CHAPTER - III

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I. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

In Iran, we find the process of rural-urban migration on very high scale. People are moving from rural areas to towns and cities and it has affected rural and urban life. It is necessary to know the factors responsible for this and its impact. There are some studies on this aspect. Most of them are reports and are limited to some offices for particular purposes. Nobody gets them and they are not particularly of generalization. So, still more studies are required. If we know the exact causes for this migration and its impact, rural and urban planning can be possible. Hence, this type of study is important, specially after revolution. The new Govt. has given too much value to the villages, labours, farmers and all rural.

II. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The main objective of the study is to make a sociological study of rural-urban migration in Iran. Objectives can be spelled out as under:
1. To study the factors responsible for rural-urban migration in Iran.

2. To know what sections of population migrate more.

3. To know who are accepted more easily in urban areas from rural areas or to know whether there is any selectivity.

4. To know the social impact of rural-urban migration on rural areas.

5. To know the social impact of rural-urban migration on urban areas.

6. To know the problems created by this migration.

7. To know the impact of the migration on migrants themselves.

III. HYPOTHESIS TO BE TESTED:

The main hypothesis to be tested are as follows:
1. Male migrates are more than female in rural-urban migrants.

2. People of younger group migrate more.

3. Educated migrate more.

4. Urban facilities act as pull-factor for rural-urban migration.

5. Rural difficulties act as push-factor for migration.

6. Rural difficulties and urban welfare are the main reasons for migration.

IV. **UNIVERSE OF THE STUDY:**

For this study, Mashhad City which is the Center of Khorasan province in Iran is selected. Mashhad is the most populous city after Tehran (Capital)\(^1\) and Khorasan province.

1. Statistical year book 1986, **Statistical Center of Iran**, Statistical Center of Iran Publisher, Tehran, Iran, 1987, p. 30
with 31337.2 Km² and 17 Cities, 53 districts and 210 villages is the largest province among total provinces in Iran.²

In Mashhad there is migration from most of Khorasan villages.

V. SAMPLING FOR THE STUDY:

I have divided Mashhad City in four wards - North, South, East and West. Sample of 408, rural migrants have been selected on systematic sampling basis from all of the wards equally (102 migrants from each ward). Care was taken that respondents are selected from all sections of the city.

VI. PERIOD OF THE STUDY:

The study covers a total period of four years from December 1986 to December, 1990.

VII. METHODS AND SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION:

The sources of information are generally classified as primary and secondary.

2. Ibid, p.61
VIII. 1. **Primary sources:**

Primary sources which have been used in this study are as follows:

1. **Observation:**

Observation of Mashhad City and many villages where they are pertaining to this study like Kazemabad, Kharve, Menneh, Abardeh, etc., where I had observed them before revolution also.

2. **Some interviews with the help of schedule:**

Some village leaders have been interviewed to know the impact of migration on rural areas and some City and Government official have interviewed to know the impact of migration on urban areas.
PRIMARY STUDY BEFORE GETTING A SUITABLE METHOD

I feel it appropriate to mention here as to how I have come to the suitable method for data collection. Primary study helped me in this regard to a great extent.

I, myself being a villager, specially from Khorasan and spending much of my life in Khorasan's villages and knowing well the Khorasanian rural culture and problems etc., had helped me a lot in this research. However, for a scientific research and a for deep study of their problems and according to the idea and aims of this study, during 10 days primary study in Mashhad and some of its villages, I had prepared a complete and primary questionnaire for knowing the rural social problems and I examined it in three villages. Mehran, Kharwe and Kazemabad and the selected time for this research was within 1st to 15 Farvardin because these days were the new year holidays and usually rural migrants go to their villages to pay a visit to their relatives.

In this initial stage, very important points were cleared which are as follows:

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* Farvardin is the first month of Persian year.
In order to know the causes of migration, we cannot ask information from a single rural person, because a villager although he is to be a migrant or a conscious person like a Councillor, head of the village etc., do not know all of their problems and causes which are the reason for migration. All those things are being said as causes of migration are indications of his own personal necessities and certain circumstances which seemed to be different from other person, for example poor. Hence, in order to know the real causes of migration, it is necessary to interview many migrants from different villages according to the general statistical sampling methods.

It is obvious that the thought and attitude of mind of a migrant is not based upon an orderly structure concerning the factors of his migration although they had laid emphasis upon a peculiar problem as a most important ones. However, during the interview other causes and problems would occur to their mind, which seemed to be more important than those problems initially expressed by them. On the basis of this a method ought to be adopted based on specific method by which their idea and demands could be well understood.
The second important point learnt during the initial study in view of the fact of those two other points mentioned above is the necessity of a questionnaire which consists of those problems arising in the mind of migrants and other factors which had effect on the mind of migrants.

Further more, I felt necessary on preparation of some other questionnaire on the basis of this, that I shall be in the position to survey the situation of the villages.

After the determinations of the frame work of Survey a method should be searched which under existing conditions and according to experiences which is gained in primary study seems to be suitable. There could be following methods for knowing the causes of rural urban migration.

1. Selecting of villages for:
   A. Interview with representatives of villages. (the heads of villages etc.,)

   B. Interview with migrants in their own villages or getting their address in City from their relatives in their villages.
C. Group discussions in every village.

D. Observations

2. Scheduled interview with migrants in Mashhad:

1. Selecting of villages:

With reference to the "country’s cities" identifications 1364 H. sh. Volume No.11 Khorasan Ostan, statistical centre of Iran, Khorasan Ostan has 17 Cities. At first I have decided to select four villages around each city by random sampling method, and then from each villages with five migrants to be interviewed which totally make:

17 (cities) \times 4 (villages) = 68 (villages)

68 (Villages) \times 5 (Migrants) = 340 Migrants

This method although had some benefits because of the following reasons, was not accepted.

In the selected villages and migrants by a random sampling no method was same and equal for all villages and the persons which is not correct, because migrants are not equal in all small cities and their villages for example 60\% of migrants
from whole statistical populations may be from one place and
10% from another place. Because of this inequality, result
will be doubtful.

We were not sure that the selected villages had migrants
or not and there might be all of migrations in other villages.

The problems of travelling to all of these villages,
specially with bad road with far distance from the Centre,
staying there and lack of villagers' co-operation (because
they would look at me as a stranger and also I have not any
legal authority), the necessity of high budget and absence
of migrants themselves there.

Interview with representatives of villagers:

To content with these interview only, although it has
some advantages but in addition to those problems which have
been mentioned before, it has some more short-comings which
are as follows:

The information which can be collected by this method
cannot be generalised for all villages and migrants came to
know before. The causes informed by these representatives
may be causes of migration but according to his own view point
and not for the whole village.

Among the villages we can find some villages where there
are some group struggles. In many researches, it had been
seen that after representatives expression some other person had
referred and had told something else.

Interviewing migrants in their own villages or getting
their address in City from their relatives in their villages;

This method has some dis-advantages which are as follows:

i) Lack of proper list which shows the number of migration
from each villages.

ii) There may not be exist any migrants in selected villages.

iii) Absence of migrants in their own villages, because
they are staying in city.

iv) Lack of villagers’s co-operation in giving their relatives
address to a stranger.
v) Unreliability of address in the case of giving it. Also the given addresses may not be accurate.

C. Group discussion in selected villages:

In addition to sustained short-comings of selected villages method*, which was explained earlier, herein group discussion there are more shortcomings, which are as follows (supposing that the selected villages are emmigration villages).

The pressure of influential person on villagers, who are present in assembly which may happen in different way. This pressure is so strong that the information cannot be reliable and so it cannot be generalised.

The different socio-psychological test and exams about conformity had shown that mankind in a group under the pressure of conforming, compare his view point and judgement to majority although it be opposite to his idea and so he prefers to conform behaviour and make it uniform with others. (For example we can refer to Mr. Asch or Hofstatter test).

Observation:

At first it was thought that the problems of village
can be understood by observation because of which this method as a research methodology is used in third World Countries, specially by foreign researchers and by those unfamiliar with the cultures of those countries (like their society, social relations and knowing the causes of those relations etc.). These advantages of observations were not that much useful in this research because I myself had born and lived in this society and specially my birth place is a place where is one of the villages from those which are going to study and most of my life has been in Mashhad, which is the Centre of Khorasan provinces and the main point of this study. But moreover, observations method was not useful for this study as a only method because of the following reasons.

1. The knowledge which has got by the researcher is the result of researcher's thought and not the real problems which are existed there. For example, according to this researcher, lack of general bath may be the causes of migrations in a village while there must be another causes like lack of fertilizer or some group struggle, cities attraction etc., which are hidden.

II. Using of this method (For getting more knowledge that
I know in many villagers, because of some economical, energy, episode specially in the duration of this study (Iran-Iraq) war was not possible because researcher for this study should stay one year and at least one month in each village.

III. If, by sampling method we select a village for observation, another problem will exists because the information which was got has no statistical value and we cannot generalize them to all another villages where there are no similarities with the studied village.

Schedule interview with migrants in Mashhad by simple random sampling method.

Migrants have been interviewed with the help of interview schedule in Mashhad city.

From the above discussion, it is clear that interview method is the best method among all the methods inspite of its limitation.

I utilised primarily that method for collection of primary data along with observation.
Secondary Sources:

Secondary sources in this study includes some public documents, which I have divided them into two groups as follows:

1. Published books and Research and some magazines and News Papers

2. Unpublished Records

Pilot study:

I made the pilot study as a preliminary study conducted on a limited scale before the original study which was carried out in order to gain some primary information on the basis of which the main project would be planned and formulated.

This preliminary study or survey of the Universe of the study helped me to acquire a general knowledge about the problem which ultimately helped me to know the nature and different aspects of the problem.
Moreover as Sir Claus Moser and G. Kalton says about values of pilot study, this primary study had helped me to know the following important points.

1. The suitability of the method of collecting the data.

2. The adequacy of the sampling frame from which it is proposed to select the sample.

3. The variability within the population to be surveyed.

4. The kind of interviewers and respondents.

5. The probable cost and duration of the main survey.

Pre-testing:

Interview schedule was tested with 30 migrants. The only objection was that there were no sufficient spaces for recording responses. And all objections which may be seen during pre-testing according Goode and Hatt were anticipated before.

The other important difficulty was lack of any letter of introduction to show the migrants before interviewing, when I was being asked that 'from where you had come?' My reply was not accepted by most respondents. Hence, letter of introduction was necessary.

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