workers are engaged in agricultural works, domestic work etc. Fifteen percent of the total are employed as machine operator and the same percentage are serving as the office workers. Security guards, night watchers, carpenters and drivers are contributing 10, 10, 5 and 2.5 percent respectively. Some of the works are highly risky and can invite many health issues.

#### Duration of Stay Abroad

According to the field survey, duration of residence or stay is not similar for all. It is shown in below table.

#### Table Duration of stay abroad

Duration	Population	Percentage
1-4 years	64	54.2
5-9 years	33	28.0
10-14 years	4	3.4
15-19 years	1	0.9
20 years and above	16	13.6
Total	118	100.00

Source:- Field Survey, 2019

According to Table 5.3 the highest percentage (54.2 %) is captured by 1-4 years duration followed by 5-9 years duration with 28.0 percent of the total emigrant in second position. Third position is captured by the duration of 20 years and above who are Indian army with percentage of 13.6 and other lower percentages are as shown in above table.

### Conclusions

International labor migration is seen in direction and destination with increasing volume of Bhagchaur Municipality. India has the highest volume and going to increase towards Malaysia. The work and the wage depends upon the emigrant's abilities. The more they are skilled, the higher they are paid. Reliability of human resources have also played the crucial role for the work and wage. Amount frequency and regularity of remittances depend upon the types of works, company and destination country. International money express, banks, and western union money transfer are mostly used channels for sending money. Level of income for emigrant households has increased but expenditure also increased respectively. Standard of living is raised of their family in Nepal. Unemployment, lack of agricultural land and poverty are important factors for emigration associated with the origin. Likewise, high wage rate, easy availability of unskilled works which needs no higher education in the destination countries. Based on these findings we can say that foreign employment impacts both positively and negatively in the origin.

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