CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT

(A Study of Returned Migrants of Kohabara VDC of Jhapa District)

A

Dissertation Submitted to

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Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences for the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Master's Degree of Arts in Population Studies

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

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RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Mr. Prakash Rijal has worked under my supervision and guidance for the preparation of this dissertation entitled "Causes and Effects of Foreign Employment" (A Study of Returned Migrants of Kohabara VDC of Jhapa District) for the partial fulfillment of the requirement of Masters of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge, this study is original and carries useful information in the field of Kohabara VDC from male emigrants.

I, therefore, recommend it for the evaluation to the dissertation committee.

Mr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada (Supervisor)

APPROVAL SHEET

This dissertation entitled "CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT" (A Study of Returned Migrants of Kohabara VDC of Jhapa District) by Mr. Prakash Rijal has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for Masters of Arts in Population Studies.

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ABSTRACT

Literally, migration refers to phenomena and the process of moving of people from one place to another, such as crossing intra or international geographical boundaries. Demographical and sociological studies of migration are diverse and usually form part of larger problems in (for example) research into kinship, social networks or economics development. The motive for migration includes political, economics, social and environmental causes, which are based on different reasons.

The migration for foreign labour has a long history in Nepal. It started even before the first Nepali men traveled to Lahore in the early 19th century to join the Indian army and even before the recruitment of the first Nepalese to the British 'Gurkhas' in 1815/16. After India's independence (1947 AD.), both Britain and India have made separate arrangements for continuity of Gorkha recruitment. The migration of youth for foreign employment rapidly increased especially after the restoration of multiparty democracy (B.S. 2046) and induction of liberalization policy.

With the enactment of Foreign Employment Act, 1985 Nepalese started to migrate beyond India particularly to the Gulf (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, etc.) where oil boom has created massive demand for foreign labour. Similarly, in February 2001, the Malaysian government officially "opened" its labour market to Nepali workers.

This study is about foreign employment to different countries of the world. It is a known fact that Nepali labour migrants are scattered around the world and many of them are in India. It is estimated that the number of Nepalese migrants are working 'Overseas', meaning beyond India that accounts 700,000. About five percent (35,000) of these are women. At least another 700,000 work in the private sector in India, and 2, 50,000 in India's public sector.

This micro level study on Cause and Effect of Foreign Employment', is confined to Kohabara Village Development Committee of Jhapa district in Eastern Development Region of Nepal.

The main objective of this study is to describe the causes and socio-economic effects of the foreign employment of the study area. The study comprises 75 returned emigrants workers representing all wards of the VDC and different caste and ethnic groups. All the emigrants found to be male.

The majority of the people in the village do not have sufficient land, despite being farmer, as a main source of earning the livelihood. All the represented households are engaging in subsistence farming. Foreign employment of labour migration has been an important occupation among males in the village to maintain the household. Remittance is used for immediate food and other household requirements, pay debt, buy new lands and houses.

There are various push and pull factors for foreign employment. In recent years, the volume (trend) of labour migration has increased due to increasing population pressure, unemployment and prevailing political conflict.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AD Anno Domini (of the Christian Era)

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

STDs Sexual Transmitted Diseases

BS Bikram Sambat

CBS Central Bureau of Statistics

CD Compact Disc

CEDA Centre for Economic Development and Administration

DHQ District Head Quarter

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

NPC National Planning Commission

STDs Sexually Transmitted Diseases

TV Television

UAE United Arab Emirates

UK United Kingdom

USA United States of America

VDC Village Development Committee