



Causes and Consequences of Emigration in Chagunarayan Municipality of Bhaktapur District

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Abstract

Large proportion of the Nepalese citizens are emigrating in search of better employment opportunities. The study aims to assess causes and consequences of emigration in Changunarayan municipality of Bhaktapur district. The study employed case study research design followed by quantitative/qualitative approaches of data collection. The required data are collected from randomly selected 50 HHs residing in four settlements (i.e. Chagunarayan, Jhaukhel, Duwakot and Chhaling) of the municipality ward number four. This study found that unemployment, difficulties in transportation, attraction towards foreign countries, perverting other people from neighbor, disrespect to owns' occupation, wanting to earn more are the major causes of emigration. The emigrants are able to improve the living standard of their family members as their earning are investing in child education, health treatment and also for buying land property. The availability of communication facilities, adjustments in native people's way of life and achieving better social status have been noted as positive outcomes of the emigration. However, emigration of youth people also has negatively affected social and cultural structures in the study area. The festivals are compelled to celebrating by less active group member in the community with less enjoyment/excitement. Even the returned migrants are not giving interest in the socio-cultural and religious festivals. This might be reason most of the people expressed that one should develop the own origin area rather than destination. Therefore, local government need to become responsive and responsible in addressing the negative consequences of emigration.

Key words: Emigration, opportunities, migrant workers, lifestyle, adverse effect

Introduction

"*Mobility for prosperity*"-World Bank. Owing to this statement, right from the beginning, people have been migrated from origins to the destinations for the prosperity. The permanent or semi-permanent nature of migration has an impact on political systems, cultural norms, economic structures, and population densities. E/migration has thus becoming an ongoing global phenomena. Emigration is the act of leaving a specific area in relation with an international migration (Bhende&Karnitkar, 1998). International migration can be broadly divided into two types based on the causes that are thought to influence human movement; voluntary and involuntary (Peterson, 1978). People relocate in quest of improved prospects and a higher standard of living. Many people migrate to industrialized countries from undeveloped and developing nations for a variety of reasons. People move from one place to another due to many institutional, social, psychological, economic, and other factors (Singh, 1998). However, the

rising desire for "economic development" over party politics, especially among migrant returns, points to a potential shift away from development being influenced by partisan goals.

In the case of Nepal, a large proportion of the citizens are also emigrating from own country in search of better living and employment prospects. While observing the migration trend, some people are compelled to relocate because of conflict, civil war, or to flee prejudice and persecution, while others may deliberately emigrate.

In Nepal, migration and emigration are nothing new. In the dearth of lucrative local jobs in the nation, a significant portion of Nepalese individuals leave the country to work overseas. The majority of migrants work in precarious conditions outside of Nepal without receiving government assistance or any real legal protection. Although there is a wage gap between migrant workers and citizens, migrant workers are afraid to discuss it for fear of losing their jobs. Although reports of worker abuse by international corporations are common, the Nepalese government has not, with the exception of a few isolated instances, developed a specific labor diplomacy. An emigrant is a person who travels outside of their own nation or countries. In the past, there have been three main reasons for Nepal is to migrate: (1) movements connected to military enlistment, (2) migration for agriculture and other commercial activities, and (3) migration for marriage. Most people from the mountains and hills emigrate to the Terai region or leave the country (Subedi, 1991).

According to Bohra-Mishra (2013), labor migration and its propensity to send remittances have a favorable impact on productive investments like agricultural ones. This lends support to the New Economics of Labour Migration theory, because in unfavorable market conditions, remittances aid in easing productivity restrictions. Remittances as a percentage of GDP increased from 11.2 percent in FY 2004–05 to 28.0 percent in FY 2013–14. Remittance income increased by 34.1 percent over the first eight months of the previous fiscal year but only by 4.0 percent during the same period of the current fiscal year, reaching Rs. 371.0 billion (Economic Survey, 2015). However, as a result of COVID-19, the remittance to national GDP ratio has only lately increased to 24.07 percent (Economic Survey, 2020).

Emigration is currently one of Nepal's most significant trends and processes. Young males without jobs typically leave their countries in search of better prospects and employment. It may temporarily lessen the unemployment issue, but it creates long-term issues that include a lack of active labor for the country's development efforts, dependence on imported goods as a result of remittances from emigrants, deterioration of ties with family and neighbors, and negative socioeconomic effects (Sharma, 2018). In this context, this study aims to assess causes and consequences of emigration in Chagunarayan municipality of Bhaktapur district.

Materials and Methods

This study applied case study research design as well as quantitative and qualitative approaches. Four cluster or settlements (i.e. Chagunarayan, Jhaukhel, Duwakot and Chhaling) of the Changunarayan Municipality ward number four was regarded as case of the study and randomly selected 50 HHs (25 HHs from each cluster) were regarded as unit of analysis. All the household were located nearby Chagunarayan Highway. The required data were collected through household survey questionnaires and key informant interview guideline. The secondary information is gathered from the records of the relevant ward and municipality office. For the data analysis, only basic statistical methods like percentage and average are employed. The obtained facts and information are interpreted using the descriptive technique (simple percentage).

Results: Emigration Status

Migration can be internal or external, depending on the circumstances of any particular location. Emigration is observed to be uncontrolled in Changunarayan municipality ward number 4. The local people have been emigrating in large numbers from this municipality. The status of emigration within one year period has been listed below:

Table 1. Emigration from 2076 Falgun - 2077 Falgun

Categories	Number(In)	Number(Out)
2076 Falgun	0	0
2076 Chaitra	6	0
2077 Baisakh – 2077 Falgun	22	16
Total	28	16

Source: Ward Registration Book, Changunarayan municipality, Ward no 4

Table 1 depicts that 16 people have left the municipality over these three months while there have been a total of 28 in-migrants. The registration actions are not consistently carried out because the municipality is a new entity. Because of this, we only have data for the previous twelve months from Changunarayan Municipality's Ward No. 4's Ward Registration Book. These fall between 2073 and 2074 Falgun. Due to the large number of migrants who have departed to register between these months, the statistics cannot be regarded as accurate. Some temporary migrants are foreign laborers, while others briefly migrate to cities. Most of out-migrants have not registered their migration but they have settled down in other urban areas. Only the permanent migrants' information, which is as follows, is located in the ward office.

The other information like; sex wise emigration, nature of emigration and emigration within inside and outside country also have been presented briefly below:

Table 2. Sex wise Emigration

Population	Emigrants			Returned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
344	38(57.57%)	28(42.42%)	66(100%)	8(12.12%)	1(1.51%)	9(13.635)

Source: Household Survey, 2022

According to Table 2, 66 out of the 344 residents of ward no. 4 left the area for various opportunities, including education, employment, business, and other services. Out of total, 38 were male and 28 were female. Some of them have returned, but they still intend to move to foreign or at least urban places in search of better jobs and prospects that, in their opinion, they will not find in their home country. They (the returned individuals) claim that the hamlet lacks the desirable opportunities. Most of the time, young people have a lot of energy that they desire to use for their advancement. However, due to the absence of timely transit services and other opportunities, that is less likely to happen when living in a village.

Table 3. Nature of Emigration

Population	Temporary	Permanent	Total
344	16(24.24%)	50(75.75%)	66(100%)
	For job only 10(62.5%)	For education (may involve in job) 6(37.5%)	

Source: Household Survey, 2022

Table 3 shows that 10 households out of 55 households had residents who relocated for employment, education, or other opportunities. The majority of those who moved to other countries only
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for employment are migrants to gulf nations like Malaysia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, etc. However, for higher education, residents of six homes immigrated to highly developed nations including Australia, Finland, and the United States. The main reasons of migration is higher studies and business. Male migration along with the greater levels of education attained by girls and women (with males quitting school to move) point to a significant future change in the structure and demographics of the Nepali labor market. As a result, the nation's national development policies must be ready for such changes. The majority of the attention placed thus far on the feminization of local institutions and agriculture as a result of migration ignores the more significant changes taking place in the labor market.

Table 4. Emigration within Inside and Outside Country

Population	Emigrants	Inside the country (urban area)	Outside the country		
344	66(100%)	40(72.41%)	Migrant	Returned	Total
			17(29.31%)	9(15.51%)	26(44.82%)

Source: Household Survey, 2022

According to the data inserted in Table 4, 66 out of the 344 residents of ward no. 4 have left for other places (includes both inside and outside the country). 40 of the emigrants leave the country for urban areas (i.e., inside the nation), while 26 leave for foreign countries (that includes returned population too). Out of the 26 emigrants, 9 are the repatriated population, and half of them still intend to work abroad

Causes of Emigration

Even in the study area, people migrate to urban and foreign areas by two different reasons i.e. push factors and pull factors. The major causes of migration are categorized into two sectors (Table 5):

Table 5. Push and Pull Factors of Migration

Push factors:	Pull factors:
✓ Natural disaster	✓ Facilities
✓ Lack of timely transportation facility	✓ Educational advancement
✓ Unemployment	✓ Urbanization and modernization
✓ Poverty	✓ Security
✓ Illiteracy	✓ Easier life style
✓ Geographical condition	✓ Advanced technology
✓ Socio-political condition	✓ Infrastructural development
✓ Rural loan	✓ Employment Opportunity
✓ Domestic violence	

Table 5 makes clear that migration typically occurs as a result of push and pull influences. Theoretically, it is a global phenomenon, occurs everywhere. Practically, people believe that migration is beneficial for greater chances and a higher level of living. One of the major reasons people relocate to urban areas or other countries is unemployment. Young people's aspirations to migrate are driven by the impression of a lack of employment opportunities, as well as apathy toward and mistrust of the political system.

Consequences of Emigration

The study found that the households with migrants often have greater resources than those without migrants. And households with two or more migrants also tend to have greater resources than homes with only one emigrant. Furthermore, the positive aspects are that the return people have totally improved in their cleanliness activities which they do not use to do before going to outside country. They

put a lot of effort into improving the household and the members' quality of life. In order to have a great future, they also teach their kids to work hard in school. Despite fluctuations, a higher percentage of migrants across all social categories are buying land than non-migrants in terms of investments made available by migration. However, the majority of the informants claimed that their households lacked the necessary number of members to continue farming, which resulted in decreased productivity. So they spend money on stuff to live. Their workloads had gotten heavier, which had a negative overall effect on the household's resources, particularly in households where the surviving members are relatively elderly and do not receive remittances. Another connected issue is that if there are children in the home, their education may suffer because the elders who are still living there may not be able to assist them with their homework or may require the children to help with farming or household chores because there is not enough labor in the home. For more detail, one of the participant shared that;

Due to the emigration of household members, both income and expenses may be decreased in some cases. Temporarily reducing the size of the household lowers the costs associated with things like food and education. Additionally, when family members participate in this activity, the workload on the rest of the family grows even though the output could stay the same.

Consequently, in one hand, the household's income will generally rise as long as the output of agriculture does not drastically decline. On the other hand, due to the emigration of the absent members, the area of the land they contracted had been reduced. One of the emigrant's wife informed that;

After her husband left for work, the family's land square had been diminished and was now being rented out to other people. And when some people go to work, the rest of the population may be able to rent more land. There is no assurance, however, that the additional land will be distributed to households that do not participate in migration.

Some other informants also give their view that due to the out migrants of youth people, the social and cultural festivals in the area are greatly affected. There are different types of festivals celebrate in the area and those festivals are compelled to carry out by less active group member in the community. Due to what festivals and celebrations have no great enjoyment and excitement. Some respondent also says that the returned migrate people are not giving interest in the social and cultural and religious festivals.

Unquestionably, because to improvements in travel, financial capabilities to pay the expense of relocating, and networks to make job finding simpler, prospective migrants are achieving their ambitions. However, the ubiquitous "culture of migration" is also having unfavorable impacts, such as making wage differentials much more valuable than work reputation or academic achievement, and they point to the urgent need to interact with young people, particularly over their lifestyle choices. However, some respondents think that one should not be push toward urban area only because of being jealous toward other people. And, could again be migrate if got the opportunity and should gain experiences of urban areas. Most people have no positive thought about migration. The young generation people want to migrate to highly facilitate area whereas the female as well as the old generation people are totally dissatisfy with the migration of young people. Most people have feeling that one should develop the own area rather than migrating to other areas and develop the other places.

Conclusion

This study came up with the conclusion that the emigrants from the study area are migrating for improving their living standard and prosperity. The income and expenditure of the household is directly affected by emigration. The households with migrants often have greater resources than those without

migrants. The household spend less when a young person leaves the home to pursue employment abroad, relieving some of the burden on the household's consumption. The study also comes to the conclusion that there is a connection between migration and resource allocation between families. Households with a large number of adult workers have a greater ability to diversify their source of income as emigration affects that household's ability to participate in labor migration. The number of adult laborers becomes a significant contributor to disparities in resource levels between households in Changuarayan, where farming and remittances are the most important sources of household income. In overall, emigration has brought both positive and negative effects in the study area. Despite the fact that remittance is becoming the most direct source of a household's resources and households that do not get remittances do not suffer as much as may be expected. Besides, some of the respondents reflect negative effects of emigration. The young generation, regarded as productive manpower are willing to migrate in highly facilitate area (destinations) located inside and outside the country. It was due to the emigration of youth people, the social and cultural festivals in the area are affected. The festivals are compelled to celebrating by less active group member in the community with less enjoyment and excitement. Even the returned migrate people are not giving interest in the social and cultural and religious festivals. This might be reason that most people have feeling that one should develop the own area rather than migrating to other areas. Therefore, local government need to become responsive and responsible in addressing the negative consequences of emigration as far as possible.

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