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ROOTS & ROUTES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SECURITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The South Africa And Mozambican Experience

Richard Obinna Iroanya

Dignity in Movement

Borders, bodies and rights
Edited by Jasmin Lilian Diab



The
MIGRATION
NEWS
People on the Move


GRFDT
Global Research Forum on
Diaspora and Transnationalism

Editor's Note



Contents

Articles

Book Reviews

Editorial Information

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Dear Readers

Greetings!

Thousands and millions of people are vulnerable to the climate change and fall in the category of climate-induced migrants. No doubt, the COVID-19 has aggravated the situation. There are innumerable complex issues and interlinkages between them that needs to be addressed. The current issue tries to cover some of them.

The first article “*A Closer Look at Punargeham Project, Kerala’s Attempt at Climate Change Induced Relocation*”, is written by Anusree P. highlights the impact of climate change on fishing communities living in the coastal areas of Kerala. In addition, the article analyses the Punargeham Project adopted by the Kerala government to address climate change and displacement of the fishing communities.

The second article “*The Triple Win Project in the COVID-19 pandemic: Who wins and who loses?*” by Patricia Miraflores covers the ethical issue related to the recruitment of Filipino nurses. This article brings attention to many problems vital of labour concern that has arisen due to pandemic. It touched upon the matter of labour crises and how the pandemic has created the problem of demand and supply, particularly for healthcare workers.

The current issue carries three book reviews: “*Dignity in Movement: Borders, Bodies and Rights*” reviewed by Upasana Detha and “*Human Trafficking and Security in Southern Africa – The South African and Mozambican Experience*” reviewed by Harjinder Singh. Book “*Global and Asian Perspectives on International Migration*” is reviewed by Patricia Miraflores.

To have a meaningful engagement, we invite readers to participate and share their experiences with us. You can communicate with us through email at editorinchief@grfdt.com. We wish you happy reading and look forward to your suggestions and comments.

Happy Reading!

Feroz Khan

A Closer Look at Punargeham Project, Kerala's Attempt at Climate Change Induced Relocation

Anusree P*

As climate change impact ravages the world over, the state of Kerala stands no exception. Kerala has been battling climate change for decades now, and with a lengthy coastline, the consequences of climate change will be drastic, especially for the fishing community of the state. This essay intends to analyze the relocation project, Punargeham, adopted by the Kerala government for addressing climate change-induced displacement of fishing communities in the coastal areas.

Kerala's Climate Change

Post-1995, the rise in surface sea temperature in the Arabian Sea has recorded unprecedented changes in the temperature levels. The Ministry of Environment and Forest's report presented to the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) reveals that the substantial threat Kerala faces is from rise in the sea level. According to [Kerala State Action Plan on Climate Change](#) (SAPCC), "The projected Sea Level Rise (SLR) along Kerala coast on a conservative estimation is about 100 to 200 mm over the next 100 years. If the sea level rises by one metre, 169 sq. km of the coastal region surrounding Kochi will be inundated". This could mean a shortage of fresh potable water in the coastal areas, as the groundwater will be contaminated by the intrusion of saline water, also the deterioration of marshland. [National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management's](#) (NCSM) report on Shoreline Change Assessment for Kerala states that only 37% of Kerala's coast is natural coast without any erosion, while 63% of the coastal line is experiencing erosion in various degrees (Ramesh et al., 2010).

Repercussions of these changes are felt in various aspects of coastal life. In general, it has both affected the communities' life security as well as livelihood security. The temperature rise has led to unpredictability in both fish quantity and variety available. Oil sardines and mackerels, the most common types found on the Kerala coast, are either moving to other areas or going

deeper into the sea due to the temperature rise. The increased salinity seeping into the fresh waters also affects freshwater fish stocks and agriculture in those areas.

Far beyond these factors, climate change also contributes towards displacement. While extreme weather conditions such as flooding, cyclones, etc., lead to the more apparent dislocation, multitudes are dislodged gradually through slow-onset disasters, receiving far little attention and assistance to cope and adapt compared to that garnered by the former from policymakers (Boano et al., 2008). In Kerala, coastal erosion poses a greater threat to the life of communities living on the coasts. Their susceptibility to even a slight increase in sea level is evident in Kerala's 590 km long coastline and high population density along with the coastal villages. Due to coastline erosion over the past five years, hundreds of families in Kerala have lost their houses (John, 2018).

Punargeham Project

The government should be heedful of the plight of such internally displaced people. Suppose such mobility is not adequately planned and assisted, leaving the affected to cope on their own, it can affect citizens' standard of living and thrust more demands on urban domains, administration, and adapting mechanisms that are already strained (Ahsan, 2019). In this light, the Kerala government's relocation project Punargeham is definitely a step in the right direction. The project proposes to relocate families living within 50 meters of the shoreline to protect them from coastline erosion. Each family would be given ten lakhs maximum to buy land and construct housing on the condition that they agree to relinquish their rights to their existing plots. The onus falls on the families to find and buy the plot. The order also stipulates that the government shall bear no responsibility and shall not compensate for any loss incurred in the future due to erosion for those who

refuse to relocate under the given project. According to the government, as of July 2021, 3000 houses have already been constructed under the project (“3,000 Houses Built under Punargeham Project,” 2021).

Where the Policy Falls Short

As much as the timely intervention of the Kerala government needs to be appreciated, the policy falls short in consideration of the social and livelihood implications this relocation poses for the fishing community, and as a result, remedial measures are not put forward to alleviate them. Requisite exploration of the existing research should have been carried out to draw lessons from the past planned relocations and their livelihood consequences.

The distinctiveness of Kerala’s fishing community, their community-bound socio-economic relations, and shared way of living (Kelkar-Khambete, 2012) seem not to have been taken into consideration. The potential social consequences of this relocation involve the disruption of the community’s social fabric as the relocation will scatter the families. Lack of access to traditional social networks can render them vulnerable. In the face of exploitation and dispossession, the fishing community’s resistance is conjured through the invocation of the ‘community’ (Devika, 2014). Such relocations can pose a dent in the communitarian system of sharing and caring practiced by the fishing community (Kurien & A. J. Vijayan, 1995). The beaches are where the communities usually conducted social activities and ceremonies such as weddings. With just 3-4 cents of land available for housing, these economically and socially vulnerable families will struggle for space to carry out such activities. Also, the new areas where the fishers are moving into will be primarily inhabited by non-fishing extraction people, which might lead to confrontations and ghettoisation of the fishers.

Under the current project, the families themselves should find land for relocation, and it must be noted that lands just beyond the beaches are usually economic centres; thus, they will be costlier, and the fishing communities will have to go further beyond the beaches if they need to purchase affordable land. Therefore, as pointed out by Salagrama (2005) in the case of tsunami relocation, the issue of relocation boils down to a fundamental dilemma that fishing communities everywhere face: life

security vs livelihood security. For the small fishermen being on the beaches at all times is crucial as they need to watch the sea’s movements and be ready to launch their boats at a moment’s notice after a passing school of fish. Launching and hauling the boats requires several hands, and this requires a fair amount of people to be there on the beaches at all times. Keeping watch on the boats, nets, and engines while they live elsewhere will be another concern. For those going for deep sea fishing, coming to the beaches at odd hours from distant places, mostly without transportation facilities, is arduous. Additionally, when they return from the sea, again travelling to their homes in their tired and soiled state, particularly in public transportation, is yet another problem.

The policy also lacks gender sensitivity. Livelihood means the women from the fishing community are often aligned to the original social and physical environment of the community (Chandrasekar, 2006). The economic activities, needs, and losses of the community’s women need to be taken into account in the case of relocation (Joseph, 2005).

Conclusion

The analysis of the Punargeham project makes it evident that beyond immediate survival from the loss of housing, the project does not do any good for the community. The state should be more considerate in understanding the refusal of some to relocate even in the face of a threat to their life and attempt to address and alleviate these factors rather than repudiating that responsibility. It remains incomplete in safeguarding the life quality of the fishing community and leads to an undisputable opinion that what is required is not a relocation but rather community-centric resettlement. Resettlement is a process encompassing not just reconstructing homes but also “re-establishing livelihoods, and ensuring access to services” (Ferris, 2015). The relocation should not result in a decrease in living standards and alienation from the livelihood sources of the community. The government must take a more understanding position in policy creation of these matters and must ensure the participation of the affected community in the resettlement process.

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The Triple Win Project in the COVID-19 pandemic: Who wins and who loses?

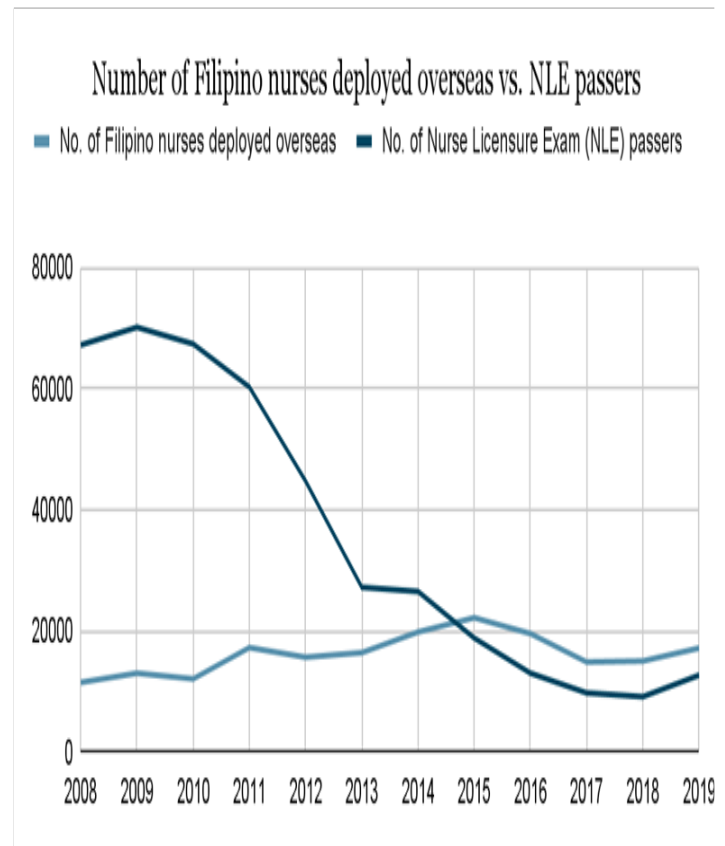
Patricia Miraflores*

How the pandemic exposed the limitations of “ethical recruitment” of Filipino nurses in a global labor crisis

Recently, overseas Filipino nurses proved to be indispensable in countries where the COVID-19 pandemic pushed health systems to the brink of collapse compounded by the lack of local manpower in the healthcare sector. As the largest supplier of nurses worldwide, the Philippines emerged as a top sending country to fill the workforce gap in Germany where there is a reported [shortage of 50,000 nurses](#). When the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) imposed an [annual total cap of 5,000 Filipino nurses](#) to be deployed annually, Germany was one of the first countries to apply for exemption. By March 2021, nearly [4,000 Filipino nurses were to be deployed in Germany](#), a quarter of which were recruited via the Triple Win Project (TWP).

The TWP is a labor migration agreement initiated in 2013 between the POEA, the German Federal Employment Agency (BA), and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) to recruit Filipino nurses aspiring to work in Germany. The goal of this project is to create a win-win-win situation for German employers, Filipino nurses, and their countries of origin while honoring the principle of ethical recruitment. In this case, the latter refers to the provisions of the World Health Organization’s Code of Conduct, in that [Germany vows not to recruit nurses from source countries that are already experiencing shortages](#). Ideally, these arrangements would create a pathway for Filipino nurses to partake in decent work abroad and the Philippines will reap benefits from their remittances, whilst Germany can plug its own nursing shortages.

Filling labor gaps abroad at the expense of the homeland?



Sources: Filipino nurses deployed overseas: [2008-2009](#), [2010-2014](#), [2015-2016](#), [2017-2019](#)
Philippine Nurse Licensure Exam passers: [2008-2019](#)

In the context of the pandemic, regulations, or lack thereof, on the local and global supply of Filipino nurses became a highly debated topic. On one hand, the POEA pushed for a deployment cap to ensure that the Philippines does not run out of its own nurses whose work was essential to curbing the unyielding spread of the pandemic. This is especially difficult when Filipino nurses are leaving the Philippines faster than it could produce more of them. As shown above, the number of newly licensed nurses in the Philippines has been lower than the number of nurses deployed abroad per annum

since 2015. This trend became especially crucial during the pandemic, since it was reported that [the Philippines itself is short of 23,000 nurses to effectively combat the pandemic](#) despite being the largest exporter of nurses worldwide.

On the other hand, the German-Philippine Chamber of Commerce had appealed for an exemption, reporting [2,000 Germany-bound Filipino nurses in the pipeline](#) who had already invested in the preparation process. If barred from leaving, they would lose the opportunity of employment in Europe and be subject to the [underpaid and overworked circumstances of most nurses in mid-pandemic Philippines](#). In this sense, these debates could be framed as a conflict between the Philippine state's interest in prioritizing its own public health sector during the pandemic versus the individual Filipino nurses' right to pursue better work conditions and overall well-being.

Triple win or rebranded version of circular migration?

However, these discussions are only confined to the supply side of the equation. The export-oriented nursing education in the Philippines was designed to respond to high demands for their labor abroad. In order to address the crux of the matter, a broader look is needed at the bilateral agreements incentivizing the deployment of Filipino nurses in the first place. That is, to what extent can triple win arrangements deliver on their promise of *equally* benefitting receiving countries, migrant nurses themselves, and their sending countries? Moreover, did the COVID-19 pandemic expose the limitations of ethical recruitment codes in regulating these processes in global crisis situations?

The first question was put forward by [Stephen Castles and Derya Ozkul in 2014](#) when assessing the tenets of the Triple Win Project upon its launch. Specifically, they explored whether this project is indeed a 'triple win' as it claims to be in theory, or if it is merely a new term for *circular migration* schemes. The concept of circular migration essentially pertains to migrant labor agreements characterized by temporary, repetitive movements between their origin and host countries. In this scenario, migrants can freely move back and forth to optimize their income and send remittances, while

providing solutions to their host countries when nursing shortages arise. These arrangements were designed to deliver the benefits of migrant labor for both sending and receiving countries without the political, legal baggage that often comes with permanent migration.

Measuring the success of triple-win schemes in source countries

Five largest declines in Overseas Filipino Workers' cash remittances by workers' host country

Source: [London School of Economics](#)

Source	Mar-Jun 2019	Mar-Jun 2020	Difference	% Change
Saudi Arabia	744,239	508,834	(235,405)	-31.6%
United Arab Emirates	563,089	404,521	(158,568)	-28.2%
Germany	274,107	169,654	(104,453)	-38.1%
Kuwait	260,354	162,530	(97,823)	-37.6%
United Kingdom	528,860	432,908	(95,952)	-18.1%

From the perspective of source countries, one indicator used to quantify the success of circular migration is remittances. The chart above depicts the five receiving countries with the biggest recorded changes on the amount of cash remittances received by overseas Filipino workers in early 2019. During the onset of the pandemic, [several OFWs were repatriated which severely affected the household incomes of their families](#). This also affected the national economy, seeing how [personal remittances accounted for 9.3% of the Philippine GDP](#) as of 2019. While remittances are one way to quantify the benefits (or disadvantages) of circular migration, they tend to fluctuate depending on global events such as the pandemic. To evaluate their success in the long-term, studies have to be conducted on how these remittances were used and invested for

the development of the source country.

Assessing the benefits of circular migration schemes in source countries has always had considerable challenges. Most of these obstacles stem from the fact that the nature of circular migration could be antithetical to census data collection systems which are based on two indicators: birthplace and current location. [Specialized surveys](#) are often needed to record the patterns of repetitive mobility that characterize circular migration. This is especially difficult to track at the national level because [circular migrants do not always go through formal exit pathways during mobility](#).

Hence, in quantifying the long-term benefits of circular migration in source countries, researchers themselves tend to arrive at competing or inconclusive results, whereas the benefits reaped by receiving countries from these arrangements are more tangible. In this vein, gaps in data have yet to be addressed before we can truly weigh in on claims that they benefit all three stakeholders equally in the long-term.

Ethical recruitment in a globalized yet uneven world

In global crisis situations, the wins and losses in these arrangements become a little clearer. More broadly, some found circular migration to be a cop-out for Global North countries since the system frees them of many political obligations while continuing to reap the benefits of labor from the South. The TWP, in a sense, was supposed to be Germany's answer to this moral dilemma by committing to the principle of ethical recruitment. Despite this, Germany was among the developed countries that scrambled to fill their nursing shortages with Filipino workers during the pandemic. These countries' appeals for exemption from the POEA deployment cap occurred at a time when the Philippines itself had exhausted its own resources during the pandemic, exposing the limitations of these

ethical codes when they should matter the most.

On the other hand, restricting the mobility of migrant workers is generally a counterproductive policy for both parties. Restrictions often entail an increase in illegal immigration and overstaying, exacerbating exploitation of migrant labour. Moreover, it is easy to empathize with Filipino nurses who find the prospect of better pay and safer working conditions alluring during this pandemic. However, it is equally important to revisit the bilateral agreements designed to meet the demand for this type of labor and to assess if these economic benefits will truly outweigh the social costs for both the individual and collective. Furthermore, these decisions should be armed with lessons learned from previous global crises that resulted in migration traps. For instance, one ought to recall how the [demand for migrant labor drastically changed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis](#), leaving a surplus of Filipino nurses jobless in their homeland. In moments of crisis, doubts about the inherent unevenness of globalization tend to dissipate when the global order becomes clear. As Castles and Ozkul warned, migration policies are bound to fail if the social dynamics of the source countries are not considered in the grand scheme of globalization.

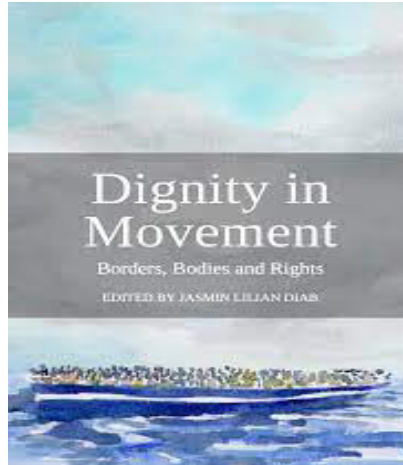
***Patricia Miraflores** is a graduate student pursuing a joint masters degree in M.A. Euroculture at the University of Groningen and Uppsala University. She is a recipient of the 2020 Erasmus Mundus scholarship award from the European Commission. Her primary research interests are migration, diaspora, identity construction, cognitive-affect, and illiberal democracies. She spent four years conducting research in politics, government, and history in San Francisco, Berlin, Seoul, Hyderabad, and Hong Kong for her undergraduate studies.

Diab, J. L. (Ed.) (2021), *Dignity in Movement: Borders, Bodies and Rights*, Bristol: E-International Relations Publishing, 978-1-910814-59-8.

Diab, Jasmin Lilian (Ed.) (2021). *Dignity in Movement: Borders, Bodies and Rights*, Bristol: E-International Relations, 978-1-910814-59-8, 357 pages

In the book *Dignity in Movement: Borders, Bodies and Rights*, Jasmin Lilian Diab as an editor, attempts to knit the expertise of academicians across disciplines with the motive to cover wide-ranging aspects related to migration. The editor is a professional in Migration Studies, currently positioned as Assistant Professor at the Lebanese American University. She has previously been an international consultant at UNHCR, WHO, and is the co-founder of MILAMET. The seemingly effortless network synthesis presented in the book evidences her invaluable experience as an editor for various journals. The book has 22 chapters written by more than 22 specialists in the backdrop of the current 'migration crises.' The book, being a work of its time, strives to enrich the discourse on human movement so that no person is left behind. Therefore, despite opening with quantitative data on the migration crisis, the book finds its locus in qualitative analysis such as nascent conceptualization with varied definitions by different enumerating organizations.

The book is based on the hypothesis that the definitions in the migration discourse are developing. The central research question is to unravel the influence of various factors formulating the definition of migration. It is, therefore, the book in its main theme provides the reader with a theoretical understanding of the existing international and national institutions, human rights debates, treaties, and legal frameworks as to how migrants, refugees, and immigrants are differentiated. It is here that the Foucauldian lens of governmentality is used to unveil the state as a non-neutral arbiter. The book explores this theme through various case studies, empirical data,



ethnographic field-study, participant observations, temporal and spatial analysis regarding displaced persons. The lucid writing style, along with reader-oriented explanation, helps in critical thinking that state creates power hierarchy by producing knowledge on displacement through differential labels, definitions, representations, and categories of migrants and refugees. The book is not a criticism of existing frameworks, but it is an empathetic effort aiding a comprehensive understanding of how governance

can create, normalize and fix humans into categories through ritualized performance. Wide-ranging examples in the book substantiate this argument, such as the recent Global Compact for Migration, the Argentinian Migration Laws, colonial violence in Bosnia-Croatia frontiers; internally displaced people of South Sudan; and Tamils in Sri Lanka. The case of North Jordan is an intriguing example of governing protracted displacement.

The book has an encompassing theme dealing with different kinds of migration based on race, gender, region, class, geography, environment, and many more aspects. Case studies are vivid in explaining the reasons for migration and how a person's identity can change his/her experiences on the journey. In this process, the organizations involved in arranging migration are equally important. The book uses an intergenerational case study to highlight labour migration management by the state as a win-win for the worker, destination, and labour sending countries. A significant contribution of the book is its fresh perspective on militarism, imperialism, and geopolitical intervention as factors contributing to stringent and often inhuman border management practices. Today, governments pay private companies to manage prisons and detention centers. Under this

neo-liberalism is the gamut of neo-colonialism when private corporations profit by confining migrants fleeing violence.

Further, interviews with migrants elucidate the existence of multiple and fused oppressions. The case of mutual support groups by women migrants in Nicaragua captures a desperate but unfulfilled resistance. According to Lugones (2008), the modern/colonial gender system sustains these oppressions. The grey zone between oppression and resistance is picturesque in the book. The reader is left to wonder steps for strong resistance ranging from- opposition to the short-term welfareist policy of the state to advocacy for a long-term capability, enhancing community experiences led policy.

The book has tried to cover every aspect of human displacement, starting from definition and ultimately covering the chain of processes. The case study of migration, asylum, and unaccompanied children from Central America's turbulent Northern Triangle presents a case of this unending process (even if a child accompanies). It shows how unilateral policies of a country are bound to fail if the problem is regional. Further, COVID-19 has brought to face the need for a collective and collaborative framework. A striking keynote of the book is its understanding of migration as a cycle. The example of the European Union Readmission Agreement shows that deportation is not the end of a migration cycle but a rupture in a complex process that affects and disrupts the lives of deported and dependents (Collyer 2018). Tracing from the book, the cycle includes the situation and the status of a migrant after completion of the entire process; it covers the conditions in which he/she leaves his/her home, whether it was by force or voluntary; the process by which he/she starts the journey whether it was legal or illegal; role and support of his/her home country in migration; international agencies encountered in the journey; the process of acceptance by foreign land; his/her condition on new place; if he/she wants to return to the homeland or not. The book is a masterpiece in covering all these varied aspects in detail.

Moreover, the description of these aspects is covered not by abstract theoretical dictums but by narratives. These narratives have the potential to develop empathy in the reader. The reader is bugged by the weirdness that these human-made cycles sometimes do not end,

but human life ends in the process.

The book covers many identities, but the women-sensitive coverage of the issue is extraordinary. It is phenomenally different from mainstream state-centric literature and offers a human and community face of the problem. All the chapters deal with different stories, frameworks, and situations but with a common thread, i.e., the current migration law (international or national). The book, in some chapters, uses the historical study of law to show how migration handling was better in the past, but it has degraded with time. It shows we are, in a real sense, becoming less civic. The book brings case studies of many national or international bodies and laws to prove this perpetual inefficiency, for example, International Organization for Migration; (Avellaneda law, Videla law, DNU) Argentina; Inter American Court of Human Rights; New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants; Global Compact for Migration; Kafala System; Agenda for the protection of cross border displaced person in the context of disasters and climate change; National Agency for the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migration Workers; UN Refugee convention.

One of the limitations of the book is that it uses mainstream binaries of gender. The gender/sex is dealt in binary of male and female without giving attention to the third gender/sex. Given the emerging nature of migration studies, this limitation is understandable. Another limitation is that the book is a mere diagnosis. Despite a promising introduction, the book lacks a policy way forward. It is the most significant limitation, as it undermines both: the seriousness of each chapter in the book, and the commitment to the issue. A final limitation is the lack of other methods to verify the case study, interviews, and field work. Thus, despite the merit of linking the theory and the empirical, the book is shadowed by the possibility of the researcher's subjective bias. In the chapter dealing with the violence on the Croatia-Bosnia border, the author uses unguided conversation to dilute positionality, bias and other methodological issues. However, the attempt is half-hearted because the reader feels that the author is continuously using bias in the act of abstracting the arguments from the conversation. Further, the tool has narrow scope and questionable reliability.

The work of various authors in the book highlights

that migration is not a singular entity. It is in myriad forms, nature, and unending process. The work and effort from diverse fields hold relevance in the crisis of our times. Overall, the book is stimulating, articulate, reader-oriented, and connects theory and narratives. It is a good read for researchers, think-tank professionals, and students of the humanities discipline. It contributes to migration studies, IR, developmental studies, law, ethnographic studies, political science, labour studies, women studies, child-welfare studies, and policymaking. It is beyond doubt that the work can enthrall an ordinary person too by the heart-touching case studies and pictures used in the book. The book convincingly presents the case that existing actions are not sufficient in human movement to provide human dignity. Each chapter is eloquent in its way forward that the 'migration crisis' can end by providing meaningful rights to human movement. The book is coherent in its message that to attain these rights, we must act together.

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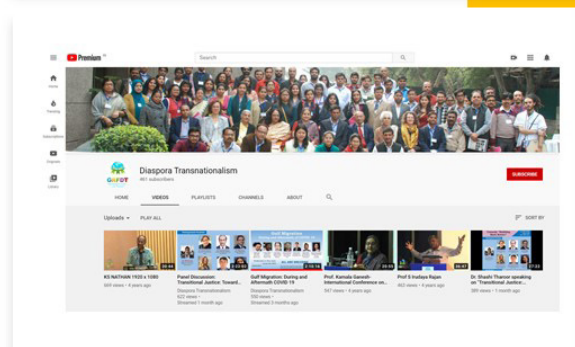
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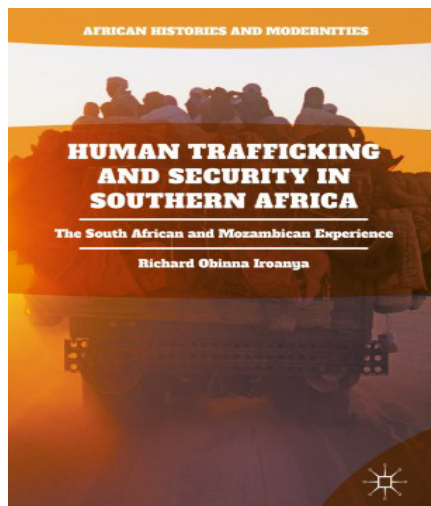
Iroanya, R. O. (2018). *Human Trafficking and Security in Southern Africa: The South African and Mozambican Experience*, Palgrave Macmillan, 978-3--319-71988-7.

In the book *Human Trafficking and Security in Southern Africa: The South African and Mozambican Experience*, Richard Obinna Iroanya deals with the widespread issue of human trafficking. The author considers the problem of human trafficking as a threat to national security as well as a threat to the security of human rights. In addition to this, the given problem is not outlined in isolation from other socio-economic and political problems. It instead follows the multi-disciplinary approach to articulate the interconnections between different socio-economic problems such as economic inequality, poverty, gender issue, the high unemployment rate among youth, and human trafficking. However, the author mainly focuses on the security issues related to human trafficking in order to fill the existing gap in much available literature about human trafficking and its security threats. The author thus incorporates the security issues in this study of human trafficking, applying his expertise in security and strategic studies.

Moreover, he has done extensive work on the same issue in terms of publication of various research papers before publishing the given book, which shows that the given piece is an outcome of his long-term and in-depth study on human trafficking from all the existing dimensions. The book is well-organized in seven chapters, and the sequence of chapters follows the deductive approach. The first half of the book deals with the general phenomenon of human trafficking globally, while the second half deals with the study of specific cases of human trafficking in South Africa and Mozambique.

Difference between Human Smuggling, Kidnapping, and Human Trafficking

The first chapter provides an extensive introduction of relative facts about the global existence of human trafficking. The author clarifies in the beginning



that the terms “human smuggling”, “kidnapping,” and “human trafficking” are not synonymous. The four criteria used to differentiate these terms are consent, exploitation, transnationality, and source of profit. Based on these criteria, the problem of human trafficking has its unique characteristics. The trafficked victims do not have consent to being trafficked, the cross-border movement, which is the necessary condition for transnationalism, may or may not be fulfilled, and the victims

are exploited during their whole working period which becomes the basis for higher and continuous extraction of profit under the case of human trafficking. Therefore, voluntary migration and human trafficking are the opposite forms of human mobility in the contemporary world. In contrast, kidnapping and human smuggling lie in between these two extreme cases as far as the degree of exploitation of the victim is concerned. The author also emphasizes the lack of availability of rigorous data sources to deal with human trafficking, which becomes a significant reason for the policy’s failure to combat human trafficking.

Multiple Dimensions of Human Trafficking

The second chapter of the book deals with the conceptualization of human trafficking. After an extensive literature review, the author points out six different approaches associated with the conceptualization of the subject. These six approaches include considering human trafficking as slavery, an organized crime, a global migration challenge, a human rights violation problem, prostitution, and a negative aspect of globalization (p. 29). The author also discusses the concept of transnational organized crime, causes of human trafficking, the concept of security, and the criteria for identifying security threats in detail. Transnational organized crimes include drug trafficking, illegal weapons trafficking, illegal trafficking in natural

resources, cybercrime, and human trafficking. As far as the concept of security is concerned, the author follows the contemporary approach of security to link it with human trafficking. The given approach considers security in its broader sense, which includes political, economic, social, and environmental issues and is not primarily restricted to military threats (p. 48). After defining the concept of human trafficking, the study deals with the question of when a problem can be considered a threat to security. Under the sub-heading of 'The criteria for Identifying Security Threats,' the author states that if a given social condition or situation leads to extreme violence, unacceptable conflict or state instability, or has a clear potential to do so, it could be possibly viewed as a national security threat (p. 56).

Human Trafficking: A World-wide Phenomenon

The third chapter of the book, named 'Overview of Human Trafficking as a Global Phenomenon,' deals with the cases of human trafficking existing in different regions of the world. The analysis of that chapter provides an understanding of the commonalities and differences in extent, nature, and causes of human trafficking in different regions of the world. The commonalities among different regions exist in the flow of human trafficking from poor and less developed regions to prosperous regions. Women and children are victimized to a more considerable extent than the men population in all the regions, and the historical patterns of migration have a strong influence on the current pattern of human trafficking globally. The main differences exist due to the different routes and changes in routes on account of law enforcement improvements either in the source country, transit country, or destination country. The differences also prevail based on the extent of intra-regional trafficking, inter-regional trafficking, and domestic trafficking in different countries of different regions. The author also explains different forms of exploitation of victims, which vary from sexual exploitation to human organ trafficking and forced marriages of women. One of the significant points which are highlighted by the author in the concluding remark of this chapter is that it is fallacious to uniquely identify a country or region as a source only or destination only country or region, since they can be used as a source, transit, and destination

places simultaneously, due to the different exploitable opportunities identified by the traffickers.

The Route of Human Trafficking from Mozambique to South Africa

The fourth and fifth chapters of the book show a strong interrelationship. The fourth chapter deals with the case study of human trafficking in South Africa, which is the major destination and a transit country in the African region. At the same time, the fifth chapter focuses on the case study of human trafficking in the Mozambican country, which is the primary source as well as a transit country in the given region. The connection between both the case studies lies in the presence of the primary route of human trafficking from Mozambique to South Africa in the African region. Thus, Mozambique plays a dual role for South Africa as a source and a transit country for human trafficking.

The study highlights that Mozambique has become the transit country in the trafficking route from Zambia, Malawi, Camerocoonia, Uganda, Kenya, Congolese, Ethiopia, and other African nations along with Russia, Eastern Europe, Thailand, China, and Taiwan towards South Africa. The Mozambican victims are also not trafficked directly from their area of origin to South Africa. They are trafficked domestically in the major recruitment center cities for South Africa and then cross the border illegally. Sex trafficking of women, including young girls, labour trafficking of young boys and children, and human organ trafficking are the underlined forms of human trafficking present in Mozambique and South Africa. The author has also narrated in detail the socio-economic and political conditions that play a role in facilitating human trafficking in both countries. Poorer economic conditions in Mozambique compared to South Africa, corruption among public officials in both countries, and poor enforcement of human trafficking laws are the featured causes of human trafficking in both countries.

Policy response to Human Trafficking: A Challenging Task

In the sixth chapter, the policy responses to the issue of human trafficking in Mozambique and South Africa are discussed. The chapter deals with the laws that

directly or indirectly combat human trafficking in both countries. The laws implemented based on the Palermo Protocol 2000 deal directly with the criminalisation of human trafficking, while the laws related to the fundamental rights of women and children rectified in both countries have an indirect impact on combating human trafficking. The content of this chapter is somewhat challenging to grasp because the author extensively uses technical terms related to different laws and international conventions. Nevertheless, it is also true that the policies dealing with human trafficking cannot be represented without technical jargon related to the study of laws.

Concluding Remarks

In the last chapter, the author concludes that along with the socio-economic dimensions of human trafficking, the problem also poses a threat to the national security as well as to the security of fundamental human rights when the problem is tested based on the identification of security threat criteria defined in the second chapter. Therefore, recognizing the problem as a national security threat, strengthening international counter-trafficking cooperation, and ratifying and firmly implementing human trafficking laws are some recommendations provided by the author to combat human trafficking globally. Furthermore, improving the living conditions of groups vulnerable to trafficking, one of the significant policy measures that deal with

the major economic root cause of human trafficking, is provided as a complementary measure to eradicate human trafficking under the measures recommended.

In a nutshell, the book is a detailed analysis of human trafficking in the selected South African nations and provides a deep insight into the problem of human trafficking as a global issue. The policy response stated by the author to deal with the problem gives an excessive weightage to the super-structural forces, including tightening of border security and implementation of strong laws to combat human trafficking by considering the economic base of the problem in terms of extreme poverty and economic inequality existing in different regions as a supplementary cause of the problem.

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The *Global and Asian Perspectives on International Migration* is part of a book series aimed at understanding the future of policies on migration and their linkages with development issues. This particular anthology synthesizes the contributions of migration experts from Asia, Europe, and North America who attended a conference in April 2013 on recent empirical case studies. The works in this volume aim to address and illustrate the theoretical gaps in contemporary Asian migration studies, seeing how most of these frameworks were coined and elaborated in the western context. Hence, this anthology aims to test the validity of predominant migration theories as explanatory models in Asian contexts. More broadly, it sets benchmarks to guide future theorization and situates migration studies as a linchpin in knowledge production.

As such, this volume is divided into thirteen chapters. The first is an introduction by editor Graziano Battistella who navigates the theoretical terrain of migration studies thus far. He also introduces the six key aspects of Asian migration systems that require further theoretical introspection. Each of these was consecutively discussed from western and Asian viewpoints in the next twelve chapters. The arrangement of the articles reflects the interregional dialogue among the contributors themselves which speaks to the greatest strength of this approach.

In the introductory chapter, Battistella synthesizes the broad theoretical developments in migration studies and the specificities of Asian migration systems. As the editor, Battistella's expertise as director of the Scalabrini Migration Center was especially valuable in shaping the tone and theme of this interdisciplinary compilation. However, as he acknowledged, one main caveat is that the theoretical frameworks discussed in this anthology were limited to labor migration. On the other hand, solely focusing on labor migration foregrounded the authors' critique of frameworks and terminologies coined in the western contexts.

The first key aspect Battistella introduces is the

concept of *circular migration* which many receiving countries in the west implemented to reduce irregular migration. Proponents of this arrangement predict that temporary employment of migrants from developing countries can create triple win scenarios for the migrant and their destination and origin countries, which eventually regularizes migration. Stephen Castles and Derya Ozkul (Ch. 2) criticize the vague usage of this term in policymaking, finding little evidence to support the effectiveness of these schemes in lowering irregular migration. In the same vein, Piyasiri Wickramasekara (Ch. 3) gets to the crux of the issue by stating that, in the first place, very few case studies in Asia can illustrate the conceptual distinction between circular and temporary migration. Wickramasekara identifies what theoretization ought to achieve before we can characterize circular migration as a distinct form of mobility, let alone one that reaps triple-win benefits.

On the topic of *multiculturalism*, Christian Joppke (Ch. 4) contemplates the European context where politicians bid a "rhetorical goodbye" to multicultural policies. As it stands, European politicians are reluctant to support multiculturalism because it appears antithetical to Europe's "notionally individualistic and universalistic" policies against discrimination (p. 91). Joppke criticizes Europe's over fixation of these policies when "immigrant-unspecific institutions" like schools can best facilitate integration (p. 96). Meanwhile, In-Jin Yoon (Ch. 5) discusses South Korea's integration policies primarily targeted at "multicultural families" or Korean citizens who have foreign spouses. Yoon aptly uses the conceptual diagram in Figure 5.1 (p. 106) to illustrate how Korea distinguishes among immigrants based on nationality and compatriot status. Through this, Yoon demonstrates how ethnically homogenous Asian states' concept of multiculturalism is not synonymous to the west's. Despite this, joint theoretical developments are needed. As Yoon perceptively argues, the existence of minorities in any given society will always be hinged on a dominant culture dictating the social order.

Another aspect that requires further theoretical

introspection is the shifting gender roles and orders from labor migration. Eleonore Kofman (Ch. 6) addresses these developments from American and European perspectives. In this chapter, what stood out was the commentary on why we cannot “downplay the significance of global inequalities” (p. 124) when embedding gender in migration studies. Kofman fittingly describes the case of women from developing countries who take up gendered work in the western care industry, yet are forced into breadwinner roles that are traditionally ascribed to males at home. Similarly, Brenda S.A. Yeoh (Ch. 7) advocates for theorization in the household/family and national/citizenship aspects. Yeoh proposes a paradigm shift from western discourses prioritizing “individual rights and formal citizenship” (p. 148) to a multipolar framework that considers the household and national levels. She cites the case of foreign women in Taiwan who advocated for their naturalization as mothers of Taiwanese citizens, challenging the *jus sanguinis* tradition. Similar to Kofman, Yeoh tends to build on theoretical propositions using empirical expertise in gendered migration.

The return and reintegration of migrants in their home countries is another feature of labor migration in Asia. Jean-Pierre Cassarino (Ch. 8) conceptualizes *return preparedness* as a process dependent not only on the migrants’ pre-return conditions in the receiving country, but also their perceptions of the post-return conditions they would encounter back home. Cassarino simplifies these conditions in Table 8.1 (p. 162) into three degrees of return preparedness which reframes the concept of return to a certain extent. However, this is limited by its inability to capture the heterogeneity of migrants’ willingness and readiness to return. This was addressed by Biao Xiang (Ch. 9), who makes a very strong argument as to why theorization is essential despite the inability of migration theories to “produce neat schemas or typologies” (p. 172). Specifically, Xiang refers to return-oriented labor migration systems in Asia that intensified in recent decades as geopolitical shifts favored the region. This put Asia in a special global position to develop theories on return migration, seeing how Asian states have “laid claim to [returning] mobile subjects” (p. 170) and “nationalize[d] transnational mobility” (p. 174). Xiang embeds the concept of return to broader social transformations at the global scale, providing the strongest argument in this volume in

justifying Asia-centric theory development.

On the regional governance of migration, Rinus Penninx (Ch. 10) reflects on the lessons learned from the European Union. Penninx argues that economic cooperation and political will need to coincide to enable regional governance of migration. He links the EU’s regionally integrated migration policies with its remarkable features throughout histories such as the free circulation of laborers and the creation of European citizenship. Meanwhile, Fernando T. Aldaba (Ch. 11) examines the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Economic Community (AEC) which still lacks the economic and political conditions to allow the same degree of intraregional mobility. Despite this, Aldaba argues that the ASEAN itself has long exhibited features of multi-level governance on issues of migration. The question then is if this would eventually converge at the regional level into a cohesive policy akin to the EU’s.

Lastly, the concept of *migration transition* raises the question of when migrant workers will no longer be forced to find employment abroad. Philip L. Martin (Ch. 12) argues that while “there is no automatic link” between migration and development (p. 227), the combined effects of the three Rs (recruitment, remittance, return) can either result in virtuous or vicious circles of migration in origin countries. Whereas, Manolo I. Abella and Geoffrey Ducanes (Ch. 13) advocate for more holistic measures of welfare such as the indices of human development (HDI). They highlight the need for the economic conditions described by Martin to attain a certain level of sustainability to reduce labor migrations. Despite the authors’ different approaches, both chapters have the fundamental assumption that “people would prefer to live and work in the country they were born and raised” (p. 256). Among all chapters, these two are the most cognizant of the link between theories of migration and indices of development and welfare.

Overall, the joint expertise of the scholars who contributed to this volume provides an exemplary resource on labor migration that caters to a spectrum of interdisciplinary studies. Those interested in high-level comparisons of the western and Asian labor migration contexts would appreciate the chapters on *regional integration* by Penninx (Ch. 10) and Aldaba (Ch. 11). Those who are keen to explore emerging approaches of intersectionality would benefit from the

chapters on *gender* by Kofman (Ch. 6) and Yeoh (Ch. 7) and the chapters on *multiculturalism* by Joppke (Ch. 4) and Yoon (Ch. 5). Readers with more specific field interests may find only some aspects of this publication useful. However, all researchers can benefit from its astute demonstration of how interregional dialogue can enhance theorization and vice versa.

As Battistella (Ch. 1) explained, this entails repurposing predominant approaches and opening new avenues of thought. As such, the chapters on circular migration by Castles & Ozkul (Ch. 2) and Wickramasekara (Ch. 3) attest to the need for more nuanced conceptualization of labor migration that moves away from empirical tendencies. Whereas, the chapters on *migration transition* by Martin (Ch. 12) and Abella & Ducanes (Ch. 13) provide the most grounded perspectives on linking theory and practice. Finally, the chapters by Cassarino (Ch. 8) and Xiang (Ch. 9) on the concept of *return* provide the most thought-provoking arguments on where migration fits in broader geopolitical and social transformations.

On the other hand, readers should note that this volume

is primarily focused on labor migration. This narrows its scope to research questions on Asian migration propelled only by employment, which is also where the major shortcomings of this anthology stem from. The volume glosses over key contemporary developments such as the increased migration of the *nouveau riche* and international student diasporas from East and Southeast Asia. Moreover, discussions of key regional political contexts were not synchronized since the chapters were arranged according to the themes and stages of labor migration. For instance, the geopolitical factors for migration in the Asian context were only addressed in the final chapter; whereas, the geopolitical factors for European migration were discussed in the fourth chapter.

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