INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MIGRATION: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEPALESE YOUTH **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MIGRATION:** CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEPALESE YOUTH Dissertation Submitted to the **Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS)** Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences for the Partial **Fulfillment of the Requirements for the** Master's Degree of Arts in Population **Studies Submitted By:** Minurva Bhattarai Minurva Bhattarai October, 2008 **Tribhuvan University** Kirtipur, Kathmandu October, 2008

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is certified that Mrs. Minurva Bhattarai has worked under my supervision and guidance for the preparation of this dissertation entitled *"International Labour Migration: Causes and Consequences of Nepalese Youths"* for the partial fulfillment of Master of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge, this study is original and carries useful information in the field of Youth Labour Migration. I, therefore, recommend it for the evaluation to the dissertation committee.

.....

Dr. Govind Subedi Supervisor

<u>APPROVAL – SHEET</u>

This dissertation entitled *"International Labour Migration: Causes and Consequences of Nepalese Youths"* submitted by Minurva Bhattarai for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree of Humanities (Population Studies) has been approved.

Approved By:

Prof. Dr. Bal Kumar K.C. Head of Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS) Kirtipur

Mr. Padam Prasad Khatiwada External Examiner

Dr. Govind Subedi

Supervisor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Nepal, as a developing country, which is suffering from the various opportunities and lack of proper employment and income generating opportunities for Nepalese youths. Due to poverty, huge competitions on job among youths, complicated labour markets, different rules, laws and lack of proper employment opportunities; Concerning these factors, huge scales of Nepalese youths are daily heading towards foreign countries for better employments and few income to achieve better jobs alternatives to sustain their family life and to fulfill their desire and dream of lifetime opportunities. So, Creating opportunities for income generation and employment if indispensable from poverty alleviation. In this context, maximum numbers of Nepalese youths needs to assimilate in the mainstream of economic development through their skills developments and providing domestic and foreign employment opportunities.

This research under the title of "International Labour Migration: Causes and Consequences of Nepalese Youths" has been conducted to identify the major causes and consequences of International Labour Migration of Nepalese Youths including the flow, level, trend and concentration of Nepalese youths migrants excluding India. This research has also approached to evaluate the existing government policies and programmes to the regulation of international labour migration. Thus, I found this research is very important to review the different policies, programmes on foreign employment, national and international mechanism to protect the rights of the migrant workers, identifying it's causes, consequences, problems and challenges. This research has come out as a part of my university thesis and also the reflections of my knowledge and skills on social research that I obtained during my university study.

For these mentioned purpose, I owe a deep of gratitude to *Prof. Dr. Bal Kumar K.C., Head of CDPS, Tribhuwan University and Dr. Govinda Subedi, Lecturer, CDPS, Kathmandu* for their constant encouragement, patient guidance and valuable supervision at every stage of my work. This work would not have been materialized it the present form without their incisive observations and intellectual direction in the course of completion.

I would like to express special thanks to Mr. Bidan Acharya, Mr. Keshav Adhikari, Dr. Prem singh Bista, Padam Prasad Khatiwada, for their valuable suggestions, guidelines, feedback and supports. I should thank to my respected teachers of CDPS, TU, Administration staffs, librarian and others staffs, whose contribution for sharing knowledge and skills during my

university period was valuable to complete this study smoothly. As well as thank you to respected personalities of the government and non-governmental organizations, especially to all the key informants for their valuable time to collect authentic information. I would like to express gratitude to Central Library and all staffs of Central Library who provided me essential materials for accomplishing this study.

I sincerely acknowledge for providing the active cooperation, text materials/data assistant and valuable suggestions from Yagya Prasad Sharma, Gautam Bhandari of Department of Immigration, and All senior and Junior staffs of Department of Labour and employment promotion Kathmandu.

Thanks are also due to large number of offices, which cooperated with this word by providing available data and information. Special mention should be made of Department of Immigration, Department of Labour and Employment Promotion, Different Foreign employment agencies, Tribhuvan University Central Library and CDPS Library. In this limited space, it is simply impossible to give the names of large number of friends and well-wishers who provided invaluable cooperation in my efforts. I wish to express the sincerest thanks to all of them.

I would also like to express debt of gratitude to my parents, brothers, my husband Shankar P. Khanal (USA), my daughter and other family members for their continuous support and lots of encouragements towards my efforts.

Last but not the least; I hope this small effort of mine will be of great value to those who are involved in International Labour Migration and all the other future researchers of this area.

Needless to say, to error is human and I am no exception, so I alone am responsible for any deficiencies that may have remained in this work.

- Minurva Bhattarai.

August, 2008, Kumaristhan, Balaju-16, Kathmandu, Nepal.

ABSTRACT

Research regarding the "International Labour Migration: Causes and Consequences of Nepalese Youths" has been carried out to findout the current situation of Nepalese youths to work as a labour migrants in the foreign countries from the Nepal as well as to evaluate the existing Nepalese government's policies and programmes related to the regulation and management of foreign employment of migrants labour in Nepal. This study, at the some time has seek to identify the issues and challenges on foreign employment, nature of labour migration trend, it's flow and the number of socio-economic and demographic aspects related to the migration of Nepali migrant workers. Similarly, this study has also evaluated the internationally recognized policies and programmes to protect the rights of the migrant workers.

Similarly, qualitative and quantitative information has incorporated to the completion of this study. So the flow, trend analysis of Nepali labour migrants by fiscal year and the concentration of people in different countries in different period of time are also observed. It is found that, migrants workers have faced problems both in the home country and the country of destination, where as the problems in abroad are highlighted very much as compared to the problem that they are being in the national level. Nepalese government polices are not able enough and properly implemented to the regulation and management of foreign labour migration. At the some time Nepalese government is not found sincere to the implication of international provisions to protect the rights of the migrant workers. Government mechanisms are not found very much effective to assure safe migration of potential labour migrants.

Last but not the least, the study has concluded that the foreign labour migration can be regulated with the proper implementation of government policies and programmes to sustain the migrant labour market. The foreign employment profession should also be accepted as a dignified occupation as because of its importance to strengthen the national economy and it also making our young people engage in some sorts of income generating activities, where the country is coping with the financial and economics difficulties at this period.

TABLE CONTENTS

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

APPROVAL SHEET AKNOWLEDGEMENT ABSTRACT ACRONYMS CONTENTS

CHAPTER - I: INTRODUCTION

1-14

1.1	General Background	1
1.2	Statement of the Problem	6
1.3	Objective of the Study	10
1.4	Significance of the Study	11
1.5	Limitations of the Study	12
1.6	Organization of the Study	13

CHAPTER - II: REVIEW OF LITERATURE

15-48

2.	Conceptual Review 1		
	2.1	An Overview of Labour Migration	. 15
	2.2	International Migration from Demographic Perspective	. 19
	2.3	International Migration from Labour Perspective	. 21
	2.4	Causes and Consequences of International Labour Migration	. 22
	2.5	Problems Faced by Migrant Workers in Sending Countries	. 25
3.	Rev	iew of related Research works	. 26
	3.1	Frame Work	. 26
	3.2	Previous Research Works on International Labour Migration	. 27
4.	Rev	iew of Empirical works	. 29
	4.1	Theories Regarding International Labour Migration	. 29
	4.2	International Labour Migrations in the World	. 32
	4.3	International Labour Migration in Asia	. 35
5.	Stuc	lies on Nepalese Context	. 38
	5.1	Historical Scenario	. 38
	5.2	Trends of International Migration in Nepal	. 44

	5.3 Migration Related Policies and Laws in Nepal	46
CH	APTER -III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	49-52
3.1	Research Design	49
3.2	Nature and Source of Data	50
3.3	Sampling Techniques	51
3.4	Research Tools	51
3.5	Method of Analysis	52

CHAPTER - IV: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING NATIONAL AND

INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT LABOUR POLICIES AND LAWS 53-76

4.1	The UN	53
4.2	Other International Conventions and Conferences	54
4.3	Government Policies Regarding Migrant Workers- Asia & Overseas	56
4.4	Government Policies Regarding Migrant Workers- Asia & Overseas	64
	4.4.1 The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2007 (2063)	64
	4.4.2 Three Year Interim Plan, 2007/08 (2065)	67
	4.4.3 Foreign Employment Act 2007 (2064)	69
	4.4.4 National Labor Policy 2005 (2062)	72
4.5	Institutional Arrangement	76

CHAPTER - V: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA, CAUSES

AND	O CONSEQUENCES OF NEPALESE YOUTHS ON MIGRATION	77-106
5.1	Current Situation of Labour Migration	. 77
5.2	Flow, Volume and Trend of Nepalese Youths for foreign employment by FY	. 79
5.3	Concentration of Nepalese Labour Migrants by Countries	. 81
5.4	Motives behind Nepalese Labour Migration	. 87
5.5	Nepalese Women Migrant Workers in Abroad	. 88
5.6	Causes of Nepalese Labour Migration	. 91
5.7	Consequences of Nepalese Youths toward labour Migration	. 94
5.8	Nepalese Youth Migration and Remittance	. 95
5.9	Problems and challenges of Youth Labour Migration	. 100
5.10	Problems of Labour Migrants in Home Country and the Country of Destination	101
5.11	Problems in Government and Policy Level	103
5.12	Foreign Employment Agencies	. 105

CHAPT	ER - VI: SUMMARY, MAJOR FINDINGS,	
	RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION 1	07-122
Summary	y of the Research	. 107
Major Fi	ndings	.110
Causes an	nd Consequences	. 111
Problems	s and Challenges	.112
Different	Policies and Laws	.114
Conclusio	ons	. 115
Recomm	endations	. 117
a.	Recommendations Regarding Pre-departure	.117
b.	Recommendations regarding the post-arrival experience of migrant workers	. 119
c.	Recommendations regarding the reintegration experience of migrant workers	. 119
d.	Others	. 120
Directions for Future Research		
REFERENCE		
APPENI	DICES1	.27-130
A. Li	ist of Foreign Employment Agencies Visited During the Research	. 127
B L	ist of Expert/Managers	. 128
C T	he Structured Questionnaire for In-depth Interview	. 129

LIST OF TABLES

Table No. Title

Table 2.1	Statistics by Gender	.33
Table 2.2	Movements of Labour Migrants by Service and region of	
	departure countries of destination	.34
Table 2.3	Trends of International Migration in Nepal (1961-2007)	.44
Table 5.1	Male and Female Migrant Labour Data Based on Popular Category 2006/07	.78
Table 5.2	Flow, Level and Trend of International Labour Migration by Fiscal Year	.79
Table 5.3	Migrant Labour Data Based on Permit System 2006/07	. 82
Table 5.4	Concentration of Nepalese Labour Migrants by Countries	.83
Table 5.5	Distribution of Migrant Workers by Country of Destination	. 84
Table 5.6	Total Nepalese Departure Report, 2007	.86
Table 5.7	Determinants of Economic Status of Nepal	.93
Table 5.8	The Remittance and Transfer Income of FY 1996 and 2004	.96
Table 5.9	Share of Remittance in GDP	.98

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No. Title

Page

Figure 2.1	Age and gender of migrants assisted by IOM in 2006	33
Figure 2.2	The Economic Impact of Remittance by year	46
Figure 5.1	Flow, Level and Trend of Nepalese Youth for Foreign Employment	80
Figure 5.2	Distribution of Migrant Workers by Country of Destination	85

ACRONYMS

ATTTP	=	Alien Industrial Technology Training Programme
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	=	Central Department of Population Studies
CeLRRD	=	Center for Legal Research and Resource Development
DFID	=	Department for International Development
DOI	=	Department of Immigration
FDW	=	Foreign Domestic Workers
GATS	=	General Agreements on Trade and Services
GCC	=	Gulf Cooperation Council
GN	=	Government of Nepal
GDP	=	Gross Domestic Product
ICPD	=	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	=	Information Communication and Technologies
ILO	=	International Labour Organizations
IOM	=	International Organization for Migration
IPS	=	Inter Press Service
IUSSP	=	International Union of Social Scientists in Population
KFSB	=	Korean Federation of Small Business
LEPD	=	Labour and Employment Promotion Department
LSL	=	Labour Standard Law
MEBDC	=	Migration, Employment, Birth, Death and Contraception
MMAM	=	Mary knoll Ministry of Asia
NGO	=	Non Governmental Organization
NIDS	=	Nepal Institute of Development Studies
NLP	=	National Labour Policy
NLSS	=	Nepal Living Standard Survey
NPC	=	National Planning Commission
OHCHR	=	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PIK	=	Professional, Technical, Kindard
TCP	=	Technology Cooperation Programme
TU	=	Tribhuvan University
UAE	=	United Arab Emirates
UDHR	=	University Declaration of Human Rights
UN	=	United Nations
UNIFEM	=	United Nations Development Fund for Women
VRS	=	Vital Registration System