Causes and Effects of Rural-Urban Migration in Rural Areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan

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Abstract

The main objective of the study was to see the effect of migration on household income in rural areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan especially in district Peshawar. A total of 93 sampled respondents were purposively interviewed. The study indicates that about 71% of the total respondents migrated with their families during the period (2001-2010). The study revealed that war against terror, quality education, and employment were observed as major causes of rural-urban migration. Paired t-test was used to see before and after effect of migration on household income and expenditure. Moreover, after migration the monthly income and expenditure of the respondents increased. The earning members of 69.9% of the respondents increased after migration. The joint families were scattered in to nuclear family. Before migration farming were the main occupation of about 42% of the respondents while after migration most of them were engaged with private jobs and some have their own business. The education ratio of 83.9% of the respondents increased with migration. Positive changes have been observed in pre and post facilities under consideration. It is recommended that basic facilities like education, health and creation of off-farm jobs, improved training opportunities and development programs should be provided to rural peoples.

Keywords: Rural-urban migration; Push and pull factors; Paired t-test; Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Introduction

The UN reported that half of the world populations live in cities and expected that this will rise to 60% by 2030. In Nigeria and other developing countries, population in cities is estimated to increase from 1.9 billion in 2000 to 3.9 billion in 2030. This is principally due to rural to urban migration which is consequent upon the dichotomous planning and development which many developing countries adopted especially after independence. These results in the rural underprivileged and the urban gifted that translates into better facilities and economic opportunities in these urban centers than the rural areas [1].

The process of migration especially internal migration in Pakistan is an old phenomenon. It not only improves the socio-economic condition of the migrant households but also provides opportunities for employment [2]. In Pakistan both the volume and nature of internal migration have varied overtime and so their impact on migrant households and on economy [3].

In Pakistan the urban population is 35% of the total population and its average annual growth rate is 3.4% (1990-2005) which is higher as compared to South Asia’s figure of 2.8% in the same years. The status of life time migrants in the total population of 12 largest cities of Pakistan was about 15%, who moved into these cities from other districts of Pakistan [4].

According to 1998 census the total population of Peshawar is 2.02 million, in which male are 1.061 million and female are 0.958 million i.e., 11.38% of the population of KP in resides in Peshawar. Migrants from other parts of KP and other provinces of Pakistan are about 46.62% out of total population. The total number of life-time in-migrants in KP was 0.647 million (3.7% of the population of KP).

The Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) is situated in the northwest of Pakistan, lying between the province of Baluchistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, and the neighboring country of Afghanistan. Majority of the people migrated to district Peshawar Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan in search of livelihood and employment opportunities. The remittances sent by these migrants significantly develop the rural economy and prosperity of the rural people [5].

Business competition in Peshawar among the rural and urban population has been another positive effect of rural-urban migration, which accelerates the pace of economic and regional development. But further measures are required to increase the intermingling and assimilation of the rural and urban communities. Thus, while rural migrants from the FATA region are in the process of adjusting to urban life, they are exposed to and often adopt new ways of thinking, behaving and doing things that allow them to cope with problems and complexities of urban living. Other problems which adversely affect the progress of Peshawar to increase the rural-urban integration include administrative weaknesses, uneven development, rural-urban bias, and careless planning policies [6].

Peshawar city is also suffering a problem of rural urban migration which has somehow disturbed the valves, normative, structure, and urban development planning. So this study will be mainly conducted through this connection. Peshawar city is on the way to the development and progress in each and every sphere of life. It not only provide the livelihood opportunities to local and migrants in the form of various

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trade center and small industries but also provide the basic facilities like health, education, transport, communication, water supply and drainage system.

Thus this study is directed to find out the causes influencing the migration from rural areas to Peshawar city and also to dig out the impact of migration including the adjustment problem of the migrants too. It is prospected that this study will help to minimize the problems of the migrants and also make a sure through check on the erotic progress of urbanization.

Main objective were to find out the pull and push factors of rural-urban migration as well as to see the effect of migration on house hold income in the selected villages of district Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan.

Materials and Methods

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan constituted the universe of the study. As the study examines the migrants households in the rural areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan specifically district Peshawar. The study was conducted in rural areas (namely Wazir colony and Latifabad No.1) of district Peshawar because there were migrant households. In these two areas there were total 930 migrant households. Due to limited time and resources only 10% of the total migrant households were taken as a sample size. According to Roscoe sample size above 30 and below 500 are appropriate for research [7].

Data was analyzed in SPSS program using simple frequency distributions and percentages. A paired t-test was applied to see the significance of the difference between the income of the respondents before and after migration. Recommendations were made on the basis of personal observations. The table as a whole shows that majority of the respondents was considered more energetic and more responsible to meet the needs of themselves as well as of their youngsters. So, they decide easily to migrate in search of better future.

Table 2 concludes that about (84.9%) of the sample respondents were married while the rest (15.1%) were unmarried. Out of the total married respondents, 47% belonged to wazir colony while 38% were from Latifabad No.1. Whereas out of 15.1% unmarried respondents, 8.6% belonged to wazir colony while 6.5% were from Latifabad No.1. Data shows that majority of the respondents were married. In study area most of the people came from FATA. In these regions mostly people believe on early marriages.

Table 3 reveals that majority (69.9%) of the sampled respondents were illiterate, whereas 30.1% were literate. Out of total (30.1%) literate (10.8%) of the sampled respondents were having education up to primary level, (3.2%) were up to middle, (3.2%) were up to matric, (1.1%) were up to intermediate, (5.4%) were graduates, (4.3%) were master degree holders while the remaining (2.1%) were doctors. There are more literate migrants in wazir colony as compared to Latifabad No.1 because they migrated earlier as compared to Latifabad No.1. The table as a whole shows that majority of the respondents was illiterate because they were not availing better educational facilities and opportunities or were engaged in different income generating activities to support their family members. While small numbers of the respondents were literate in which most of them having education up to primary level.

Data regarding the family size of the sampled respondents is given in Table 4. It is clear from the table that about (40.9%) of the respondents were having 5-8 family members followed by (29%) who were having 1-4 family members. It is evident from the table that minimum i.e., 18.3% and 11.8% of respondents were having family size of 9-12

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**Table 1:** Distribution of sampled respondents on the basis of age group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group (years)</th>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wazir colony</td>
<td>Latifabad No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-30 years</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-40 years</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-50 years</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 50 years</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>55.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field survey, 2012
and above 12 members respectively. In research area family size was large because majority of the respondents migrated from rural areas where each house hold has more members because they considered it as a source of income.

Table 5 shows that 19.3% of the sampled respondents were migrated in the period of 1990-2000, about 71% of sampled respondents were migrated in the period of 2001-2010 while 9.7% of sampled respondents were migrated in 2011 and onward. The number of respondents migrated to Wazir colony was 10.7% in the period of 1990-2000, 41.9% in the period of 2001-2010 and 44.1% in 2011 and onward. Results reveal that most of the respondents migrated due to pull factors. Out of these about 17.2% were migrated for educational facilities, 16.1% were for employment opportunities, and 8.6% were migrated to acquire skill and gain new experience. Table 6 illustrates that 41.9% of the respondents migrated due to pull factors. Out of these about 17.2% were migrated for educational facilities, 16.1% were for employment opportunities, and 8.6% were migrated to acquire skill and gain new experience.

Table 6 illustrates that economic push factors are often the exact reversal of pull factors, lack of economic opportunities and 6.5% respondents were from Wazir colony. Table as a whole conclude that majority of the sampled respondents were migrated with families because most of the respondents leave their native land due to push factors that’s why they migrated along with their families.

According to Table 8a economic motives loom large in all human movements, but are particularly important with regards to migration. Better economic opportunities, more jobs, and the promise of a better life often pull people towards a new place. Sometimes this is encouraged by the destination country, such as the employment campaign in the Caribbean by London bus companies in the 1960s, which actively recruited young men to move to London to work as bus drivers, often followed by their families. Another example might be the ‘brain drain’ to America that occurred in the latter half of the 20th Century from several other Western nations. Pull factors exist at destination point and these are mostly positive factors. In my research area the pull factors include better educational facilities available in Peshawar city, more employment opportunities and an opportunity to acquire skill and gain new experience. Table 8a indicates that 41.9% of the respondents migrated due to pull factors. Out of these about 17.2% were migrated for educational facilities, 16.1% were for employment opportunities, and 8.6% were migrated to acquire skill and gain new experience.

Table 8b illustrates that economic push factors are often the exact reversal of pull factors, lack of economic opportunities and...
employment opportunities are often push factors to look out of their origin to their future area. One such example is the migration of the people of Mexican and other Central American countries into the United States, where they often work low-wage, long-hour jobs in farming, construction and domestic labor. It is difficult to classify this case purely with push factors however, as often the factors associated with the country of origin are just as important as the factors associated with the country of destination. Forced migration has also been used for economic gain, such as the 20 million men, women and children who were forcibly carried as slaves to the Americas between the 16th and 18th Centuries. Push factors exist at the point of origin and mostly these are negative factors. In the research area push factors are enmity at village, familial conflict, religious harassment, inadequate health facilities and war against terrorism. Table 4 reveals that (2.2%) of sample respondents migrated due enmity at village, (3.2%) migrated because of familial conflict, (2.2%) left their native land due to religious harassment, (8.6%) migrated due to inadequate health facilities while (41.9%) migrated because of war against terrorism. It is clear from the study that more than half of the respondents migrated due push factors so; it is a dominant cause of migration. The reason for this is the recent war of Pakistan army against terror.

Table 9 shows that before migration (40.8%) of respondents have income up to 8000, (35.5%) were in the income group of 8001-16000, (18.3%) were in the income group of 16001-24000 and (5.4%) have income above 24000. After migration the monthly income of the migrants was high. (12.9%) of respondents were income up to 8000, (28%) were in the income group of 8001-16000, (39.8%) were in the income group of 16001-24000 and only (19.3%) have income above 24000. The results are in line with Zanker et al. [8] who studied the effect of internal migration on the wellbeing of migrants and their families and how it affects the relationship between family members. They concluded that migrant households earn higher incomes after migration.

In Table 10 the data was split on the basis of locations. In order to test the income difference before and after migration, we incorporated paired t-test carried out separately for each location to test the hypothesis about two means with paired sources. Since the t-calculated value of both locations falls in the critical region, because probability value is much smaller than level of significance i.e., 0.000 < 0.05, so we reject our null hypothesis and conclude that there is significant difference between the two means and the results were significant at 95% significance level.

Table 11 describes the distribution of sampled respondents on the basis of monthly expenditure.

Table 12 describes the distribution of sampled respondents on the basis of earning members.

Table 13 describes the distribution of sampled respondents on the basis of occupations.

The monthly expenditure of respondents increased after migration. Table 11 indicates that before migration monthly expenditure of (51.6%) of sampled respondents were up to 8000, (36.5%) were in the group of 8001-16000, (9.7%) were in the expenditure group of 16001-24000 and only (2.2%) of respondents have expenditure above 24000. While after migration the expenditure of (18.3%) of respondents were up to 8000, (40.9%) were in the expenditure group of 8001-16000, (30.1%) of respondents were in the expenditure group of 16001-24000 and about (10.7%) have expenditure above 24000.

Table 12 describes that earning members of majority (69.9%) of respondents increased with migration. The earning members of (4.3%) respondents decreased while the earning members of remaining (25.8%) respondents remain constant. Table as a whole shows that with migration there is in increase in the earning members of the majority of the respondents.

Table 13 shows that before migration farming was the main occupation of (41.9%) of sample respondents. (15%) were labor, government servants were (8.6%), respondents who were involved in private jobs were (12.9%), respondents having their own business were (9.7%), respondents having occupation of driver were (6.3%), and about (5.4%) were technician. After migration no one engaged with farming, (16.1%) were labor, (10.8%) were involved in government services, (21.5%) were having occupation of private job, (19.4%) of respondents having their own business, (17.2%) were driver, (15%) were technician.
Table as a whole shows that before migration occupation of most of the respondents was farming while after migration most of the respondents were engaged with private jobs and business.

Table 14 illustrates that before migrations majority (86%) of respondents was living in joint family system while (14%) of sample respondents were living in nuclear family system. After migration, sample respondents that were living in joint family system were (30.1%) while (69.9%) of sample respondents were living in nuclear family system. Table as a whole conclude that before migration majority of the respondents belonged to joint family system while after migration most of the respondents belonged to nuclear family system. The results are in line with Yasin et al. [9]. They analyzed that unplanned urbanization give rise to environmental issues, including pollution, poor drainage system, poor quality of drinking water, and poor hygienic conditions. The research was carried out in Multan city in Pakistan, through field survey of 200 respondents. The results illustrate that urbanization is one of the major causes of changing joint family system to nuclear family system [10-16].

Table 15 illustrates that (19.3%) of sample respondents were living in paccऽ houses before migration while after migration this increased to (91.4%). Before migration (28%) of sample respondents had semi-paccऽ houses while after migration there were (8.6%) of respondents having semi-paccऽ houses. Majority (52.7%) of respondents had kacha/mud houses before migration while after migration this ratio was zero. Table as a whole conclude that before migration most of the respondents were living in kacha/mud houses while majority of the respondents were living in paccऽ houses after migration.

Table 16 shows that before migration majority (74.2%) of respondents was the owner of their own houses while after migration this reduced to (38.7%). Before migration (8.6%) of respondents were living in rented houses while after migration (61.3%) of respondents were living in rented houses. There were (17.2%) of respondents who were living in not rented houses before migration while after migration this trend is zero. Table as a whole indicates that majority of the respondents were the owner of houses before migration while after migration most of the respondents were living in rented houses [16-25].

Table 17 shows that before migration electricity was available to (100%) of respondents, gas was available to (19.4%) of respondents, telephone facilities were available to (38.7%) of respondents, (25.8%) of respondents having facilities of water supply, (21.5%) having health facilities and (45.2%) having education facilities. After migration gas facilities was available to (92.5%) of respondents, while educational, health, telephone, water supply and electricity were available to all respondents. Table as a whole shows that there was increase in the existing facilities of the sampled respondents after migration.

Table 18 shows that (83.9%) of sample respondents reported that their education ratio has increased after migration. While (16.1%) of sample respondents reported that their educational ratio has not increased with migration. Among these (16.1%) of respondents (60%) of respondents prefer for their children to do some work rather than to get education while (40%) of respondents reported that they can’t afford the high cost of their children’s education [26-28].

**Conclusion**

The effect of migration on household income in rural areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan especially in district Peshawar,
positive changes have been observed in pre and post facilities under consideration and it is recommended that basic facilities like education, health and creation of off-farm jobs, improved training opportunities and development programs should be provided to rural peoples.

References