Exploring the Socioeconomic Factors and Causes of In-Migration: A Study on Rainas Municipality, Lamjung District

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ABSTRACT: The main causes of migration of that place were for higher education and employment. Migrant people left their home mainly in search of employment. The proportion of dependent migrants was higher than proportion of migrants involved in economic activity. The main objective of the study is to find out the situation, nature and causes of migration and explore the patterns of remittance from migration. The migrants were mostly students and unemployed adult population for searching jobs. The highest migration by ethnic Caste groups were Brahman and Dalits. The highest caste-wise remittance entered Dalits and Gurung and the highest amount of remittance was used for buying land in this place.

Introduction

Migration is becoming a burning issue of Nepal. Few studies have been done in Nepal on causes and consequences of internal migration at the micro level. This is the first attempt in Rainas Municipality to carry out study on the issue of migration. The comprehensive account of the study area would help others for different other types of researchers in the same area.

This study tried to find out the causes and consequences of internal migration in Rainas Municipality which is being helpful to understand the problem and complexities of this locality. The results of the study are to assess as an important guideline for in the specific locality.

The United Nations Multilingual Demography Dictionary defined "Migration as form of geographic mobility or spatial mobility between one geographic unit to another, generally involving change in residence from the place of origin or place of departure of the place of destination of place of arrival" (United Nation, 1973).

Migration for economic motive and education or other opportunity as well as training purpose is not a new phenomenon in Nepal. Generally, migration is the change of usual place and it is influenced by socio, cultural, economic, political and individual decision, it can't be influenced by the size of total population within a country or definite area.

Nepal is also suffering from the critical issues in migration. There are many problems created by the rapid increase of population as well as physical cand economic opportunity in Nepal. Rainas Municipality of Lamjung district, it lies in eastern par. The causes of migration can easily be identified but it is very difficult to find out and quantify the consequences of migration. Migration has short- medium and long term effects. Long-term effects will show their evidence after many years. After such a long period people may not feel the changes as consequences of migration and will accept them as part of their culture and society. If we

succeed to trace-out the causes and consequences related to the high volume of in migration, it will contribute towards showing those problems, which affect the lives of thousands of families both in rural and urban area. The migration process certainly helps for the expansion of urban centers, but various sorts of social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental and development problems have started emerging.

This municipality has experienced significant demographic changes, primarily driven by a high volume of adult migration. As a result, there is an evident imbalance in the sex ratio and a considerable dependency ratio, adversely affecting agriculture, social structures, and cultural development in this region. The primary motivations for migration are education, employment, and business opportunities, contributing to a growing trend of out-migration. This exodus is depleting the local workforce needed to harness natural resources effectively. Many people are relocating to urban areas in search of improved job prospects, education, and other amenities. The study of migration raises intriguing questions such as why people move, where they go, how long they stay at their destination, and what characteristics define these migrants. Moreover, it delves into the impacts of migration on both the destination and origin areas. This study seeks to provide answers to these inquiries.

Objectives of this Study

The primary objective of this study is to analysis the causes of internal migration within the study area. To achieve this, specific objectives have been outlined. Firstly, the study aims to comprehensively assess the current state of migration in the region, examining its nature and identifying key factors. Secondly, it finds to conduct a detailed analysis to understand the complex patterns of remittances resulting from migration. These objectives collectively aim to provide valuable insights into the dynamics of internal migration, shedding light on its drivers and economic implications for the studied community.

Literature Review

Zipf's "principle of least effort" is derived from George Zipf's observation that individuals tend to minimize the effort they expend in communication. This principle builds upon Revenstein's model of human behavior in information theory. Zipf's work, notably his book "Human Behavior and the Principle of Least Effort," published in 1949, expanded upon Revenstein's ideas, emphasizing the tendency for individuals to prioritize efficiency and reduce cognitive and physical effort in their communication and information-seeking behaviors (Lopez, et al., 2008).

Todaro (1969) has given the most significant contribution to the title of volume of migration. He is of the view that migration mechanism can be explained by the difference is expected rather than actual earning between two places. He has formulated migration" modes, which has four types features as:

1. Migration is estimated primarily by national income consideration of relative benefits, which are mostly financial and also psychological.
2. The decision to migrate depends on expected rather than actual new or old real wage differentials where the expected differentials are dominated by the interaction of two variables. The actual new or old wage difference and the probability of successfully obtaining employment in the new sector.

3. The profitability of obtaining employment in the new sector is inversely related to the unemployment rate in the new sector.

4. Migration rates of new employment opportunity growth rates are not only possible but also rational and even likely in the face of wide new of old expected income differentials. High rates of unemployment in the new sectors are therefore inevitable outcome of the serious imbalance of economic opportunities between new and out areas of most under developed countries (Todaro, 1969).

Bongul (1959) focused his research on characteristics, types, causes and consequences of migration, behavior of migration decision making. Bongul observed migration as adjustment to economic and social change. Such a change, he says, many declines natural resources, will lack employment create discriminatory treatment, alive one from community etc. On the one hand and create superior opportunities of employment, education, preferable environment and living conditions on the other.

UNFPA (2018), studied about migration as the result of individual or family decision. It is a part of social process and a global phenomenon. Migration is driven by a variety of forces both positive and negative. In 2018 UNFPA, listed forces driving rural urban migration as follows:

- Population growth in rural area exceeds the capacity of the agrigain sectors to support it.
- As a result of the general urban bias of public, the level of commercial and non-commercial services amenities higher in cities than in rural areas,
- Wages in the urban sectors are higher in city than in rural areas.
- Rural development that gives emphasis to improvement of infrastructure (like road building) results in increased migration to the cities.
- Land distribution, which fails to take account of traditional common rights, destroys the prospects of the land less and lets to migration to the cities.

Lee (1970) and miller (1966) state that migration is selective by age, sex, social and economic status. On the other hand, some observation on migration differential which tends to characterize.

Research Area

Rainas Municipality is located in the eastern part of Lamjung district. Geographically, it lies between 84 07'-84 32 east and 28° 05' -28° 07' north. Rainas Municipality consists of 11 wards and all wards have been selected for this study. The total area of the municipality is 14.256 sq.k, and it is situated in 618 m. elevation from the seal level. In this place 4980 the total population is living. Out of them, 2011 were females and 2969 were male.

Selection of Households

Among the 2,977 households in Rainas Municipality, wards 3 and 5 were exclusively chosen through a simple random sampling method. In these selected wards, a total of 197 households were included in the study, with 130 of them being households that had experienced migration. It's important to note that this approach constitutes a census method. There is increasing numerous internal migrants but no research was done there. Therefore, this

municipality was selected to analyze the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of migrations as well as exploring the socio-economic factors causes of in-migration.

Research Design

To collect the primary data, the list of the total households and total population was obtained from municipality office. The total households of the municipality were very large. The questionnaire sets were open-ended as well as close ended. It was divided into two parts. The first part of questionnaire consists of question relation to demographic and socio- economic characteristics of the household population, such as age, sex, caste religion, marital status, family size.

The second part of questionnaire consists of individual questionnaire consists of individual questionnaire consists of individual questionnaire such as age, sex, marital status, literacy status occupational status. As their origin, time of migration, choosing current place, physical facilities and so much other information.

Sample Size Determination

The purpose of this study was to cover some of the households to present all. The total household number in the study area was 967. This work covered 16.23% of households. So that research was chosen 130 houses for the migrants and there were no migratory movements. Only 27 households could be collected as a random sampling. In short, the nature of the study is basically descriptive. Simple statistical tools like percentage, average and ratios also have been used to present data, which enable to present demographic and socio- economic scenario of all respondents as as well as cause, consequences and patterns of internal migration in the place of origin and destination.

Causes of Migration by Sex

Migration is observed to be sex selective. The causes of migration found to be in different steps. The major cause of migration in Rainas Municipality VDC's by sex is presented in the following table.

Table 1: *Causes of migration according to sex (in %)*

Causes	Male	Female	Total
Education	40	26.5	30
Service/Seeking job	26	10.0	15
Dependent	12	53.8	36
Business	10	6.4	9
Agriculture	9	2.1	6
Other causes	3	1.2	4
Total	100	100	100
Total number	125	64	189

Table 1 demonstrates that there is high proportion of dependent migrants. The total number of dependent migrants (36%) is higher and the specific causes of migrants of people are opportunities of education, job, business, agriculture and others. They are 30%, 15%, 9%,

6% and 4% respectively. A large number of males (40.1%) migrate due to the cause of education and 26% males migrate for job. 53% females migrate due to the cause of dependence. They follow their husbands and produce children to increase dependency ratio.

Causes of Migration by Age (at the Time of Migration)

There is great influence on people who migrate from one place to another place form their age group. Generally, Place for their age adult and active population participated into the activity of migration. The table: 1.2 shows the causes of migration by ad 032 song different age.

Table 2: *Main causes of migration according to age groups (%)*

Cause of migration	Age at the time of migration							
	0-4	**5-14**	**15-19**	**20-24**	**25-29**	**30-34**	**35+**	**Total**
Education		41	39	36	40	30	30	
Service			27	20	18	41	41	
Dependent	100	59	31	40	19	13	8	
Business					15	9	9	
Agriculture				1	3	3	5	
Other causes			3	3	5	4	7	
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total no.	34	17	23	24	37	28	26	189

The table 2 demonstrates that that there is high proportion of migration rate due to the causes of education. 41% of the age group of 5-14, migrated due to the cause of education. 39% of age group 15-19 years migrated due to the causes of education, 27%, 31% and 3% people migrated due to the causes of seeking job and service, dependency and other causes respectively. Percentages of the age group 20-24 migrated due to the case of education, service, dependent, agriculture and other causes they are 36%, 20%, 40%, 1% and 3% respectively. 40% of the age group 25-29 migrated due to the cause of service, dependent, business, agriculture another causes respectively.

Percentages of the age group 30-34 migrated due to the causes of education service, dependency, business agriculture and others; they are 30%, 41%, 13%,9%, 3% and 4% respectively. Table 2 also shows that peoples' high proportion of migration rate is the causes of education, service and dependency.

Causes of Migration by Destination

The attractions towards place of destination are the pull factors, because they encourage people to come to that particular place. The causes are education, employment, income and ethnicity as selected variables shows the causes of migration by destination of Rainas municipality.

Table 3: *Causes of migration by destination (Percentage)*

Cause of migration	Age at the time of migration							
	Kathmandu	Pokhara	Besisahar	Terai	India	Saudi Arab	Other countries	Total no.
Education	41	75	75	82	-	-	69	
Service	38	20	5	5	92	100	23	
Dependent	14	5	-	3	8	-	3	
Business	4	-	10	1	-	-	-	
Agriculture	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	
Other causes	3	-	10	4	-	-	5	
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total no.	76	19	10	14	16	41	13	189

Table 3 shows that out of total number of emigrants in Kathmandu valley, 41% people migrated due to the cause of education and 38%, 14%, 4% and 3% people migrated due to the causes of service dependence, business and other causes respectively. Out of total number of emigrants in Pokhara, 75% people migrated due to the cause of education 20% migrated due to the cause of service and only 5% migrated due to the causes of dependency. In Besisahar 75% total people migrated due to the cause of education and only 5% people migrated due to the cause of service. In Terai area 82% people migrated due to the causes of education. In India and Saudi Arab 92% and 100% emigrants migrated due to the cause of service and seeking job. The data demonstrates that due to the cause of education and services majority of people migrated from Rainas municipality.

Causes of Migration by Socio-economic Impact

Migration plays a vital role to change socio-economic status of people from both places of origin and destination. There seem various socio-economic impacts like social discrimination against certain ethnic groups. People's educational status at the time of migration, marital status is given below.

Migration by Ethnic Groups

The following table no. 4 shows the migration by various ethnic groups form Rainas Municipality VDC's.

Table 4: *Migration by ethnic groups*

Cause of migration	Age at the time of migration							
	Brahman	Chhetri	Kumal	Sarki	Magar	Gurung	Kamai/Damai	Total no.
Education	70	50	60	80	72	22	18	
Service	20	21	29	8	13	68	82	
Dependent	6	14	3	-	3	-		
Business	4	6	-	-	2	10		
Agriculture	-	-	8	-	-	-		
Other causes	-	9	-	12	10	-		
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total no.	43	37	28	13	18	21	29	189

Table 4 demonstrates the causes of education and service. The majority of ethical groups migrated from the origin place of Rainas Municipality. According to this data 70% Brahman, 50% Chhetri, 60% Kumal, 80% Sarki, 72% Magar, 22% Gurung and 18% Kami/Damai migrated to obtain education in certain destination places. Secondly 17% Brahman, 21% Chhetri, 29% Kumal, 8% Sarki, 13% Magar, 68% Gurung and 82% Kami/Damai migrated due to the causes of service and seeking job. The data indicates that there seems positive educational development within few years, because majority of ethical group migrated from origin place to destination to obtain education.

Caste-wise Remittance Per Year
The table shows the caste-wise remittance, per year in Rainas Municipality

Table 5: *Caste-wise Remittances per Year*

Caste	Rupees
Brahmin	50,000-100000
Chhetri	50,000-100000
Kumal	Below 50,000
Sarki	Below 50,000
Magar	100000-150,000
Gurung	Above 200000
Kami/Damai	150,000-200000

Table 5 demonstrates that cast wise remittance that enters the Rainas Municipality . It seems that Kumal and Sarki have lowest remittance. It is below Rs. 50,000 per year. Brahman and Chhetri have the same proportion of remittance ratio. It is Rs. 50,000-100000 per year. Magar has Rs. 100000-150,000 remittance per year. Kami and Damai have above 150,000-200000 per year. Gurung has the highest remittance entering in Rainas Municipality this is above Rs. 200000 per year. The main cause of highest remittance of Kami/Damai is they have gone to foreign countries like Arabian countries. In the case of Gurung they have joined the police and army in India and British.

House-Wise Use of Remittance
The people of Rainas Municipality used/spent remittance under various titles. The following table shows the house-wise use of remittance of this place.

Table 6. *House-wise remittance use*

Items	Percent of Household use
Land buying	43
Business	9
Food selling	7
Education	20
Health	8
Others	13
Total	**100**

Table 6 shows that the majority of people (43%) spend their remittance for land buying and 9%, 7%, 20%, 8% and 13% people spend their remittance for business, food selling, education, health and others respectively. This data shows that the highest remittance volume use is for land selling.

Education Level-Wise Remittance

The table shows the people's educational status and their level-wise remittance in Rainas Municipality.

Table 7. *Education level-wise remittance*

Education Status	% of Remittance
Illiterate	7
Primary to secondary	32
S.L.C- intermediate	34
Bachelor level and above	27
Total	100

Table no. 7, demonstrates that the highest rate of remittance is 34% which is sent by the people whose educational status has S.L.C to intermediate level and 32% primary to secondary level. The majority of them have gone to as workers in Arab, India, Kuwait, and Malaysia. Due to this, the highest remittance comes from them.7% and 27% remittance is sent by illiterate and bachelor level and above respectively.

Destination by Causes of Migration

The attractions towards place of destination are the pull factors, because they encourage people to come to that particular place. The causes are education, employment, income and ethnicity as Ly as selected variables. Table 8 shows the causes of migration by destination of Rainas municipality.

Table 8: *Destination by causes of migration*

Cause of migration	Destination							
	Kathmandu	Pokhara	Besisahar	Terai	India	Saudi Arab	Other countries	Total no.
Education	42	76	79	82	-	-	69	
Service	36	20	6	5	92	100	23	
Dependent	13	4	-	3	8	-	3	
Business	5	-	10	1	-	-	-	
Agriculture	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	
Other causes	4	-	5	4	-	-	5	
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total no.	76	19	10	14	16	41	13	189

Table 8 shows that out of total number of emigrants in Kathmandu valley, 42% people migrated due to the cause of education and 36%, 13%, 5% and 4% people migrate due to the

causes of service dependence, business and other causes respectively. Out of total number of emigrants in Pokhara, 76% people migrated due to the cause of education, 20% migrated due to the cause of service and only 4% migrated due to the causes Causes of dependency. In Besisahar 79% total people migrated due to the cause of education and only 6% people migrated due to the cause of service. In Terai 82% people migrated due to the cause of education. In India and Saudi Arab 92% and 100% emigrants migrated due to the cause of service and seeking job. The data demonstrates that due to the cause of education and services majority of people migrated from Rainas municipality.

Land Abandonment

Land abandonment migrants and non-migrants are given below.

Table 9: *Land Abandonment Migrants and Non-migrants (in %)*

Land Ropani	Migrants	Non-migrants
Below 5 ropani	7.5	17.4
5-10 ropani	14.5	29.1
10-15 ropani	23.5	16.3
15-20 ropani	14.5	8.7
20-25 ropani	29.5	23.1
25-30 ropani	10.5	6.4
30 above	-	-
Total	100	100

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the population; attachment to land has been psychological, social and economic values in Rainas Municipality. The table 9 demonstrates that there is higher land abandonment ratio of migrants than the non-migrants people 7.5 of migrant's people have below 5 ropani land holding whereas 17.4% of non-migrants have below 5 ropani land holding. The migrants people of 14.5%, 23.5%, 14.5%, 29.6% and 10.5 have 5-10 ropani, 10-15 ropani, 15-20 ropani, 20-25 ropani and 25-30 ropani land holding respectively. The non-migrants people of 29.1%, 16.3%, 8.7%, 23.1% and 6.4% people have 5-10 ropani, 10-15 ropani, 15-20 ropani, 20-25 ropani and 25- 30 ropani land holding respectively. The main causes of high land abandonment of migrant's people is the remittance from destination to origin place.

Conclusion

The study reveals several key findings regarding migration patterns in Rainas Municipality. The primary driver of migration stems from the limited availability of local employment opportunities, highlighting the significance of economic factors in migration decisions. Notably, a substantial percentage of male migrants (40.1%) relocate primarily for educational pursuits, underlining the importance of access to education as a motivating factor. Additionally, job-seeking is a significant driver, with approximately 26% of male migrants motivated by employment prospects. The study also sheds light on ethnic demographics, with the Brahmin ethnic group forming the majority, further emphasizing the need for nuanced policy considerations. Furthermore, diverse motivations for migration, including education, employment, business, and agriculture, affect a significant proportion of migrants, particularly those in specific age groups. Remittance patterns, caste-based disparities, and expenditure on

land and business ventures provide valuable insights into the economic dynamics of migration in the region, while the prominent destination of Kathmandu and the duration of migration absence underscore the regional context's influence on migration choices. Finally, the study highlights the commitment of migrant households to education and the impact of remittances on land abandonment rates, enriching our understanding of migration's multifaceted impacts on individuals and communities in Rainas Municipality.

Recommendations

- It should provide quality education, healthcare facilities, road infrastructure, communication networks, employment opportunities, and support for agricultural activities in the place of origin.
- Enhance the infrastructure and capacity of urban areas experiencing high population influx, and effectively manage urban development, including road construction, communication systems, educational facilities, healthcare services, and urban planning.

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