

A study of patterns of migration in Lahauli tribes of Himachal Pradesh

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Abstract: In population studies, migration is a crucial component. Migration requires both space and time, so studying migration from all angles is equally important. This study has been an attempt to examine how the immigration patterns in Himachal Pradesh have changed since 1991. With the advent of globalization, migration patterns have undergone major change. In a hilly nation like Himachal Pradesh, where migration was relatively low before to the 1990s, these changes in migratory patterns were even more pronounced. The 1991 and 2001 census data were analyzed to look at changes in the pattern of migration during this time. In the hill country, it has been noted that migratory patterns change unexpectedly. In absolute terms, migration is still quite low, notwithstanding a noticeable trend over the past few census years.

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Introduction:

Migration requires both space and time, so, studying migration from all angles is equally important. A study of the shifts in migration patterns is necessary to comprehend how people travel differently. Future population redistribution plans won't be accurate until changes in migratory patterns have been duly acknowledged. With the advent of globalization, migration patterns have changed dramatically. Economic changes have been brought about by structural changes brought about by globalization. In a hilly nation like Himachal Pradesh, where migration was relatively low until the 1990s, the effects of these changes on the migratory process are especially apparent. Not only the volume of migration has changed, but also the nature and patterns. Current research analyses the modifications described above. Census data was used to conduct the research.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Munshi (1944) The Gujjars are essentially of Indian origin and the people of Rajputana, Malwa and modern Gujarat, the entire region called Gurjaradesa, were a homogeneous people whose Gurjara empire began to disintegrate after the collapse of the Chalukya empire in the late thirteenth century. The Gujjars of northwestern India have ethnic affinities with the Rajputs, Jats, Ahirs and belong to one ethnic group (Bingley, 1978; Ibbetson, 1983). The

Gujjars were once a nomadic pastoral community, but most of them, including the Gujjars of Delhi, now lead a sedentary life. Their main occupation is cattle breeding and marginal agriculture. Gujjars are widely distributed across Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi. They were originally Hindu, however Muslim Gujjars are found in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh (Verma, 1954; Singh, 1998). Renowned historian Dr. K.S.Lal (1995) observed that: "...then and till the end of Islamic rule, far from welcoming the Islamic conquerors as liberators, the 'lower castes' and 'tribes' – Meo, Bachgoti, Baghela, Barwaris Gonds, Gujjars, Bhils, Satnamis, Oraons, Mina, Kunbis, "Shudras" - are those who offer the most determined resistance to the invaders." Consequently, the history of the Gujjars has been one of migration, nomadic pastoralism, semisedatrization (semi-sedentary agriculturist), exploitation, displacement and dispossession, and marginalization. To this background the reasons for their present condition can be attributed to some extent. Baines (1893) said of the Gujjars that the Gujjar are another northern tribe. It is composed of various elements. It is largely agricultural in the Punjab, though inclined to cattle-grazing in the southern plains.

Elsewhere in India, the name generally implies a second occupation..."According to the racial classification of Indian tribes, the Gujjars have been grouped under the category of Caucasian along with other communities of pastoral and husbandry type like Toda, Rebari and Bakarwal etc. tribes in India come from four racial groups.

Migration Prospective:

In Himachal Pradesh, the total volume of interstate immigrants rose from 0.23 million to 0.35 million between 1991 and 2001. During the 1991 and 2001 censuses, it constituted 4.58% and 5.77% of the total population of the state (Census of India 1991 and 2001). As a result, Himachal Pradesh's share of the migratory population was not particularly significant. In Himachal Pradesh, there was an increase in the volume of immigrants by 48.14 percent between 1991-2001. However, this shift was not consistent across all regions of the state due to spatial inequality in physical conditions, differences in economic opportunity, and proximity between countries. The amount of immigrants in different districts of Himachal Pradesh has changed. Bilaspur district saw the largest increase (456.93 percent) in the volume of immigrants Bilaspur district shares a border with the neighboring state of Punjab. So many women have migrated to the border areas of Bilaspur district from across the border. Bilaspur district has several industrial units but some of the largest industrial establishments of Himachal Pradesh. For example, ACC's Cement Factory is one of the largest and oldest industrial facilities in the country. Other areas where the shift in migration volume was greater than the national average included Kinnaur, Kullu, Lahul & Spiti and Solan. Before the 1990s, these areas were largely undeveloped. These were explored later more than before. This was due to advances in the construction profession. The districts are now connected to the nation as a whole. Airports and heliports were built wherever possible. In addition, there was encouragement to grow cash crops that needed labor. Immigration fulfills this need for work. Despite the physiographic and climatic barriers described above, there was a significant increase in interstate immigration as employment potential in these two areas increased rapidly in the intercensal decade 1991-2001. Although there was a greater than national shift in migration, Lahul & Spiti district did not account

for female migrants. Within 10 years only seventeen women moved to Lahul & Spiti. This is due to the extremely mountainous and tribal region. Intra-tribal marriages. It is not certain within the traditional arrangement, adjustments are being made, but inter-tribal weddings seem far away. The percentage of female migrants who move primarily for marriage is also weak. Another district where the amount of immigration rose above the national average was Solan (75.78 percent). The reason for the larger increase in the volume of immigrants was location and industrial development. Due to their physical proximity, a significant number of immigrants are recorded from neighboring Punjab and Haryana. A considerable number of people looking for work are heading for men in the Solan region, which has seen unprecedented growth in terms of industrial activity and urban development. Marriage migration is generally valid for women. The volume of immigration changes was lower than the national average in six districts namely Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmaur and Una. Hamirpur district (7.97 per cent) was far below the national average when only 1066 immigrants were recruited from all parts of the country in ten years. In Himachal Pradesh, according to the 1991 and 2001 censuses of India, the highest literacy rate was found in Hamirpur district. These many intelligent people, especially men, are looking for suitable employment in other states. There are practically few job opportunities in the district itself. Hamirpur district is known for its migration trends. There is no commercial development of agriculture or industry. Among immigrant women, the change in the number of women was above the norm for women due to marriage migration. Kangra, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmaur and Una districts saw a shift in migrant volume less than the national average. The change was below the state average for the sexes in Kangra, Mandi and Sirmaur districts. The change in the volume of male immigrants was higher than the national average in Shimla and Una districts. Although the volume of immigration changes was less, still the number of migrants was higher than in many other districts as the growth process in these districts started even before 1991 when districts like Lahul & Spiti, Kullu and Kinnaur were relatively unknown. So there was no sudden growth in these areas. In terms of their

work potential, the volume of male immigrants in Shimla and Una districts has changed. Administrative activities and tourism improve employment opportunities. Una County has several special economic zones that provide jobs and attract people. Chamba district, which is one of the 250 backward areas in the country, has seen a negative shift in the amount of immigration. About 45 percent of the population of the district is socially disadvantaged caste and tribal community. The basis of the economy is agriculture. Nothing can attract migrating people. Therefore, there was a negative shift in the volumes of immigrants.

CONCLUSION

The study shows that migration patterns in Himachal Pradesh have changed unexpectedly. Much of Himachal Pradesh is highly mountainous and has remained secluded. Although with advances in civil and geological engineering, most parts of the state have been connected by motorable roads, reaching the mountainous regions is still a grueling exercise. In addition, the harsh weather and lack of equipment make living unpleasant. This is more so in the case of tribal areas namely Kinnaur and Lahul & Spiti which have remained shrouded for centuries. Now with connectivity through roads and dissemination of information through media, these districts have been explored. Regarding changes in immigration patterns, unpredictable percentage changes in the volume of immigrants were reported in districts where development activities started late or industrial growth occurred suddenly. Recent survey of remote areas namely Kinnaur, Kullu and Lahul & Spiti has given rise to some migration where the magnitude of migration used to be almost nil. The size of the migration is still quite low in absolute terms, but the change that has been observed during the last census years is incredible. It was evident that districts with rapid industrial development attract a remarkable number of migrants due to an unparalleled increase in employability. It can be assumed that the magnitude of migration in Himachal Pradesh will obviously increase in the coming times, but the proportion of migrating population in the middle and high zone of Himachal Pradesh which consists of Hamirpur, Mandi, Chamba, Kinnaur, Kullu and Lahul & Spiti districts will increase. stay low. It is quite likely that some of these districts may

experience a negative change in the volume of migration. Shimla district lying in the middle and upper zone is an exception in this regard. The reason is the high level of development and administrative importance of the district. Districts lying in the Shivaliks near the plains of Punjab and Haryana will continue to experience high migration as they have both locational and physiographic benefits.

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