

MIGRATION IN THE WORLD LITERATURE

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ABSTRACT

The aim of present study is to highlight the issue of migration has been taken by the world literature. Furthermore, its aim is to seek the actual causes of migration, types of migration, and migrations impact on individual and society, human psychology and physical and living ways and to know that how migration leads the changes in the demography of an area, landscape and country. So, migration is a process in which an individual migrates to an area to another area. It may be an area to another, state to another state, and country to another country. It may be for a little time, long time and lifelong. Because behind the migration, there are certain reasons such as everyday earnings, violence, seasonal works, climatic conditions, natural disasters, better quality of life, socio-economic and political causes, availability of natural resources and so on. In the English literature, the term Diaspora is used to those writers who live their countries for the certain reasons and settle down in the other countries. After settling in the other countries, the diasporic writers unfold the impact of the migration on bringing changes in their personal and professional life, changes on their relationships among the other members of society, demographical changes, and physical and psychological changes throughout their writings. As a result, there are a long number of world writers who try to cover the issue of migration in their writings.

Keywords: Migration, Diaspora, Socio-Economic, Cultural, Religious, Political, War and violence, Natural hazards and Climatic conditions.

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the United Nation Organization, migration is the burning issues of the modern world and most of the countries of the world are grappling the problems of the migration. Even though, the countries are developed or developing countries. To tackle the problem of migration, many steps have been taken by the UNO and the other organisation of world to sort out the problem, but these steps are short in compare with the problems. So, this task has been taken by the world writers are to reveal the density of the problem. Throughout their writings, these writers try to attract the world attention towards the problems of migration. The writers also try to find out the actual causes of the problem and unveil the impact of migration over the world. The writers also try to uncover that the migration has become a medium or carrier to share the various culture, ideas, foods and languages. Originated in Greek Language, The word “Diaspora” means “to scatter”. It refers to a small area geographical population that is a common origin. It is a migration of the individuals across the cultural domain where the individuals feel themselves uprooted and nostalgic about their homeland. Because they are living in a foreign land that is an alien land for them where they struggle and suffer from the various everyday complexities in their life.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Throughout the recent studies, it has come to know that the migration is the biggest problem of the world. So, it has attracted the attention of writers, researchers, philosophers, theorists, scholars and critics and these have cited the issues in their art of writings such as,

Adama Bah explores in his study entitled “Exploring the Characteristics of Diasporic Literature: A Comprehensive Analysis” about the forced migration of African Communities which seek the economic opportunities in the foreign land. The study is talked about the experiences of these communities, dynamics of their marginalization, intermingling, hybrid identities, and the complexities of navigating multiple cultural influences in a globalized world.

Sharma, Richa and Dr Shrutimita Mehta’s study under the titled “Diaspora Studies: A Panoramic View of Literary Theories” in which they highlight that the migration is helpful in growing vertical social order. Further, they find that the migration is a narrative of their struggle to gain identity, success, and suffering in a foreign land.

Published in 2012, the book *Beginning: Post Colonialism* is written by John Mcleod. It is a detailed study of dynamics of Diaspora and post-colonial elements in the context of migration. It provides a deep understanding of diaspora and its impact on everyday life the immigrants and their complexities.

Elleke Boehmer’s *Colonial and Post-Colonial Literature – Migrant Metaphors* is a about the life experience of immigrants in a foreign land. The immigrants left their home land in the hope of getting better economic opportunities and quality of life. But on the side, their migration is to foreign land cut off them their home land, memory, nostalgic and roots.

Due to above cited literary works, there are many things in this field are unexplored and remain buried under the ground. As a result, I have taken this topic Migration in the World Literature. To explore the actual causes behind the burning issue of the day, so that the dark side of the migration in the literature may be unfolded before the world.

Major causes behind the Migration:

There are many reasons behind the migration of people from one area to another area. It would be war. Because the last two and three decades a war is going on the Middle East. As a result, the people of these countries are afraid of the harmful impact of war and now they are trying to migrate to the other countries those are more peaceful in compare to the Middle East.

Violence is another reason due to people is migrated to the other countries. The violence major causes may be political and religious. As a country is political instable due to this many minor and major groups try to get political power in doing so they use violence as a weapon. Sometime, it may be religious. The religious intolerance may be the cause of the religious violence. The harsh climatic condition and natural disaster are the major cause of the migration. The individuals like to live on those areas where the climatic conditions are easy to live. So, the people avoid living where the harsh climatic conditions and natural disasters such as flood, earthquake and tsunami affected areas. So, they move where the good climatic condition and natural disaster free zone.

People try to live in where natural resources such as water, land, food, shelter, and maximum jobs. From the ancient time period, the individuals move to the city or urban centres so that they may get the maximum job opportunity and the other natural and artificial resources which are helpful to survive. Despite of these, there are many more causes of the migration.

Major impact of Migration

Throughout their writings, many writers, poets, and authors highlight the issue of migration and its impact on individual, social, cultural, religious, and political life, as well as on an individual's psychology, sense of self, and relationships with other members of society. These writers are known as Diaspora in the migration literature. The term Diaspora is related to those writers who shift in a foreign land and talks about their experience of the foreign and native land in their writings as how they experience identity crisis, hybridity, quest a sense of home and belongingness. The key impacts are outlined below:

Culture as a Carrier of Tradition, Value, Food and Way of Living:

Many writers in their writings try to unfold that migration is a carrier of transporting the cultural values of one's country to another country. The immigrant transports and introduces his culture to another country. He/she along with him he carries his/her traditions, values, ideas and way of thinking to his adopted new home and landscape. Simultaneously, it is clearly seen in the upcoming changes in the culture of city. As a result, it fulfils the space which is created with the passage of time and provides new environment to the host city. India is seen as a hotspot of new cultures, with immigrants coming from diverse backgrounds, cultures, religions, and regions. As Abdulrazak Gurnah, Chiuna Acheba, V. S. Naipaul, Anita Desai, Kiran Desai, Chetan Bhagat, Jumpa Lahri, Khalid Hosseini and many more literary figures try to highlight the culture as a carrier of tradition, value, ideas, food and way of living in their writings.

Migration as a Struggle, Success Narrative:

The migration literature is a narrative of struggle of immigrants in a foreign land. It highlights that how the immigrants who are forceful or willingly left their homeland because they sometimes see the foreign land as a land of opportunity. As they enter the foreign land, they face off with the identity crisis, cultural clash, and racial discrimination on that land. After encountering these struggles, they get success. So, the migration literature is a narrative of their struggle and success on the foreign land. These things are narrated by many writers, author and poets in their writings.

Disrupt Family Structure:

With the peak of industrialization, the rate of migration from rural to urban areas increased rapidly. People began moving to cities in large numbers, viewing them as lands of opportunity—places where they could earn a better living and fulfill their life dreams. This shift caused significant upheaval in the social structure of rural communities. Traditional rural frameworks were disrupted, particularly the family unit, which is the foundation of social structure. As a result, the joint family system prevalent in rural areas began to disintegrate, giving way to the nuclear family model. This transformation has led to various social problems, including concerns about child safety and security, inadequate nutrition, loss of a pollution-free environment, and increasing isolation. Such issues have been powerfully depicted in the writings of authors like Jhumpa Lahiri, Anita Desai, V.S. Naipaul, Abdulrazak Gurnah, Khaled Hosseini, Salman Rushdie, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and Nadine Gordimer.

Changes in Demography of Country:

Throughout their writings, many authors try to unveil that the transformative impact of migration on the demographic makeup of a nation. Migration, once primarily viewed as a socio-

economic or humanitarian phenomenon, is now increasingly recognized as a strategic instrument in geopolitical and domestic affairs. In recent years, it has become evident that migration is not only a means of population movement but also a powerful tool leveraged by states or political entities to reshape electoral dynamics, consolidate power, and influence national identity. In some contexts, governments or influential groups actively promote migration with the underlying intention of altering the ethnic or religious composition of a region. This demographic engineering is often aimed at asserting cultural dominance, securing political majorities, or marginalizing existing communities. Such strategies raise critical questions about the ethics of statecraft, the manipulation of human movement, and the long-term consequences for social cohesion, minority rights, and democratic governance.

Identity crisis and self:

In the modern world, an individual has a big problem that his/her identity. He/she does not know whom they belong. Who is he/she? These types of questions make him worry about the things. When he/she migrates in the other country and region that time he feels himself to indigenous of this country or that time. Because he/she adopts culture and life style of migrated country. Now he/she has a problem that whom he/she belongs. So, the issue of identity crisis rises by many author of the world throughout their writings. They try to uncover that how an individual who migrate an another country suffer from the dilemma of his/her inner world. Because he does not know whom he/she belongs and what is his/ her real identity. He/she feels himself to be an alien.

Resource Management:

On the other side, the rapid pace of migration raises many problems in a country. It creates problem of food, shelter and the other basic amenities. Besides this, the migration pressures on the natural and artificial resources. Now, it raises the problem of management of the resources so that it may fulfill the demand of population. The same thing reveals before the world by many writers in their art of writings. Throughout the writings, they attract the attention of the government and the other organizations so that they can sort out the problems in time.

Memory and Nostalgia:

Memory and nostalgia play a vital role in various forms—physical, psychological, familial, and cultural—particularly in the context of dislocation, immigration, resettlement, and diasporic experiences. These emotions foster a sense of belonging to a specific homeland and social system. They evoke attachment to a particular place, reminding individuals of their past and the life they once envisioned or identified with. When this connection to memory is lost, individuals often experience a sense of rootlessness and isolation in their new social environments. Writers such as Arundhati Roy, V.S. Naipaul, Abdulrazak Gurnah, Khaled Hosseini, Salman Rushdie, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and Nadine Gordimer explore these themes in their literary works, shedding light on the emotional and existential complexities of displacement and belonging.

Hybridity:

Hybridity is a key concept in the migration literature. It is known to a blending of culture. When an individual migrates to another country at that time the individual encounters with that country's culture, traditions and value, and way of living style. So, he/she adopts some valuable things from that culture and left something traditional and orthodox things from his/her own culture. This

process is known as the blending of culture. At that time, in both the cultures skip something from both the sides and get a new form of culture which is known as Hybridity. The same things has been cited by the various authors in their art of writings such as Salman Rushdie, Jamal Mahjoub, V. S. Naipaul and Bharati Mukherjee. Even though, the concept of Hybridity is propounded by Homi. K Bhabha, Stuart Hall and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak.

Acculturative Stress:

Immigration migrates to a new country and location where he/she encounters with a new culture, racial and gender discrimination, identity crisis and struggles with his/her inner self. He/she grapples with the languages barriers and do not communicate with the other beings as a result he thinks that he is unacceptable in the society and cannot cooperated with the society. Due to this, he/she is psychological weak, and affected with anxiety disorder and faces many problems related his/her health problems in everyday life. Throughout their writings, many waiters try to explore the actual cause behind the problems throughout the life story of their characters in their writings.

It has come to know throughout the study that the migration literature is a very vast field. It is a about the impact of immigrants socio-economic and political aspects of life. It is also a study of their life experience, racial discrimination, mental and physical harassment. It is also a narrative of their struggle and success, identity crisis, and impact on the demographical structure of the foreign land.

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