



RESEARCH ARTICLE

IMPACT OF PAKISTANI IMMIGRANTS ON RURAL POPULATION IN THE BORDER REGION OF RAJASTHAN: A CASE STUDY OF JAISALMER DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN

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ABSTRACT

This paper highlights the impact of Pakistani minority migrants on the rural scenario in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. Nicknamed as 'The Golden city', it is situated in the western part of Rajasthan. Lying in the heart of the Thar Desert, it is the largest district of Rajasthan with a population of about 669919 persons. The length of international border attached to Jaisalmer District is 471 km (293 mi). The region is well known for its hard climatic condition. This region has been under turmoil and chaotic political conditions. After the war of 1965 and 1971 many Pakistani Hindu minority migrants have migrated to the western parts of the nation settling specially near the Radcliff Line. Research indicates that in Jaisalmer, the rural population percentage is 86.71%. Jaisalmer, Sam and Sankdathese are three panchayat samitee here. Survey reveals that the pakistani migrants in Jaisalmer have mainly settled in Nachana. Transport nagar, Gaffur Bhatta and Shree Mohangarh are the three main locality of migrants here. Though tourism is a major industry and the key attraction in Jaisalmer still, the rural population of the area suffers due to unemployment and illiteracy mainly. Many rural people are involved in illegal activities like drug smuggling, illegal migration or work as spy etc. Recently Jaisalmer police had caught some people working as a Pakistani agents, leaking confidential information to Pak army. This may be a big risk to our nation's security. The 'Ujas' and 'Seemantlok Sangtan' are working for developing and supporting the migrants here also making efforts for getting Indian citizenship.

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INTRODUCTION

After the independence of Pakistan on 14 August 1947, the majority of the minority Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan migrated to India while the Muslim migrants from India settled down in Pakistan. Many People abandoned there fixed assets and crossed newly formed border. Approximately 6 million Hindus and Sikhs migrated to India while nearly an equal number of Muslims migrated to Pakistan from India. Many refugees overcame the trauma of poverty, though the loss a homeland has had a deeper and lasting effect on their Sindh culture. A number of Bangladeshi and Pakistani nationals belonging to minority communities in those countries, such as Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Jains, Parses and Buddhists, have taken shelter in India due to religious persecution or fear of religious persecution. They have entered India either without any valid document, including passport and other travel document, or with valid documents but the validity of such document has expired, reports PTI.

There has been no exact numbers of such minority refugees from these countries but officials put the figure of around two lakh Hindu and Sikh refugees from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan living in India. Problems were further aggravated when incidents of violence broke out in Karachi after independence. According to the census of India 1951, nearly 7,76,000 Sindh Hindus migrated to India. Despite this migration of Hindus, a significant Sindh Hindu population still resides in Pakistan's Sindh province where they numbered around 2.28 million in 1998 while the Sindh Hindus in India numbered 2.57 million in 2001.

Area of Study

The study area of this research work is Jaisalmer. It is a district which is situated in the western part of Rajasthan at Indo-Pak border. It is the largest district of Rajasthan. It is very nearer to Pakistan. Latitude and Longitude to degrees minutes seconds is 26° 05 to 28° 0 North, 69° 30' to 70° 0 East. Mostly migrants came from Sindh state of Pakistan, which is adjoining to jaisalmer district. In jaisalmer these are the main locality of Pakistani Immigrants.

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Transport Nagar: 4000 are immigrants are leaving here. Most of the people came here in 1971 approximately 1000 are voters from here. It is ward no. 30 Here ward member is elected from Pakistani immigrant community only.

Gaffurbhatta: 5000 people are leaving here. It is main locality of Pakistani immigrants. It is ward no. 31 Here ward member is elected from Pakistani immigrant community only.

Kishanghat: 88 members are leaving here, who came in 2015. These people came to India on religious visa for Haridwar in the year of 2015 but they stayed here only, Rajasthan Police also forced them to go but they refused. They wanted to stay in India only, they told ready to die in India on but they would not ready to go back to Pakistan.

Mohangarh: Mohangarh is situated 62 km away from jaisalmer in the northeast side. It can be called main rehabilitation center of Pakistani immigrants. Approximately 600 immigrants have been settled here.

Nachna: Nachna is situated 120 km away from jaisalmer on the jaisalmer-Bikaner road. Earlier Pakistani immigrants came here and settled here approximately 250 immigrants people are leaving here.

Bankalsar: Bankalsar Is 50 km away from jaisalmer. Now this has become a separate gram panchayath. Previously it was under the gram panchayath of Mohangarh 150-200 families are living here. Out of 1500 voters 750 voters are from Pak immigrants.

Fatehgarh: Fatehgarh is situated 65 km away from jaisalmer. There are 100-150 families. Here most of Pakistani immigrants came from Amarkot district of Pakistan after the Indo-Pak war of 1971.

Other Immigrants locality: Pakistani immigrants are living almost in jaisalmer. Mohangarh, Nachna, jaisalmer, Fatehgarh are mainly liked by Pakistani immigrants. Indira Gandhi canal area is the place where most of Pakistani immigrants have been settled due to water and irrigation facility.

Objective

- To find out the causes of Pakistani immigration to India. Why they are shifting to India continuously. What are the factors responsible for their migration?
- To know about Pakistani immigrants and to analysis the impact of Pakistani immigrants on rural population in jaisalmer district.
- Geopolitical analysis of Pakistani immigrants in border districts of Rajasthan like Badmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur and a case study of Jaisalmer.
- To analysis about Economic, Health, Education, Social, Culture status of Pakistani immigrants in in border district of Rajasthan and comparison with local Indian people. And find out differences between Indian people and local Indian people.
- To know about the Indo-Pak Partition and Geostrategic implication of Indo-Pak Partition. What the causes were responsible behind Indo-Pak Partition

The study of migration has been a clear interdisciplinary venture as it touches many social sciences discipline. It is a

Demographic problem when it influences the size and some other related attributes of population at origin and destination : it is an Economic problem when it concerns economic imbalance and employment : it is a political problem when it influences patterns of political co-operation and political strife at various areas and social scales; and it is a mainly psychological problems so far the process of decision making for the act of migration is concerned. And "Migrants act as culture brokers in the process of cultural diffusion". Geographical studies on migration in India are only a few. The paucity of studies in this regards appears all the more glaring when viewed in the context of a long history of notable theoretical and substantive work on migration in many other parts of the world. The contribution of Revenstien, Peterson, Zipf, Stouffer, Wolpert, Lee, Hagerstrand, Mabogunje and Zelinsky deserve special mention in respect of theoretical aspect of migration. Not only the geographical studies on migration.

- Not only the geographical studies on migration in India have been few and far between most of them have been done without any theoretical framework.
- Davis deserves the credit for doing the first notable work on internal migration in India which was based on 1931 census data.
- Zarchariah conducted a census data based study on internal migration in the Indian sub-continent from 1901-1931.
- Notwithstanding the detailed nature of the study, it locked regional approaches.
- Gosal was the first to make a detailed Geography analysis of internal migration in India. (Using 1951 district wise census data). He identifies and discusses in detail areas with different rates of migration.
- Lall's analysis was particularly devoted to in-migration to class I cities in India. In his study "A regression analysis of migration to urban areas of a less development country: The case of India, "Greenwood found the economic factors to be most important in stimulating migration. Similarly, Kashir sagar also came to the same conclusion that internal migration of males in India mainly motivated by the desire to improve economic position.
- Mehta analysis of, "pattern of migration in Bist Doab: 1951-61, emphasised the role of population pressure in generating out migration. based on 1961 census data.
- Libee and Sopher bought out a study on marriage migration in India.
- Burkis. j. "Migration, urbanisation and politics in Pakistan" W. H. Wriggings and j. guyot, eds., population politics and the future of southern Asia, New York, Columbia University Press. He discussed about urbanisation, migration and politics. they examined main causes of urbanisation, in this migration in urban in a causes of urbanisation.
- Williams focussed on the pattern of migration of Nilgiri herders, i.e., Todas, Badgas, Kotas and Kasuvas.
- Roy's study discussed various streams of migration in India in 1971. He noted that migration in India was essentially a short distance phenomenon and was mainly determined by economic resources.
- Seta examined, "Migration and its effect on urbanisation in South Kankan." And found that small towns have been declined consequent upon out. Flow of

population of the Bombay metropolitan areas. In her paper, "patterns of male out-migration from eastern Uttar Pradesh"

- Khan discussed mainly rural urban migration from twelve sample villages. The study confirms earlier generation that the young and literates are more mobile, and the information field plays an important role in stimulating migration.
- Nangia and Samuel's study entitled, "determinants and characteristic of female migration: a case study of Salem city in Tamilnadu" highlighted that females were primarily included in marriage associational and distress migration. Applying stochastic process model Rowe and Krishan discussed internal migration in India. They concluded if the present pattern of inter-state migration continues there would be major shift of population towards Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and west Bengal, i.e. the status with better and greater employment avenues. In her U.G.C. sponsored research project report entitled "migration trends in the Bist Doab: a spatial perspective"
- Mehta has conducted an in-depth study about the density populated region of Punjab.
- M.G. Chitkara "Indo-Pak Relation: challenges before new millennium" he explained about India and Pakistan foreign policy and Indo Pak war.
- Hindu Singh Sodha (2006) has been doing work on Pakistani immigrants in India since 1971 he explained the story of struggle of Post-1965 Pakistani Refugees in Rajasthan. Still he is working for Pakistani minority migrant's Rights and citizenship. He founded Pak Visthapit Sangh (PVS) in 1999 PVS has been working mainly with the migrants community, highlighting their problems relating to citizenship and rehabilitation. Further Mr. Sodha also formed two more organisations including Seemant Lok Sangathan in 2005 and Universal Just ACTION Society in 2008. He has led a number of demonstrations, committees and pressed the local state, central and south Asian government (including peoples' SAARC) to pay attention to the human tragedy that largely remains invisible in India and Pakistan. Work of P.V.C. is mainly in the form of people mobilisation to have their issues highlighted and addressed.
- Ashok Suthar and Hindu Singh Sodha "fence beyond fencing"; it is an expression about neglected Pakistani immigrants in Rajasthan. Ashok Suthar worked with people affected by migrations and displacement,

including the seasonal migration of drought affected people from the Tharparkar district and the internally displaced people affected by natural disaster in Sindh. Both the persons raised the issue of Pakistani minority immigrants in India.

- A perusal of the above literature makes it abundantly clear that the studies on geographical aspect of migration in the country as a whole have been few and far between. The paucity of such studies looks all the more conspicuous in view of the availability of detailed census data on migration. The present study has been designed as a modest contribution in this regard.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research is based on primary and secondary data on the concept of immigration in border district of Rajasthan. Primary Data is obtained by Observation, Interview, Questionnaires, Field survey and interview methods of Data collection. The source of Primary Data is Pakistani Immigrants who are living in different parts of Jaisalmer. Through field survey and questionnaires, Interview methods valuable data like total number of Immigrants, total number of male and female, sex ratio would be obtained from Pakistani Immigrants. And they are also main source to collect authentic and absolute Data of their issues like Unemployment, Illiteracy, and Poverty etc. The Secondary Data is collected from statistical department, Jaisalmer and gram panchayath of different Locality, where Pakistani immigrants are living. District Statistical Department, Jaisalmer, NSSO (National Sample Survey Organisation), NRSC (National Remote Sensing Centre) West zone, Jodhpur, PVS (Pak Visthapit Sangh), UJAS (Universal Just Action Society) after collection of Data the following Statistical technique and formulas would be used to analyse the Data.

DISCUSSION

This paper highlights the impact of Pakistani minority migrants on the rural scenario in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. Nicknamed as 'The Golden city', it is situated in the western part of Rajasthan. Lying in the heart of the Thar Desert, it is the largest district of Rajasthan with a population of about 6,69,919 persons. The length of international border attached to Jaisalmer District is 471 km (293 mi). The region is well known for its hard climatic condition. This region has been under turmoil and chaotic political conditions.

Table 1. Number of Pakistani Refugees who crossed over to India from 1965 onwards

Year	Number of Refugees from Pakistan	Remarks
1965	10,000	Mostly granted citizenship
1971	90,000	Mostly granted citizenship
1992-2011	20,000	Roughly 3000 still awaiting citizenship. In 2000-6 some 13,000 received citizenship
2012 to present	10,000	Non-citizens

The places where most of the refugees in Rajasthan who came to India in 1971 were rehabilitated

District	Name of the block/place where refugees have been rehabilitated	Number of villages inhabited by refugees
Barmer	Shiv	80
	Chohatan	86
	Ramsar	53
Bikaner	Kolayat	20
	Pugal	27
Jaisalmer	Rural Areas	28
	Urban Areas	3 Bhil bastis (not rehabilitated)
Jodhpur	Urban Outskirts	6 Dalit and Tribal Bastis (Not Rehabilitated)

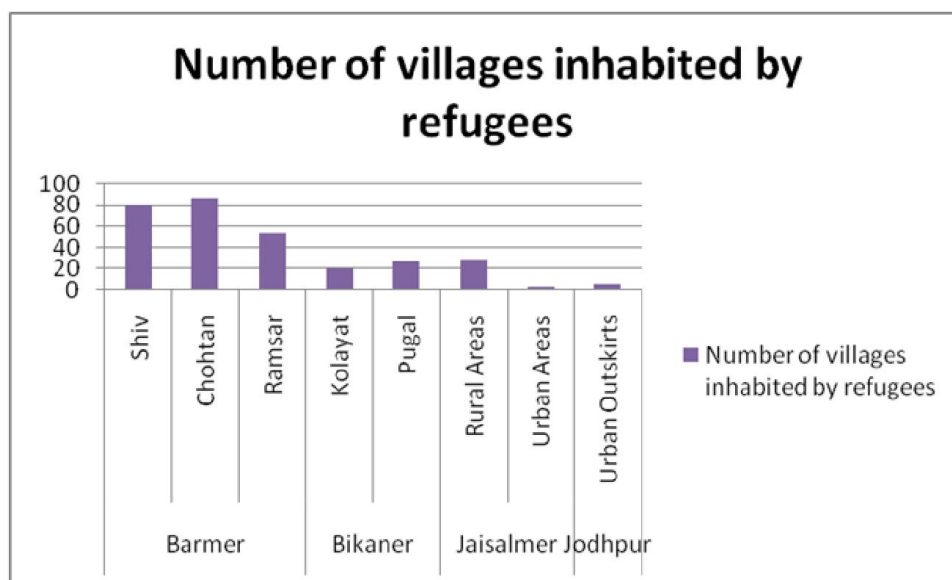


Table 2. Details about the Government’s rehabilitation policy for the refugees

Name of the programme	Number of rehabilitated families	Amount given to the families as loan (in rs.)
Krishiyojana	4591	1,37,93,750
a.Barmer 4033		
b.Jaisalmer 507		
c.Jalore 51		
Indira Gandhi Canal Area	3166	1,66,80,350
EkalYojna	231	9,22,500
LaghuYojana	235	19,60,000
Old age Pension	156	
Total	8379	3,33,56,00

Source : Indian statistical department Jaisalmer

Table 3. Number of People Who Received citizenship

District	Number of Beneficiaries
Jodhpur	5315
Sri Ganganagar	2084
Barmer	1261
Jaipur	525
Jaisalmer	494
Bikaner	389
Jalore	386
Pali	236
Kota	123
Bundi	86
Ajmer	87
Hanuman Garh	42
Sirohi	38
Bhilwara	28
Udaipur	210
Rest	23
Total	11327

Source : UJAS(Universal Just Action Society)

Conclusion

Islamic insurgency and Jihads persecution causing forced migration of non Muslim minorities, mostly Hindu and Sikhs in Pakistan. After the independence of Pakistan 14 aug.1947 many Pakistani minority Hindu immigrants came to India without any proper documents to save their lives. They came to India with the thinking of safety and security of lives. Thus it is the main reason for increasing population rapidly in border area of India especially in Rajasthan. Most of them were from Bheels and Sindh’s community. On the there is feeling in the residents of the region that because of the Govt. Efforts towards the immigrant the original habitants are being deprived of their rights and local people are losing chances to

get employment. Govt. has also allotted the land at free of cost to them near the Indira Gandhi canal area. Field survey indicates that migrant people have several issues like unsafe environment, deprival of basic rights, lack of respect and unhygienic conditions etc. Many are facing problems like delay in citizenship, voter Id card, ration card, permanent Id proof, mobility etc. This is creating a sense of discomfort and it is becoming a big cause of disparity among local and migrant people in rural area.

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