CHAPTER - I

Introduction
INTRODUCTION

The most complex component of population change and growth is migration or the flow of people from one place to another place. Since 1885, when Revenstein first formulated the migration laws, substantive literature has appeared, concerned with spatial mobility of populations.

The term mobility includes all kinds of territorial movements, both temporary and permanent. The movement of people from one place to another for the purpose of settling down is known as migration. Migration is much more restricted and relates to a permanent change of residence for a certain period.

One of the first theoretical explanations of migration was offered by Ravenstein in the late 19th Century in the form of laws of migration. The basic premise of this theory was that migrants move from areas of low opportunity to areas of high opportunity and the choice is regulated by distance. Migration, on the other hand, is purely a socio-economic phenomenon-involving social, psychological, economical, political, and institutional and other such determinants.

The concept of migration can be understood in a number of ways. Literally, it means the settlement or shifting of an individual or a group of individuals from one cultural area or place of habitation to another, more or less permanently.
The term has been defined from the Webster's Dictionary as:

1. "The act or an instance of moving from one country, region or place to settle in another".
2. "The act or an instance of moving from one area to another in search of work".

According to Kenneth Kammeyer (1975) "Migration is a relatively permanent moving from one geographical location to another, proceeded by decision-making on the part of the migrants on the basis of hierarchically ordered set of values or value ends and resulting in changes in the international system of the migrants".

It has been pointed out that most of the migrants move from rural to urban areas to find out better economic opportunities. A few well educated, socially and economically better off people are attracted by the vast opportunities for fulfilling their aspirations and to acquire better status and chances of further achievements in society.

Migration is usually classified as either international migration (movement from one country to another) or internal migration (movement within a country). International migration has greater political significance as it involves the crossing of political barriers, and possibly formidable geographical and cultural barriers as well. On the other hand, internal migration tends to occur within broadly the same cultural and political bounds.
The impact of migration is a subject of change in terms of time and space. During early days, people were simply wandering from one region to another in search of livelihood. Their life was very simple. The impact of their migration was confined to primary activities. The growth of civilization has broadened and dimensions of the impact of human migrations from primary activities to secondary and tertiary. The impact has started to be felt on other walks of life as well. Now-a-days migrant's start encroaching upon or interfering in economical social and political activities of the place of destination, although the place of destination becomes the main target of migration, other areas like the place of origin and intervening areas are also affected. Migrants not only change the concerned places, but they also become the subject to change.

Various types of migration exert their influence distinctly, out-migration from any region releases pressure of population on land and influence the demographic, economic and social characteristics of the area of emigration. It increases the ratio of women, children and old persons; decreases the number of working force, rate of fertility. Out-migration has both positive and negative economic impact (Upreti, 1981).

A migrant is generally regarded as a person who has moved from his place of birth to another place with the idea of settling there more or less permanently.
Migrants coming from rural areas remain almost unaware of the urban way of life and they are dominated by traditional customs, manners. They affect the host society as such. In contrast, migrants coming from other urban areas do not exert adverse impact because of the similarity of their way of life.

Studies on migration indicate that the process, volume and direction of people in their movement from one place to another which are influenced by a number of such factors as geographical conditions, economic hazards, non-availability of regular and reliable occupation, educational opportunities and achievements, and several other social and psychological conditions. As a result of migration, people have to adjust themselves to societies and cultures of the places to which they migrate. The problem and the extent of adjustment of the migrants to new cultures is important both from the point of view of the preservations of their own values and practices as well as their contacts with, and their adaptation to the new cultural conditions. Studies on migration have pointed out that the people migrate from one culture to another because of the operation of the push and pull factors. The factors that tend to encourage an outflow from the place of origin are termed as "Push factors", where as the factors attracting people towards the place of destination are called "Pull factors". They have to adjust themselves not only to the new conditions and cultural expectations but also to the expectations and demands of their families, relatives, and other social relations at the place of their origin.
Migrants are normally exposed to forces and factors which create an atmosphere of psychological insecurity about their immediate future and social uncertainties about their place and acceptance in the new environment. It is therefore, important to study the sociological aspects of migration among people occupying specific cultural areas in a vast country like India, where a variety of geographical and cultural groups are found. There has been a tremendous growth in the number of people migrating from one place to another since the beginning of the present century. The trends in migration within the country have been further escalated by the dual processes of industrialization and urbanization. Thus, we find people of different regions of the country migrating to almost all the big urban industrial complexes. Such migrant groups generally try to keep their distinct social and cultural identity even when they expose themselves to the values and practices which are predominant in the urban industrial centers.

Several problems are associated with or caused by migration, particularly for the migrants. They have to readjust their family relations and roles. Their caste values and practices have also to be redefined. The modes of social controls, the celebration of significant social events such as the rituals of marriage, birth and death are also affected by migration. It is, therefore, interesting to study how people coming from different socio-economic groups and with varying educational, occupational, familial, and political and caste background organize their social life in the new cultural settings.
FACTORS WHICH PROMOTE MIGRATION ARE VARIED

The migration of human beings is neither an immediate action or is it inspired by a single basic impulse that is the same for all people. When an individual or a family changes residence, the move is made and destination is selected for a number of specific reasons. Sometimes these reasons may not be obvious, but are the results of social, economical, political and other factors occurring in different combinations.

The factors associated with the process of migration may be broadly classified as following:

- Factors associated with the place of origin
- Factors associated with the place of destination
- Intervening obstacles and
- Personal factors.

The factors concerning the place of origin and place of destination differ greatly from each other. Sometimes people decide to migrate from their place of origin because of long-term acquaintance, or because it is easy. But this may not be the case with regard to selection of destination. There are innumerable factors in every area, which tend to discourage migration while other factors attract people for migration.

According to Indian Census, 1971, the following factors stimulated change of residence of people.
• Marriage
• The prospect of good employment or better employment.
• The chance to develop or utilize proficiency not locally marketable.
• The transfer of an employee from one branch to another in the same firm.
• The sale of a business or merger of a business.
• Prolonged low income or failure to increase income, especially in comparison with a known situation elsewhere.
• Retirement from the labor force.
• The death of spouse, parent or other relative.
• Disaster in the community, such as droughts, floods, epidemics.
• Personal good fortune such as receipt of gifts or inheritance of property.
• Social rejection by the community owing to disapproval of behavior, for example, an ex-convict out of prison or a chronic alcoholic.
• Forced movement resulting from legislation knowledge of the area is seldom exact and some of the advantages and disadvantages of an area can be perceived only by living there.

The following are some of the factors which affect the selection of destination.

• The cost of movement.
• The presence of relatives or close friends
• The possibility of living with relatives or friends until established.
• A definite offer of desirable employment
• The physical attractiveness of a community,
• Recreational, educational, and other community facilities.
• Sex ratio, marital status, income level.
• The general prestige or reputation of a community and
• Lack of alternative destinations.

Between the places of origin and destination, these factors stand a set of intervening obstacles which may be slight in some instances, and almost insurmountable in others. For example, in several studies, the distance factor has been found to be a formidable intervening obstacle, where as, in others it is not so significant because of the existence of adequate transportation facilities. It is also important to note the same set of obstacles affect different people in different ways.

There are many personal factors which facilitate or retard migration. Some of these are more or less a constraint throughout the life of the individual, while others are associated with different stages in the life cycle.

Thus, the necessity for a clear and definite conceptualization of migration involving factors both at origin and destination, a set of intervening obstacles, and a series of personal factors is self-evident.
Against this background, the investigator was interested in studying the impact of migration on family. Impact may be felt in various dimensions of family like its structure, relationships, roles and overall family functioning.

The overall meaning of the term family functioning is carrying out of family related roles. Poor family functioning indicates that relatively few of the tasks assigned to or expected of the family members are in fact being carried out.

Olson (1979) defined family functioning as family member's perception of family cohesion and adaptability.

Hobart (1983) stated that family functioning is a dynamic concept relating to the way family members interact and carry out tasks. More especially it is the process of fulfilling activities which contribute to the maintenance of the family unit and the well-being of its members.

Pelz et al., (1984) state that good family functioning can be indicated by individual member’s satisfaction with expressive activities.

The two most powerful factors in maintaining the stability of the family are family integration and family culture. In a rapid changing society, the family cannot remain unaffected. Rapid urbanization and industrialization have influenced the family to a large extent. The process of migration affects the family structure and disturbs its homogeneity. Therefore, migration has definite impact on the family functioning.
Migration of families to urban areas has been observed to have both positive and negative impact on the family.

Migration of families to urban areas leads to "improved status of women or veil in general and formation of nuclear families" (Hauser, 1957). "Gains are the improvement in the status of low caste people" (Saxena, 1977). "Improved social and economic aspirations of the family, better availability of opportunities and increased utilization of health facilities, particularly the maternal and child health services" (Ministry of health, 1979). "Availability of better network of Schools in urban areas would increase the school enrolment among poor migrant children, but their chance of retention in school does not improve much" (Naidu and Parasuram, 1983).

The present study is aimed at finding out the family functioning of Marwar community, the reason for migration and various factors related to their social, economical and religious aspects.

Marwar is an immigrant minority community of Chittoor district. Several problems are associated with or caused by migration particularly for the Marwari migrants. They have to re-adjust their family relations and roles. Their caste values and practices have also to be redefined. The modes of social control, the celebrations of significant social events such as rituals of marriage, birth and death are also affected by migration.

The complex structure of the Marwaries may be broken down into different fragments based on their income high, middle, and low and the type of caste SWETHAMBARAS and DEGAMBARAS. There are Jains and
non-JAINS in Marwaries. Some of the sub-divisions of JAINS are oswals, porwals, agrawals and maheswaris. Sub-divisions of non-JAINS are patels, sharmas, kumawats etcetra. The Marwaries are migrated to southern urban parts and semi-urban parts of India. Marwaries are scattered in their occupational, commercial and trade aspects and live among non-Marwaries. Though they are migrants having problems, they are well settled by dealing the business smoothly way. This type of knowledge they gained peculiarly as other communities lack. They mingle with other cultures on one hand and on the other they have their own traditional cultural pattern. It is, therefore, interesting to study, how these people coming from different socio-economic groups with varying educational, occupational, familial, political, caste background and organize their social life in new but different cultural settings.

All the factors so far discussed may directly or indirectly affect the functioning of family. The present study is expected to throw some light on consequent problems of adjustments of migrants, which may be of interest to sociologists and social policy makers.