

# **CAUSE AND EFFECT OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT**

(A CASE STUDY OF MITHUKARAM VDC OF NAWALPARASI DISTRICT)

A Thesis Submitted to  
the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Central Department  
of Sociology/Anthropology in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for the Degree of Master of  
Arts in Sociology

By

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Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur  
Kathmandu, Nepal

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

This dissertation entitled "**CAUSE AND EFFECT OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT**" by **Mr. Gyan Raj Kandel** is prepared under my supervision for partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

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

Date: 2008/03/22

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**CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE**

This dissertation entitled "**CAUSE AND EFFECT OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT**", submitted by **Mr. Gyan Raj Kandel** has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This research paper is produced in accordance with the requirement of Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, for Master degree in Sociology. I would like to express my gratitude to the Department in particular who provided me such opportunities.

I am gratefully indebted to my respected teacher as well as my supervisor Prof. Chaitanya Mishra (T.U.), for his valuable time, idea, and guidelines provided for me, in the entire period of research preparation. His guidance was a source of inspiration for me.

I am very grateful to the Cornell Nepal Study Program (CNSP) for providing me with financial support to carry out my study to this level. CNSP is the joint venture of Cornell University (Ithaca, New York, USA) and Tribhuvan University Department of Sociology/Anthropology and Botany.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my father Shiva Prasad Kandel and my mother Ganga Devi Kandel for their valuable support and their blessings for the completion of this work. My grateful thanks is also due to my friend Mr. Kamal Prasad Sigdel for his cooperation and encouragement during my writing period. I am also very grateful to my friends Mr. Mekh Bahadur Thapa (Magar) and Mr. Saroj Nepal for editing and Mr. Durka Man Maharjan for computer typing.

As well as, I would like to thanks all my respondents and other concern persons of my study area, who provided me with their important time and shared their happiness and sorrow with me, without which; this research paper would not come into existence.

**March 2008**

**Gyan Raj Kandel**

## **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. Sociological studies of migration are diverse and usually form part of larger problems in (for example) research into kinship, social networks or economic development. The motive for migration includes political, economic, 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 travelled to Lahore in the early 19<sup>th</sup> 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 (1945 AD), both Britain and India have made separate arrangements for continuity of Gorkha recruitment. The migration of youth for foreign employment speedily increased especially after the restoration of multiparty democracy (B.S. 2047) 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 'Mithukaram' Village Development Committee of Nawalparasi district in Western Development Region of Nepal.

The main objectives of this study is to describe the causes and socio-economic effects of the foreign employment of the study area. The study comprises 70 returned emigrant 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 or labor 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.

## CONTENTS

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>II</b>
<b>CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE</b>	<b>III</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<b>V</b>
<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>VII</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES AND MAPS</b>	<b>XI</b>
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>XII</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-22</b>
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Literature Review	7
1.3 Statement of Research Problem	13
1.4 Objectives of Study	14
1.5 Conceptual Framework	14
1.6 Research Procedure	15
a) Area of the Study	15
b) Research Design	16
c) Universe of the Study	16
d) Nature and Sources of Data	17
e) Instrument of Data Collection	18
(i) Household Survey Questionnaire	18
(ii) Observation	18
(iii) Case Studies	19
f) Method of Data Analysis	19
g) Significance of the Study	19
h) Limitation of the Study	20



1.7	Field Experiences/Difficulties	20
1.8	Variables and their Operationalization	21
<b>CHAPTER TWO : PROFILE OF MITHUKARAM CLUSTER</b>		<b>23-30</b>
2.1	District Overview	23
2.2	Physical Setting of the Study Area (Mithukaram VDC)	23
2.3	Demographic and Socio-Economic Setting	26
2.3.1	Age and Sex Structure	26
2.3.2	Caste/Ethnic Composition	28
2.3.3	Literacy Status	29
2.3.4	Marital Status	30
<b>CHAPTER THREE: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANTS</b>		<b>31-41</b>
3.1	Age Composition	31
3.2	Caste/Ethnic Composition	32
3.3	Educational Status	32
3.4	Marital Status	33
3.5	Family Type	34
3.6	Landholding Pattern	35
3.7	Food Sufficiency	38
3.8	Animal Husbandry	39
3.9	Duration of Stay Abroad	40
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: CAUSES OF EMIGRATION</b>		<b>42-53</b>
4.1	Factors Associated with Origin (Push Factors)	43
4.1.1	Unemployment	44
4.1.2	Indebtedness	45
4.1.3	Lack of Agricultural Land	46
4.1.4	Family Pressure	47

4.1.5	Present Political Situation	47
4.2	Factors Associated with Destination (Pull Factors)	48
4.2.1	Low Investment	50
4.2.2	No Need of Special Skill and Higher Education	51
4.2.3	Higher Wage Rate	51
4.2.4	Rules of Easy Entry and Exit	51
4.2.5	Demonstration Effect	52
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: EFFECTS OF EMIGRATION</b>		<b>54-61</b>
5.1	Economic Effect	54
5.1.1	Structure of House: Before and After	55
5.1.2	Household Assets: Before and After	56
5.1.3	Income and Expenditure	57
5.2	Social Effect	58
5.2.1	Positive Effect	58
5.2.2	Negative Effect	59
5.2.3	Changing Social Role of Women at Home	60
<b>CHAPTER SIX: LINKAGE WITH THEORY TO OUR STUDY</b>		<b>62-67</b>
<b>REFERENCES</b>		<b>68-71</b>
<b>APPENDIX</b>		<b>72-75</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	: Population Growth Rate During, 1911-2001	4
Table 1.2	: Changes in Absentees Abroad by Destination	5
Table 1.3	: Population Absent from Nepal and Destination of Foreign Countries by Sex 2001	6
Table 2.1	: Age and Sex Composition	27
Table 2.2	: Dependent Population of Mithukaram and Nepal	28
Table 2.3	: Caste/Ethnic Composition of Mithukaram VDC	29
Table 2.4	: Literacy Status 6 Years of Age and Over	30
Table 2.5	: Marital Status: Population 10 Years of Age and Over	30
Table 3.1	: Age Breakdown of Respondents at the Time of Their First Move	31
Table 3.2	: Caste/Ethnic Composition of Respondents	32
Table 3.3	: Educational Attainment of Respondents	33
Table 3.4	: Marital Status of Respondents at the Time of Study	34
Table 3.5	: Family Types of Respondents	34
Table 3.6	: Distribution of Landholding Pattern (in Ropani)	35
Table 3.7	: Duration of Food Sufficiency	38
Table 3.8	: Number of Livestock by Households	40
Table 3.9	: Duration of Stay Abroad	41
Table 4.1	: Main Reason of Emigration: Factors Associated with Origin	43
Table 4.2	: Reasons of Emigration in Second and Third Priority: Factor Associated with Origin	48
Table 4.3	: Main Reasons of Emigration: Factors Associated with Destination	49
Table 5.1	: Changes in Physical Structure of Dwelling of Migrants	55
Table 5.2	: Household Assets	56
Table 5.3	: Area of Expenditure (In Rupees)	57

## LIST OF FIGURES AND MAPS

### FIGURE

Figure 1	: Conceptual Framework of the Study	15
Figure 2	: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Wet Land)	37
Figure 3	: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Dry Land)	37
Figure 4	: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Grass Land)	37
Figure 5	: Duration of Food Sufficiency	39
Figure 6	: Main Reason of Emigration: Factors Associated with Origin	44
Figure 7	: Main Reasons of Emigration: Factors Associated with Destination	50

### MAP

Map 1	: Mithukaram VDC	24
Map 2	: Nawalparasi District	25

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>AD</b>	—	<b>Anno Domini (of the Christian Era)</b>
<b>AIDS</b>	—	<b>Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome</b>
<b>BS</b>	—	<b>Bikram Sambat</b>
<b>CBS</b>	—	<b>Central Bureau of Statistics</b>
<b>CD</b>	—	<b>Compact Disc</b>
<b>CEDA</b>	—	<b>Center for Economic Development and Administration</b>
<b>DHQ</b>	—	<b>District Head Quarter</b>
<b>HIV</b>	—	<b>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</b>
<b>NPC</b>	—	<b>National Planning commission</b>
<b>STDs</b>	—	<b>Sexually Transmitted Diseases</b>
<b>TV</b>	—	<b>Television</b>
<b>UAE</b>	—	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>
<b>UK</b>	—	<b>United Kingdom</b>
<b>USA</b>	—	<b>United States of America</b>
<b>VDC</b>	—	<b>Village Development Committee</b>