

Climate Variability and Seasonal Migration A Case Study of Local Community in Murree



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Abstract: Globally, climate change has a profound impact on many areas due to the variability in temperature and precipitation. It has attracted significant attention from researchers during the past few decades. Pakistan is listed among the most vulnerable countries that are experiencing both slow and fast-onset climate change events. Seasonal migration is development of moving for stage of time in retort to typical weather conditions. People move for a diversity of reason. Researcher elaborates the benefit and disadvantage of stay at origin and destination by exploring factors and impacts of migration on families. Study is designed to explore Seasonal migration of families living in Murree. Because migration is gaining gravity with the passage of time and has social, economic and environmental impacts over societies. The study is focused to investigate the factors behind seasonal migration in migrant families and to access the impact of seasonal migration on migrant families. Research is conducted in Tehsil Murree district Rawalpindi. Murree is nearest to Islamabad and the regulatory focal point of Tehsil Murree between Punjab territories within Pakistan. It is between a sections of Rawalpindi region and incorporates the parts of mountains around. Sample size of two hundred respondents is selected through Simple Random sampling techniques. Researcher used triangulation method for better understanding about the under investigating problem data collected through questionnaire and in-depth interviews. After collection of data it is analyzed through thematic analysis. There are numerous factors of seasonal migration such as climate change, better health, education, entrepreneurship opportunities. Climate change is the major factor of seasonal migration that forces people to leave their origin to destination. There are also several impacts of seasonal migration on families that is socio-economic, cultural, environmental and demographic. Major impact of seasonal migration on families is economic impact migrant families have to spend extra money when they shifted to another place.

Keywords: Migration, Seasonal migration, Migrant families, Effects, Problems

Introduction

Climate events affect the habitability and income productivity of various countries, and going forward are also expected to compound the impact of the other drivers of human mobility and migration, such as poverty, demographics, or political instability. In

essence, many people migrate because of a combination of factors, and climate events often amplify the preexisting patterns of movements circular, seasonal, and or rural to-urban migration.

Climate change seems to be accelerating

internal migration both via sudden- and slow-onset impacts (IOM, 2022). While climate change has been found as important driver of internal migration within countries' national borders in many parts of the world Clement et al. (2021)

Pakistan continues to be among the top ten countries most vulnerable to climate change the country took the fifth spot on the list. High rising temperatures, increased intensity and frequency of weather-related disasters and events, melting of the glaciers in the North (especially Himalayan glaciers) and increased the variability of monsoon rains are high degree impacts being faced by the country. Pakistan is subject to a vast array of natural and man-made assisted hazards, which have caused numerous waves of internal displacement and internal migration. An approximate of three million people in Pakistan are affected by natural catastrophes every year, which equates to almost 1.6 per cent of the total population of the country (Global Climate Risk Index. 2020).

Migration is nearly perpetual moving without end of the whole, called transients starting with one topographical region then into the next, went before by basic leadership on the premise of a progressively arrange set of morals or regarded closes and bringing about changes in the interactional arrangement of the development (Mangalam, 1978). Migration is normally spurred by monetary purposes, the outcome pervades social, political and ideological circle of wide-open life, which in circle shape the substance of qualities and manual for the following age gathering of objectives (Murphy, 2002).

Human movements refer to any movement of people starting with one setting to the next. This knows how to happen over some space as well as in various gathering extent. It is currently further general for family toward move around mutually. Nuclear family move starting with one location then the next in answer to monetary and public needs. Movements is turning into a perpetually critical variable for the financial circumstance of sending and accepting nations. In the most recent decades, a wealthy exact writing on the cause in addition toward results of movement in numerous creating nations has emerged. Through until now, migration in Eastern Europe has not got considerable measure of consideration in

experimental exploration particularly with regards to occasional movement streams, by an uncommonly high figure of universal transients, the republic of Moldova constitutes a fascinating contextual investigation. Around 33 of its financially dynamic population is working abroad today (Cucetal, 2005).

Rather than lasting migration, occasional movement as a rule does not include as an adjustment in living arrangement so that the vagrant can alleviate the dangers of moving to another environment. As needs be, fleeting movement can be a vital adapting procedure to neediness for the individuals who are not capable or willing to withdraw forever or for vast separations (konseiga, 2005).

The employment of seasonal workers has been of great relevance for the agricultural sector. Between 200 and 2010 more than 60 percent of foreign workers in agriculture and forestry had a temporary work permit. In May 2011 the transition arrangements for workers beginning the middle and Eastern European member state came to an end. As a consequence, the number of foreigners with temporary work permits dropped substantially. Quotas for seasonal workers were adjusted downwards and the number of seasonal works permits followed suit. In June 2010, 8,800 seasonal workers were employed in agriculture compared to 4,100 in June 2011. The number of foreign workers for harvesting shrank by more than two thirds, i.e. from 3,800 in June 2010 to 1,100 in June 2011 (Huber, 2011).

The causes and results of inward occasional movement in northwestern Bangladesh, a district wherever more than 5 million individuals exist underneath the neediness lines, also should adapt to general pre-harvest regular starvation. As per National Commission under Rural Labor (NCRL), dominant part of regular transients utilized in development and ranches, block furnaces, quarries, development destinations, fish preparing and so forth. Further, substantial quantities of regular transients work in urban informal fabricating, development, administrations and transport areas or as easygoing workers, head-loaders, rickshaw pullers with peddlers (Dev, 2002).

Then again, anticipating with any exactness how environmental change will affect on population dispersion and development is troublesome in light of the still generally

irregular amounts of vulnerability on the locally particular impacts of environment change and at the rate at which they may happen, and also the absence of far reaching in formation. On relocation, particularly developments and particularly transitory ones inside cross national limits or cross outskirt streams in and between low-salary nations so as to liable to be mainly influenced by environmental change (Kniveton, 2008). Movement is greatest comprehended as the diversification of wage sources involving a few types of versatility. In that capacity, it is a vital component of occupation systems which is prone to become progressively essential as environmental change influences access to become progressively essential as environmental change influences access to and accessibility of regular assets.

Objectives:

- To highlight the factors behind seasonal migration in migrant families.
- To assess the impact of Seasonal migration on migrant families.

METHODOLOGY

Research was conducted in Tehsil Murree district Rawalpindi. Murree is nearest to Islamabad and the regulatory focal point of Tehsil Murree between Punjab territories within Pakistan. It is between a sections of Rawalpindi region and incorporates the parts of mountains around. Weather plays an important role in the life and ecological conditions of people of Murree. It has four discrete seasons the area receives heavy rain and frequent hail storms during this season. Summer starts from the middle of May extending to June and ending in August this is the most pleasant season in

Murree with regard to weather and it receives a large number of visitors during this season.

The Probability technique of simple random sampling were used to select a representative sample. A sample size of two hundred respondents were randomly selected. Researcher used triangulation method for better understanding about the problem the nature of the research was qualitative. The tools used for the data collection was questionnaire, Focus Group Discussions and in-depth interviews to reach the objective of the study.

RESULTS

Results and findings based on data collected and analyzed through various qualitative techniques are representative here under.

FACTORS OF SEASONAL MIGRATION

Climate Change

Climate change is the major factors for seasonal migration of families in Murree. Winters start from December during this season heavy rain fall, mountains covered with thick sheet of snow. During winter season there were lack of basic facilities roads were blocked and human survival is much difficult. It was observed that majority of people migrate from Murree to Rawalpindi in winter season. Winter is extremely cold in Murree and snow falling occurred further. It was found that many people seasonally migrate from Murree to Rawalpindi during winter season and some people spend their summer holidays in Murree due to extreme hot weather in different areas of Punjab. It has been concluded that weather and access to remote areas are playing important role in migration process.

Factors of seasonal migration

Factors	Frequency	Percentage
Climate Conditions	115	57.5
Employment Opportunities	30	15
Non availability of Resources	40	20
Social Factors	10	5
Others	5	2.5
Total	200	100

Factors of seasonal migration were highlighted. Majority of respondents pointed out that harsh climate conditions are major cause of seasonal migration in Murree. 57 percent migrants elaborate climate change is major factor of

seasonal migration. 20 percent mention that non availability of resources, while 15 percent describes better employment opportunities were the major factor.

Suitable Season for Migration

Seasons	Frequency	Percentage
Spring	0	0
Summer	40	20
Winter	160	80
Autumn	0	0
Total	200	100

Suitable seasons for migration were describes 80 percent of migrant families pointed out that usually seasonal migration takes place in winter season during snow falls starts. While 20 percent describes that seasonal migration also occurs in summer season when weather is too hot.

Health Facilities

It was found that people always migrate from rural to urban areas to avail better health facilities. Seasonal migration also takes place due to lack of health facilities in Murree. During winter season roads were blocked people do not have access to reach hospital in case of emergency. Hospitals are far away from local community people have to face many difficulties to reach hospital during winter season. They usually have to travel one hour on public transport to reach hospitals. Those families whose have any patient in family members were migrated every year in winter season.

Better Education

People also migrate for the better schooling of their children. Researcher observed that many people do migrate to Rawalpindi from Murree in winter vacations. After migration they admit their children in some educational academies for better education. As compare to rural areas urban areas have better education system there were different schools and tuition centers. It was found that thirty five percent migrant families pointed out that migration has a major

effect on the educational system of their children. They move to Rawalpindi when their children have vacations, they also elaborated that this movement is fruitful for the education of their children.

Entrepreneurship Opportunities

People always do migrate to avail better economic opportunities. Internal seasonal migration is one of the seasonal migrations. Researcher found that fifty five percent migrants pointed out that people migrate to urban areas for business and employment opportunities. During winter mostly people migrate for Murree to Rawalpindi because Rawalpindi is urban areas where every type of business is available.

IMPACT OF SEASONAL MIGRATION ON FAMILIES

Economic Impacts

Migration has many impacts on families the most common impact is economic impact. It was found that sixty percent of migrant respondent mentioned that seasonal migration has an impact on him to great extent. Seasonal migration is physical shift of people between one geographical area to other for a short period of time. Researcher observed that mostly when people move from to Rawalpindi in winter season, they have to buy a house on rent and it requires a lot of money for house rent and transportation for shift.

Social Impacts

Seasonal migration also effects a lot on social life of migrant families. Researcher observed that when migrant families shift to another areas, they feel loneliness. It was found that social gathering is very rare in-migrant families in urban areas because they don't know which family is living in neighborhood. In migration season population is congested due to flood of migrants.

Privacy

Internal migration has also impact on people privacy when they shift from rural to urban areas. Now a day's urban areas are more congested and complex. Families that are living on rent for seasonal basis they face many difficulties and privacy is one of them.

Cultural Impacts

Seasonal migration has also cultural impacts on families. It was observed that migrant families adopt many cultural trends that are mostly found in urban areas. When migrant move to Rawalpindi in winter season they meet different types of people and adopt different trends like dress pattern, language and other modern trends. People of Murree are also well educated and modernized. Majority of respondents describes that they easily adjusted in urban cultural without any problem.

Demographic Impacts

Migration is physical shift of people between one geographical area to other. One of the major impacts of seasonal migration is demographic changes. It was found that when families move to Rawalpindi, they face many difficulties cities and housing colonies were filled with migrants in migration season. Huge crowd of migrants creates many problems like sewerage and sanitation problem. In winter season Rawalpindi city were filled of seasonal migrants of Murree

Conclusion

It is concluded that climate change is a stimulant that forces people to leave their current residence and move toward a place that can accommodate them with suitable environment and opportunities. When climate conditions are too harsh and human survival is difficult people migrate to another area where climate conditions are better and easy access of everything. Climate change is the major factor of seasonal migration there are also many

factors of seasonal migration such better health, education and job opportunities. Seasonal migration has also numerous impacts on families such as socio-economic, cultural, environmental and demographic impacts. It was found that when migrant families migrate, they get house on rent for their survival they have to spend extra money for this purpose so seasonal migration effect a lot on the economy of migrants.

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