

WID *Information*

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RESEARCH NOTES

The article is drawn from a Doctoral Dissertation on **'IMPACT OF MALE EMIGRATION OF THE STATUS OF LEFT-BEHIND WOMEN: A CASE STUDY OF A PAKISTANI VILLAGE.** By Dr. Khalida Malik.

Since the early 1970s a large number of Pakistani men have been emigrating to the oil-rich but labor-scarce Middle Eastern countries. The estimated number of emigrants ranges from 1.5 to 2 million. The impact of this migration, in terms of loss of males to households and villages and the related increase in households income due to the remittances, is thought to be substantial.

Previous research indicates that migration usually brings about changes in the lives of migrants and their families. More than a million households in Pakistan have to live with the absence of one or more of their male members. The long periods of absence from the households have affected the traditional roles of the left-behind women. In a typical Pakistani household, women are expected to play two major roles: that of a wife, and of a mother. In this setting, men as patriarchal heads of households make all the important decisions, and women assume a dependent position in the household and are usually responsible for household chores and other routine affairs. However, due to emigration of male members, the patterns of authority and decision-making in the affected households have undergone many changes. Women are left in a situation which challenges them to assume new roles and responsibilities. They have to deal with and make decisions related to the routine affairs, as well as the important matters in the households.

Emigration is also a source of new environment and new experiences for the migrants. They acquire new social, cultural, political, and economic values from the host countries as well as from other emigrant co-workers. These foreign-acquired experiences and ideas are said to be transmitted to family members, particularly to the wives, during migrants' regular visits back home. It was expected that the new ideas and knowledge gathered from the husbands and the new roles of left-behind women due to their husbands' absence leads to a greater awareness and an acquisition of more modern ideas on gender issues by the affected women.

Migration of husbands from the households has also resulted in higher income for the households. Past research indicated that with the higher income, the consumption and the activity pattern of the left-behind families have undergone many changes. The left-behind women have also assumed new roles and

responsibilities, and it was expected that the higher income of the households would affect the daily household activities of the left-behind women. The household production model was used to analyze women's role regarding performance of various activities and tasks. The household activities were categorized as household production, agriculture production, self-employment and wage labor.

To ascertain the effect of emigration of husbands on the roles and status of women, this study focused on various factors which facilitate or constrain changes in decision-making power, activity patterns, and attitudes of left-behind women. The three important factors for this research were: husband's absence and duration of absence; extent of migrant's contact back home; and the family system. It was hypothesized that due to the migration and longer duration of husbands' stay abroad, the left-behind women are making more decisions in the households; the greater contact of husbands with their left-behind wives and the extended family system has a negative relationship with women's decision-making power; longer duration of husbands' absence from the households has a positive effect on women's attitudes; and the left-behind women perform more non-traditional activities and also less strenuous jobs. The study also took into account some of the socio-economic and demographic variables.

Data Collection

The survey was conducted in Zarobi village, Swabi district, North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan. This rural area is known for a high level of migration of its men to the Middle East in the past two decades. A total of 184 households were surveyed, 134 migrant and 50 non-migrant. The respondents were those women whose husbands were gone to the Middle East for more than a year. Returnees, widows, and other relations were not included in the survey. The data were collected through administering a questionnaire.

Findings

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Households

On the basis of the data from the surveyed households, the average family size of the migrant and non-migrant households is 9.12 and 8.02 respectively. The average number of children in the migrant households is 3.58 and in non-migrant households 3.65. These averages are low considering the average number of children in Pakistani families (6.6). In the migrant households there are more female members who are over 18 years of age compared to non-migrant households.

In the migrant households, the extended family system is more prevalent. More than two-thirds (69 percent) of the migrants have extended families. On the other hand, in the non-migrant households there are almost twice as many nuclear families (60 percent). This fact challenges the notion that extended family is the prevailing household unit in that part of Pakistan.

Education level among migrant and non-migrant households is quite low. In the migrant household, the average number of years of schooling for husbands is 4.89, while for wives it is 1.67. In the migrant household, 76 percent of wives and 37.2 percent of husbands have no formal schooling, compared with 84.4 percent of wives and 51.1 percent of husbands in the non-migrant households.

The average number of persons employed in the migrant household is 1.78, while in the non-migrant households it is 1.65. The income level in the migrant households is quite high (rs66,426 per annum) considering the low level of education and employment.

Decision-Making, Modern Attitudes, and Activity Patterns

The overall results of the study show that migration of husbands from the households have some limited effects on the left-behind women relative to their decision-making and daily activities in the households. The study's results show that with migration and longer duration of absence of husbands from the households, women tend to make more decisions. However, the degree of contact of husbands with their left-behind wives did not affect the wives' degree of their decision-making. Women who live in nuclear families make more decisions than women in extended families. Women whose husbands own property have greater say in the household decisions. The longer duration of absence of husbands from the households increases the female-headed households. The results indicate that education is an important determinant of modern attitudes, while migration and longer duration of husbands' stay abroad have no effect on women's attitudes. The extended family has a negative association with women's modern attitudes related to gender issues. Migration has not affected women's daily activity pattern but a higher proportion of left-behind women are involved in activities which require their going outside the homes. Women are not doing outside jobs or income generating activities, and neither are they actively involved in agriculture-related tasks.

Implications for Future Research and Policies

According to a 1989 World Bank study, women in Pakistan generally have low status, low education, fewer or limited employment opportunities, restricted mobility, little control over resources, and low decision-

making power. For national development to move forward, it is critical to change the conditions of Pakistani women. This study shows that there has been some improvement in the women's socio-economic conditions due to the migration of their husbands. The left-behind women are more actively involved in the decision-making process as a result of their husbands' absence. Based on the findings of this study, it is proposed: (a) to further research the impact of migration on women's lives so that appropriate policies may be evolved which take into consideration this significant change and capitalize on it by involving women in rural development, dealing specifically on girls' education, and income generating activities; (b) to start some extension and communication programs for left-behind women, focusing on economically productive utilization of remittances, (c) make efforts for providing information to women on health, nutrition and family planning, and (d) to start some programs which can teach these left-behind women how to use their new electric and electronic goods efficiently and effectively.

In conclusion, it is important to suggest that since women are making more decisions in the absence of their husbands, they can be encouraged to educate their children, especially daughters, if opportunities for education exist. Government, therefore, needs to emphasize education and explore other ways to productively utilize women's new roles.

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AT UIUC

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE WID EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Faculty/Staff

Marianne Ferber, Professor Emerita, Economics
 Jeanne Peterson, Human Development and Family Studies
 Jacquetta Hill, Educational Psychology/Anthropology
 Beth Stafford-Vaughan, WS/WID Librarian
 Zxy-yann Jane Lu, College of Nursing

Student

Yunae Yi, Family and Consumer Economics.

NEWS OF WID ASSOCIATES

PROFESSOR EMERITA MARIANNE FERBER HAS BEEN NAMED THE MATINA S. HORNER DISTINGUISHED VISITING PROFESSOR AT RADCLIFFE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS SHE WILL DEVELOP A SERIES OF PROGRAMS ON WOMEN & ECONOMICS.

Dr. Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, was appointed Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

The following have successfully defended their dissertations:

Patricia Musi, Department of Consumer Economics: Coping With Food And Income Insecurity: The Case of Swazi Households.

Khalida Malik, Department of Rural Sociology: Impact of Male Emigration on the Status of Left-Behind Women in North West Frontiers Province, Pakistan.

Dr. Lucy Kehinde successfully completed a Masters in Business Administration.

Congratulations for completing the Gender Roles in International Development (GRID) concentration in 1993 go to:

Patricia Musi	Swaziland	Consumer Economics	Doctorate
Virginia Harris	USA	Agricultural Economics	Masters
Stella Abunaw	Cameroon	Agricultural Economics	Masters
Kimberly Jones	USA	Economics	Masters

The following UIUC panels were accepted to present at the Sixth International Forum on "...Joining Forces to Further Shared Visions" of the Association for Women in Development (AWID) October 20-24, 1993 in Washington, D.C.

"Effectiveness of Gender Training in National Development"

Kate Cloud, Raiza Kolia, Teodora Amoloza

"Emerging Family Forms for Orphans and Elderly Women: Examples from East and Central Africa and the USA"

Brenda Krause Eheart, Grace Malindi, Consolata Kabonesa

"Cross-Cultural Comparison of Household Decision Making Patterns: Case Studies from Ghana, Indonesia and Pakistan"

Rosintan Panjaitan, Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Khalida Malik

"The Importance of Female Education in Mali, Kenya, Ghana and Pakistan: Obstacles and Benefits"

Aminata Soumare, Roselyn Gakure, Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Khalida Malik

"Inter-ethnic Cooperation and the Role of Women in the Colombian Amazon"

Margarita Chaves-Chomoro

Congratulations to Kimberly Jones, Department of Economics, winner of the 1993 WID Annual Student Competition for the best paper on Women and International Development: Family Planning, Women's Work and Economic Development: The Ghanaian Example.

Congratulations to Brenda Krause Eheart, Associate Director, Office of Women in International Development, UIUC, and President of a private voluntary organization, Hope For The Children. Hope For The Children received \$1 Million from the State of Illinois to begin a demonstration project which will provide new types of family care and community support for "social orphans", children whose families, for one reason or another, cannot care adequately for them.

RESEARCH, STUDY AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

GENDER TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The University of East Anglia announces a course on Gender Training for Development from July 11-September 16, 1994. The course provides an opportunity for professionals working in a wide range of institutional situations, program and project based, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to acquire a thorough grounding in conceptual, analytical and applied techniques relevant to their responsibilities not only in women in development programs, but across the range of development issues. The course is based on five elements: (1) Concepts and frameworks for gender analysis in development; (2) Case study and sectoral approaches to specific policy areas; (3) Management and advocacy skills - to enable participants to be more effective in implementing their particular responsibilities; Research and analytical techniques, including the basic computing skills, data collection and analysis, monitoring and evaluation; and (5) Participants will have the opportunity to visit projects and work places within the UK which have successfully developed innovatory strategies for implementing equity. Fee UK Pounds 6,275, includes accommodation and breakfast. For more information contact: The Director, School of Developmental Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, U.K. Tel. (0603) 57880, Fax (0603) 505262.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The Center For The Study Of Philanthropy requests assistance in locating international scholars working, or desiring to work, in the area of women's philanthropy, voluntarism and organizational entrepreneurship. The are also interested in identifying women donors, policy makers and activists internationally. The Center is currently is initiating a project to study women's activities as donors, volunteers and organizational

entrepreneurs. The projects goal is increasing international dialogue on women's roles within non-profit organizations and NGOs, with the end intention of strengthening these activities internationally. For more information contact: Kathleen D. McCarthy, Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York, 33 West 42nd Street, 1525GB, New York, NY 10036. Tel. (212) 642-2130. Fax: (212) 642-2141.

CONFERENCES AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Baroda Management Association Announces an International Conference on Women and Wealth: Generation in the New World Order January 28-29, 1994 at Baroda, India. The conference will focus on four main topics: 1. New World Order - Global trends, perspectives for growth and survival; Working in cross-cultural society. (2) Wealth Generation. (3) Individual Excellence for organization Development. (4) Societal Issues and Change Management. Registration fee Rs.1,500. For more information contact: Dr. Annapoorna, Baroda Management Association, 1 SUFLAM Apartment, 10 Haribhakti Colony, Race Course, Baroda - 390 015, Gujarat, India. Tel. 32 41 35, 33 29 19.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows program provides mid-career professionals from developing countries a year of study in American Universities. (Over 150 fellows are selected each year from over a hundred different countries.) Administered by the USIA Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, applicants must apply through their home country American Embassy, USIS office or Fulbright Commission. Encourage more women to apply and encourage local committees to recommend more women.

International Peace Scholarship Fund (P.E.O.) is a program which provides grant-in-aid for selected women from other countries for graduate study in the USA and Canada. The grant covers all academic or personal expenses. Eligibility: applicant must be qualified for admission toward a full-time graduate study, promise to return to home country, evidence of return travel expense to home country, have a sponsor who is a citizen of the US or Canada, and who will act as her non-academic adviser. Request application materials before December 15, 1993 from P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund, P.E.O. Executive Office, 3700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312.

The Social Science Research Council and American Council of Learned Societies announces the International Predissertation Fellowship Program for graduate students in social sciences, economics, political science, sociology, and psychology at selected universities. The grant is aimed at enriching the applicants training in preparation for dissertation research on the developing world. For more information contact: Ellen Peregman, Director, International Predissertation Fellowship program, Social Science Research Council, 605 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10158, Tel. (212) 661-0280. Fax: (212) 370-7896 or your campus representative. UIUC students contact: Dr. Roger E. Kanet, 303 International Studies Building, 910 S. Wright Street, Champaign, IL. 61820. Tel. (217) 333-6104.

A directory of potential donors for fellowships, scholarships and grants to African Women Students and Scholars is available at the Women's Studies Research Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 209 North Brooks Street, Madison, Wisconsin, 53715 USA.

MUCIA/UIUC Travel grants: Travel awards to support the development of international programs which will be of benefit to University of Illinois. Deadline: November 11. For more information contact: 333-1993.

UIUC International Programs and Studies William and Flora Hewlett Summer Research Grants. Provides summer salary to support international research projects. Deadline: November 1, 1993. For more information call 333-6104.

The Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund invites women from the developing countries to apply for grants to be awarded spring of 1994. The goal of the fund is to strengthen the role of women in the development of their countries. Eligibility: At the time they apply for the grant they are residing in the US, are enrolled in an accredited educational institution in the US and will be enrolled during the period covered by a grant; they have record of service to women and /or children in their countries; they plan to return to their countries within approximately two years of the date on which grants are made; they can demonstrate their need for financial assistance to complete their course of study. Application have to be requested before January 15, 1994 from The Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund, 1818 H Street, N.W. Room G-1000, Washington, D.C. 20433.

For more information on fellowships and grants check on the notice board of the WID Reading Room, 314 International Studies Building, 920 Fifth Street, Champaign.

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

International Center for Research on Women announces two new publications:

1. Gender in Community Development and Resource Management : An Overview. By Rekha Mehra. 1993. Provides an overview to the issues concerning women's participation in conservation projects as well as the socioeconomic, institutional, policy, and program constraints on women and brief examples of successful initiatives.

2. Women's Participation in the Cogtong Bay Mangrove Management Project: A Case Study. By Rekha Mehra, Margaret Alcott and Nilda S. Baling. 1993. Takes an in-depth look at the role of gender in community development and women's involvement in the World Wildlife Fund's Cogtong Bay Project in the Philippines.

The papers examines women's roles in natural resource management at the community level, emphasizing the need to integrate women into conservation and development efforts. The reports are available at \$5.50 each, plus \$2.00 for postage and handling for the US orders and \$3.50 for international orders. For more information contact: Publications ICRW, 1717 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 302, Washington, D.C. 20036

Tools for Gender Analysis, a Field Guide to Methods for Bringing Gender into Sustainable Resource Management co-authored by Barbara P. Thomas-Slayter, Andrea Esser and Dale Shields. The book draws on field experience of Ecology, Community Organization and Gender (ECOGEN) in Kenya, the Philippines, Honduras, the Dominican Republic and Nepal. The purpose of the book is to introduce some tools for gender analysis to people in the field who are involved in program and project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It is available at \$6.00 From International Development Program, Clark University, 950 Main Street Worcester, Mass. 01610-1477. Tel. (508) 793-7201. Fax. (508) 793-8820.

International Women's Rights Action Watch announces a booklet on Human Rights in the Family. The booklet is a study of family law issues suggested by: Articles 9 on nationality, 15 on equal capacity under law, and 16 on marriage and family law, in the convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, an international treaty now ratified by 120 countries. In the paper, "the claims of culture and family are a primary obstacle to establishment of women's human rights," but what is not often recognized is the "use of cultural preservation as a justification for discrimination against women is more acceptable than the now discredited use of national sovereignty as a justification for other human abuses." The paper was written by a working group AERIE network leaders who met the Humphrey Institute in 1992 to consider the intersection of the article in the Universal declaration of Human Rights which call for protection of the family and the articles in the Women's Convention which detail women's rights individually and within the family. It was written with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination in mind, but the analysis recommendations affect every family in the world. Copies are available -- free to developing country groups or \$7.00 postpaid to all others. Contact: Marsha Freeman, AERIE/WPPD, 301 - 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455 USA. Tel. (612) 625-5093. Fax: (612) 625-6351.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) is pleased to announce the establishment of **Women, Ink.** a project to market and distribute women and development resource materials. **Women, Ink.** is part of a major new UNIFEM communications program whose mandate is to document and distribute information about UNIFEM's 15 years of experience working on women and development issues. The new program also involves assisting partner organizations to document their experiences and exchange information.

Women, Ink. will distribute women and development resource materials published by UNIFEM and other women organizations. These will include journals, occasional papers, technical guides and training materials. The new program will also provide opportunities for Third World women and organizations to publish their experiences in an international arena. **Women, Ink.** Offers a comprehensive selection of women and development titles. Among the current titles are:

(A) *Freedom from Violence: Women Strategies from Around the World.* Ed. by Margaret Schuler. Twelve case studies in *Freedom from Violence* tell the stories of women organizing to combat the physical and psychological abuse of women in Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Thailand, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Mexico, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and the United States. Though the types of abuse vary from culture, these inspiring accounts indicate common areas of agreement about what needs to be done to overcome the physical, economic, social, cultural, and legal origins of violence. *Freedom from Violence* proposes a practical framework for developing strategies, objectives and activities. An overview examines some of the contemporary issues concerning legal services, education, and legislative and judicial reform. The book's extensive list of publications and organizations will greatly facilitate exchange among networks and documentation. It is available at \$24.00.

(B) *Doing a Feasibility Study: Training Activities for Starting or Reviewing A Small Business.* Ed. by Suzanne Kindervatter. Women who want to start or change a business explore a range of enterprise options and develop a business plan and a budget. They learn how to research the viability of an enterprise themselves, investigating market demand, costs, and income projections. By actually conducting a simple visibility study, women gain important entrepreneurial skills in problem-solving and management. Available in English \$16.00, French \$17.00, Spanish \$17.00.

(C) *Monitoring and Evaluating Small Business Projects - A step by Step Guide for Private Development Organizations.* Ed. by Shirley Buzzard and Elaine Edgecomb. The book guides the reader through the systems approach to measuring the progress of small business owned by the poor. Designed for use by NGO field staff, it is equally useful in improving training, technical assistance, credit, and other services NGOs provide. The approach is not just economic, it also develops indicators to monitor broader social and institutional goals. Available in English \$16.00, Spanish \$17.00, French \$18.00.

All three are available from **Women, Ink**, 777 United Nations Plaza, Third Floor, New York, NY 10017 USA.
Tel. (212) 687-8633, Fax: (212) 661-2704

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