

Migration Pattern and Poverty: A Spatio-Temporal Study in Selected Parts of Katsina State

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Abstract

This study examined and analyzed migration pattern in some parts of Katsina State with a view of investigating the characteristics of people involved and the pattern and trends of migration and analyzed the causes and factors responsible for migration in the area. The number of rural populaces in the state that migrate to cities with high hopes of overcoming poverty is unprecedented. Purposive sampling was used in which only those affected by frequent migration were involved, 80 questionnaire were administered in the 12 wards that were selected systematically according to the inventory and population of the wards in the L.G.A, in which 10 questionnaires were administered in each of the four wards located outside the city and 5 in each of the other 8 wards selected. The data generated were analyzed, described, interpreted and summarized using descriptive statistic. The result of this study reveals that the categories of people involved are youth; however, female only migrated as a result of marriage and visitation or other forms of temporary movement, thus most of the motives for the movements of youth are economic in searched of greener pasture. Again, the nature and period of migration of the respondents is seasonal. The geographic pattern of migration in this area is rural-urban migration pattern and the trends are fluctuating toward rural direction with slight increase and decrease and it indicates higher inclination toward urban direction. The study recommends the need for government to expand employment opportunities in the rural areas by investing more in small scale and medium scale labor intensive industries. Also, efforts must be maximized towards the agricultural development and the improvement of the rural economy.

Keywords: Migration, pattern, Urban, Rural, Katsina

Introduction

Migration is a state of life where a person or groups of persons travel from one place to another in search of livelihood. Broadly, two categories of people migrate (Sundari, 2005) the well offs, in search of better education, employment and favorable living conditions which suit their livelihoods (Hugh & Rachel, 2005), then the poor, who are often forced to migrate as a result of extreme conditions such as hunger, insecurity, starvation and poverty (Umar, 2019).

Migration tends to be seen as problematic, especially in academic and policy debates, and in the popular press. It is often seen as the consequence of ruptures of environmental disaster, economic exploitation, or political or civil tensions and violence. And it is often perceived to be a cause of problems, like environmental degradation, health problems, 'brain drain', political or social instability, declining law and order, and unraveling social fabric and support systems (Adams, 1994).

Human beings have been in migration since their emergence. The population is naturally increasing, the farmlands can no longer provide employment to the youth, and thus they have to move out especially during the dry season. Moreover the proximity of some areas to the city complicates the pattern of movement of population even during the short rainy season (International Organization of Migration (IOM), 2010 and Cecilia et al., 2014).

When people migrate from their origin, their life style is affected and also the place they leave behind as well as the destination is affected. Migration is one of the three basic components of population change in any area; the rapid growth of urban population is believed to have resulted from the influx of migrants from rural areas. These migrants are blamed for swelling the population far beyond the urban economic capacity and available resources; and therefore, accelerating urban problems by putting high pressures on the existing facilities in the urban centers.

Migration primarily means movement of people from one place to another, which is not casual in nature, such as a visit or a tour. It is a kind of pre-emptive move, a survival instinct which drives humans to seek better prospects (Sundari, 2005). Migration can be the cause of poverty as well as be caused by poverty. In a similar fashion, poverty can be alleviated by migration and also migration can intensify the condition of poverty. People tend to migrate due to many factors; important among them are, the assumption of wage differentials between rural and urban areas, underemployment and unemployment in the places of their residence or domicile,

hunger caused due to extreme poverty and several other hardships (Hugh et al., 2005), at the bottom of it all, is illiteracy. The question then arises as to how literacy is linked to poverty? Why are a vast majority of the Indian population poor? Unemployment is one of the important causes of poverty. How this is caused? Illiteracy is the primary reason for unemployment and hence a reason for poverty. Among the many options available for the rural poor, one is that of migrating to urban centers in search of jobs. When this happens, they successfully continue to deny education to their budding generations, leading to unemployment, poverty and migration. This is a vicious circle which can be broken only by spreading awareness about literacy to the poor. In spite of right to education being a fundamental right of every child, it is denied to a very large section of the silent majority of the population, due to various factors that contribute in this regard. Education helps people find employment in a more easier and effective way than any other means, resulting in reduction of poverty and thus reduction of migration.

Poverty inspires people to migrate and as a result causes inequality, poor societies all over the world generally produce generations of emigrants for richer or relatively richer counterparts. Emigration (dependent variable) is influenced by five independent variables—demographic setting, economic setting, socio-cultural context, political systems and environmental conditions—operating through or in conjunction with intervening variables, namely world economic/political order, regional/ sub-regional economic co-operation and perceptions as well as policies of sending vis-a-vis receiving national governments (Adepoju, 1995).

For example, migration into the urban Katsina is believed to have led to congestion, over-crowding, environmental pollution, unemployment, high crime rate, increase spread of diseases, frustration, conflicts, poor sanitary conditions, and frequent road accidents. These are association with dense population which collectively contributes to urban decay.

On the other hand rural communities share this burden through loss of manpower necessary for agricultural activities and production. The impoverishment of rural areas in Nigeria is partly explainable by out-migration of able youths in search of employment in cities. Consequently, agriculture which prior to discovery of oil was the mainstay of Nigeria's economy was far relegated to the background leading to the country's mono-economy status.

Current level of poverty as stated by the NBS 2012, couple with the high level of insecurity in Katsina state has changed the population structure; it is producing an

increasing number of orphans and the widows; and is eating into every fabric of the society, including an unbearable health, economic and social costs. In the nearest future if this trend continues, Katsina state will be lacking skilled human resources to run the economy.

Migration and poverty even though different, have become very important development issues. However, these two phenomena are rarely been considered as interrelated because poverty always affects migration. Studies on migration and poverty have continued to work independent of one another, never comparing notes on the reciprocal relationship between the two (UN, 2013).

Therefore, this study tries to examine the pattern of migration in Katsina State, as it is important for development, most especially rural development, this with a view of enabling the rural populace to effectively and efficiently utilize their potentiality and other resources for the development of their communities and the nation in general. This paper seeks to provide some thoughts, based on previous research, on the interrelationship between migration and poverty as a cause and an effect of each other. The study will contribute greatly not only in academics, but also provided a panacea for the problems that impaired rural development in Katsina state and Nigeria at large.

Methodology

The Study Area

Urban Katsina is a Headquarter of Katsina local government and equally the capital of Katsina state. It is located between latitude 12°45' and latitude 13°15'N and longitude 7°30' and 8°00'E. The location is at extreme part of northern Nigeria. It is boarded to the north and west by Jibia and Batsari local government area to the north and east by Rimi local Government area and south by Batagarawa Local Government area. Katsina is a predominantly Hausa- Fulani state, a vast majority of the people are settled cultivators (farmers) traders and civil servant, but there is a considerable number of nomadic cattle Fulani, whose males rear livestock, while females hawk locally prepared fermented milk in town and village, a few number of other ethnic groups from southern part of Nigeria especially Igbos and Yoruba are found dwelling in Katsina town for business purpose and government services, while other ethnic group from middle belt and north eastern part of the country could also be found in the town residing for Nupes, Kanuris, and Tivs .

The study was conducted in 2020 (November), and the type of data used in this study is quantitative type. In carrying out this research, two sources of data are used,

namely primary sources and secondary sources of data. The primary sources of data are direct method to be employed through reconnaissance survey which was conducted in the study area. A detailed survey was carried out on the geographical features of the area, nature and sources (of income of the inhabitant of the study area).

Katsina LGA is made up of twelve political wards, four of which are located outside the city and other eight (8) are within the city (respondents were systematic sampled), in this questionnaire administration was used in data collection. This was followed by Focus group discussion with selection of most affected people in the area. Purposive sampling was used in which only those affected by frequent migration were involved.

The total sum of 80 questionnaires were administered in the 12 wards that were selected systematically according to the inventory and population of the wards in the L.G.A, in which 10 questionnaires were administered in each of the four (4) wards located outside the city and five (5) in each of the other eight (8) wards selected.

The data generated were analyzed, described, interpreted and summarized using descriptive statistic.

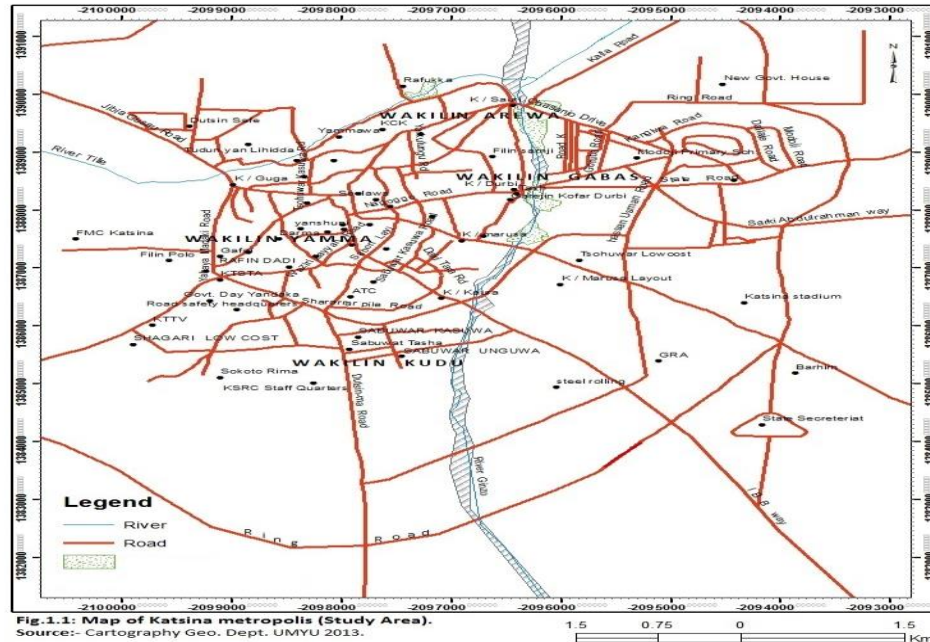


Figure 1: Showing Map of Study Area

Data Analysis and Discussion of Results

A number of migration surveys have provided useful insights of household–and individual-level factors at play. Several studies portrayed poverty as an important cause of emigration of individuals and from households in Nigeria.

Table 1: Demography of the respondents

Ages of respondents

Age group	Frequency	Percentages
≤ 20	3	4
21-30	27	34
31-40	31	39
41-50	17	21
>50	2	2

Ethnicity

Hausa	71	89
Fulani	9	11

Gender

Male
Female

Marital Status

Single	20	25
Married	59	74
Divorced	1	1

Occupation

Farming only	52	65
Business	8	10
Informal sector activities	5	6
Students	14	18
Teaching/(Qur'an)	1	1

Educational Attainment

Informal education only	35	44
Primary education	27	34
Secondary education	15	19
Higher institution	3	3

Sources: Field Work 2020.

The table describes the age category of people involve in the migration, indicating that almost all people involved are youths with the majority of 39% within the age of 31-40yrs followed by 34% within the age of 21-30yrs, and least of 2% within the age greater than 50yrs and 4% within the age of less than and equal to 20yrs. From the survey conducted, the migration involved both male and female' members of the community, this also indicates homogeneity in terms of respondents'. Nevertheless, information pertaining female migration is acquired through focus group discussion conducted in various sample villages. It was discovered that

female only migrated as a result of marriage and visitation or other forms of temporary movements, but this time around both male and female members of the community migrate for safety of their lives.

The table also showed that there is homogeneity in ethnic composition of the population with 89% Hausa speaking people and 11% Fulani's speaking language. 74% of the migrants are married, while 25% are single and 1% is divorced. This implies that most of the migrants though from rural areas are married people, because they go out to look for what to do in order to cater for their families as well as protecting them. Thus, most of the motives for the movement are initially economic, but the security issues are now paramount, from the focus group discussions most people migrate today in Katsina state for security reasons, so as to safeguard their lives and property. As it is known in rural geography that one of the characteristics of rural areas is domination of primary economic activities that is agriculture and small scale business. Table 4 also revealed that farming is the major occupation with 65% respondents, while 18% are students, 10% are business, 6% engage in informal sector activities such as cobblers, Nail cutters, cloth hand design etc. But the least (1%) are into teaching and learning the holy Qur'an (*Almajiranci*). Migrant's educational status is higher in informal education with 44% respondents, this includes mainly Qur'anic education. However, all other categories do have Qur'anic education, but the 44% have only informal education, followed by primary education with 34% respondents, secondary education accounts for 19% and the least with higher qualifications such as NCE, Diplomas etc.

Nature and Period of Migration

Table 2. Migration period of respondents in the last one year.

s/n	Period	Migrated		Unmigrated	
		Freq	%	Freq	%
1	Rani (Dry and Cool) Dec-March	79	99	1	1
2	Bazara (Dry and Hot) March-May	73	91	7	9
3	Damina (Wet and Hot) June-Sept	62	78	18	22
4	Kaka (Dry and Cool) Oct-Nov	63	79	17	21

Sources: Field Work 2020

Table 2 describes the nature and period of migration of the respondents. It revealed the percentage of people migrating in each of the four popular season and also those that are not migrating in the particular season. It is clear that during *Rani* (Dry and cool season), at the beginning of dry period, 99% of the people do migrate because

there is rainfall for rain fed agriculture. It was only one person out of 80 that did not migrate in that year, during the dry season (*rani*).

However in *Damina* (Wet and hot season), 22% live in the area practicing rainfed agriculture as a result of adequate rainfall, while only 78% migrated during rainy season, possibly as they don't have enough land to cultivate, they prefer to pay laborers to help on their small piece of land which they have.

During *Kaka* (Dry and cool season), 79% migrated, while 21% live in the area. But in *Bazara* (Dry and hot season), almost 91% do migrate, while 9% do stay possibly preparing their farm for the coming rainy season. This pattern of migration has shifted away from normal, this is as a result of the menace of bandits in the area.

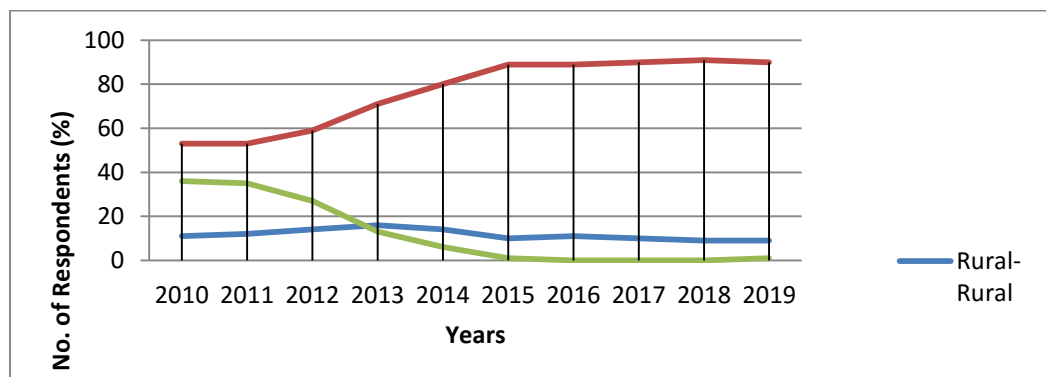
Pattern and Trends of Migration

Table 3. Destination of respondents in the last one year

S/N	Place	Frequency	Percentage
1	Rural-Rural	6	7
2	Rural-Urban	74	93
	TOTAL	80	100

Sources: Field Work 2020.

Table 3 reveals that geographic pattern and trends of migration in this area is rural-urban migration pattern with higher inclination in urban direction in search of job opportunities and security. This indicates that 93% migrated to urban centers most especially urban Katsina for both economic and security reasons. People from villages migrated into the urban Katsina, participating in small scale business, informal sector activities, while some have been there as students/*Almajirai*, while 7% migrated to rural areas particularly for acquiring Islamic knowledge (*almajiranci*) in different rural areas of Katsina state.



Sources: Field Work 2020.

This line graph describes 10 years information on migration trends (direction) of the respondents from 2010-2019, It reveals that respondents that involved in rural-rural migration are 11% from the year 2010, and their percentage goes up with slight increase of 1% to 2% in the year 2011-2013, it drops to 2% in 2014, with 4% in 2018 and continue to drop with 1% from the year 2010-2019. While the rural-urban migration line graph showed ascending number of respondents from 2010-2018 and slightly descend with 1% in the year 2019. However the number of unmigrated respondents in the year 2010 to 2018 is descending from 36% to 0% respectively and increased to 1% in 2019. These reveal that the trends of migration are fluctuating toward rural direction with slight increase and decrease and it indicates higher inclination toward urban direction.

Purpose of Migration

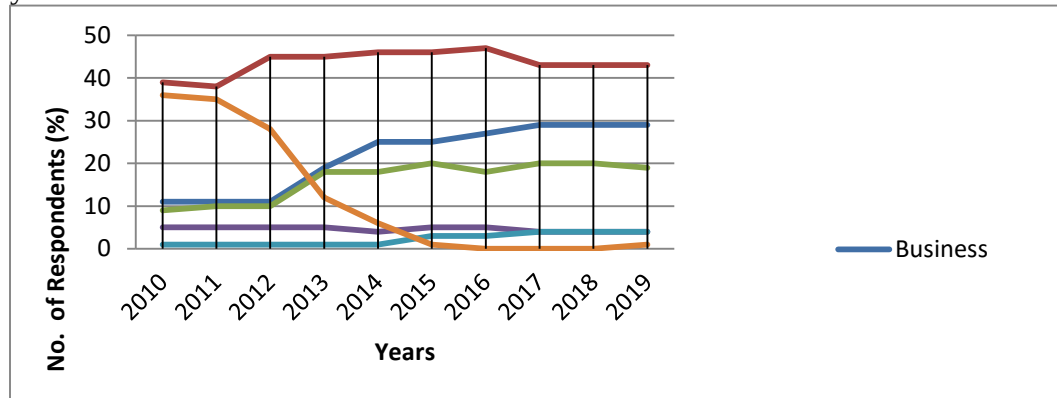
Table 4. Respondent's purpose of migration in the last one year

S/N	Purpose	Frequency	Percentage
1	Poverty	26	33
2	Insecurity	39	49
3	Studies	15	18
	TOTAL	80	100

Sources: Field Work 2020.

From table 4, it can be seen that majority of the respondents (49%) are migrants who migrated as a result of the current insecurity faced by the people of Katsina state. They may not have formal education and living in rural areas and areas that are vulnerable to attacks by bandits. These migrants are involved in various informal sectors, doing activities such as dry cleaning, nail cutting, cobbler, suya, goods uploading and many other works that not required capacity of understanding higher forms of knowledge (intellectual). Those who migrate as a result of poverty are up to 23%, these migrants are found around motor parks, market places and worshiping Centers either doing some menial works of begging for alms. There are few respondents (18%) that migrate for the purpose of studies as (students).

Fig. 3 A line graph showing activities of respondents the migration in the last 10 years

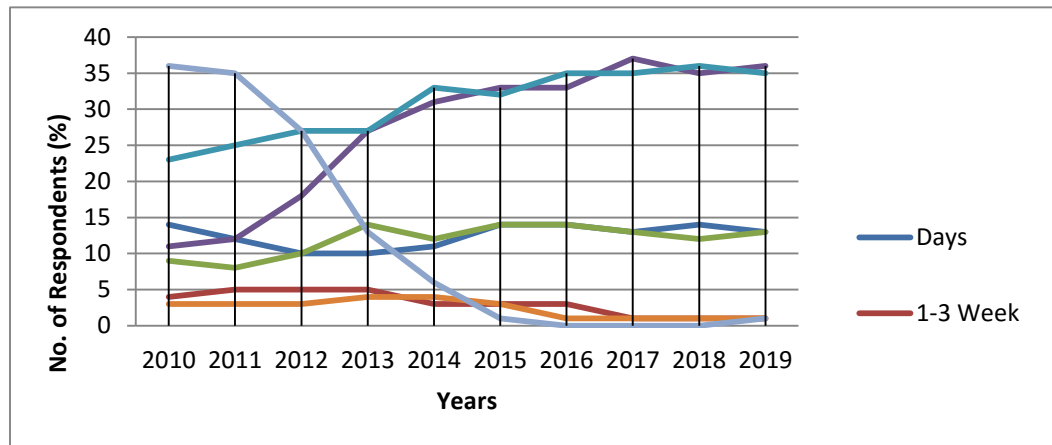


Sources: Field Work 2020.

This line graph describes 10 years information on the activities that respondents are involved in as a result of migration from 2010-2019. This reveals that from 2012-2014 11% of the respondents are involved in petty businesses and it rose up with 8% in the year 2013, and continues to ascend with less than 10% up to 2019. Respondents that are involved informal sector activities are 38% in the year 2012 and 2013; it goes up with 7% in the year 2012 and 2013. It rise up again with 1% in 2014, where it drops to 43% from 2017-2019. There are also migrated for the purpose to study in various destinations from 2010-2019; this study is formal education, while for some is informal (Qur'anic education) and their trends is ascending from less than 10% to 20%, with 1% decline in the year 2019. The fourth line of the graph has describes the respondents that migrated for the purpose of visits, this showed uniformity in the number of respondents that partake from 2010-2015 (5%) with revise decline to 4% in 2014, this revise decline remain unchanged up to 2019. The fifth line showed that its only one respondents that migrated for the purpose of teaching Qur'an (Alaramma) from the year 2010-2014, which ascend to 3% in the year 2015 and 2016 and 4% from the year 2017-2019. However, the number of unmigrated respondents in the year 2010 to 2018 is descending from 36% to 0% respectively and increased to 1% in 2019.

Rural Duration and Stay in the Migrated Destination

Fig. 4 A line graph showing respondent's duration of stay at destination in the last 10 years



Sources: Field Work 2020.

This line graph indicated that most of the respondents' duration of stay at the destination is seasonal. There are respondents that are not less than 10% in all the years from 2010-2019 that migrated on daily basis or days, due to the closeness of these rural areas to urban Katsina. They do migrate for economic activities in various market centers of urban Katsina, their trend is fluctuating with slight increase and decrease from 2010-2019 starting with 14% in 2010 and 13% in the year 2019. The trends of 1-3 week duration start with 4% in the year 2010 and rise up to 5% in 2011-2013, and also goes down to 3% in three consecutive years followed and 1% in 2017-2019. The trends of 1-3 month duration start with 9% and decline to 8% in the year 2011, and ascend in the year 2012 and 2013, and goes down to 12% in the year 2014, where it returns to 14% in 2015 and 2016 and descend to 13% in 2017, 12% in 2018 and lastly returned to 13% in 2019. 4-6 month duration trends showed ascending order from 2010 to 2017 with slight decline of 2% in the year 2018 and goes up with 1% in 2019. The trends of 7-9 Months duration indicated ascend inclination of respondents from 2010 to 2019 with slight decline in some years such as 2015, 2017 and 2019. The trends of 10-12 months duration of stay has low percentage of respondents with less than 5% from 2010-2019, where it ascends from 3% to 4% in the year 2013 and 2014 and return to 3% in 2015, thus it descends to 1% from 2016 to 2019. However the number of unmigrated respondents in the year 2010 to 2018 is descending from 36% to 0% respectively and increased to 1% in 2019.

Focused Group Discussion

In the course of this study, a focused group discussion (FGD) was conducted in different study villages in the study area; questions on the causes and impact of rural migration were discussed: The findings are hereby presented.

The population pressure in the rural areas has resulted in the shortage of farmland which has consequently affected the crop cultivation and production. This results into migration of people to the urban centers. Also children of ten years and above are migrating to the urban centers and some rural areas for the purposes of Qur'an studies (*Almajiranci*). Moreover females migrate to the other neighboring and far villages because of marriage which is known as permanent migration and the short term one as visitation or other form of temporary movement.

When further discussed on the effects of migration on both rural and urban areas, many people have the opinion that migration has depopulated the rural areas, which resulted in the decline agricultural labour force and insecurity, this in turn brings about decline in agricultural output (products) in the rural areas. Migration has also affected the urban centers because of the urban repopulation which resulted in putting more pressure that brings about unemployment, poor housing condition, and unplanned settlement, high traffic congestion, increase in crime rate and high cost of living in urban centers.

In addition, the effects of migration to the migrants, some people indicated that, there is a significant rate of demoralization among migrants, because strict control of social behavior on social relationship does not exist there in the urban centers. On the other hand social mobility is likely to increase and new ideas and knowledge brought into the rural areas.

Conclusion

The study reveals that the nature and period of migration in Katsina is seasonal 78% of the respondents migrated in rainy season, while 99%, 91% and 79% migrated during Dry season (Rani), winter (Bazara), and immediately after Harvest (Kaka) periods respectively. The pattern and trends of the migration is mainly rural- urban migration with 93% respondents inclined toward urban direction in search of greener pasture.

Conclusively the quest for a better and human life has led to mankind dispersing over the surface of the earth in pursuit of different livelihood options. Migration in Katsina is an old age practice propelled by economic, social reasons which practice by seasonal farm laborers, business people and students, but today it is propelled by insecurity. These migrants are youth mostly male with no formal education, rather they have minimum Qur'anic education; they also have homogeneity in ethnic composition of Hausa speaking language with few Fulani that do speak Hausa as well. The pattern of migration is long and short distant seasonal migration with little percentage in other forms of temporary migration. However the trends and the proportion of rural to rural migrations is slightly fluctuating, while the proportions of Rural to urban is increasing over the periods, both long and short distance movements are more urban oriented. There has been a significant increase in migration to urban areas among male during 2010 to 2019, the reasons of migration data reveals that male migrated because of employment, Marriage among female and visitations among male and female. Going by this trend, short distance streams are emerge as the dominant migration streams as a result of proximity of these rural areas to urban Katsina. The result also reveals for the past decade (2010-2019) information on migration, the trends of migration in the areas is fluctuating toward rural area with slight increase and decrease, but higher inclination toward urban direction. It can be seen that the majority of respondents are labour migrants involves in various economic activities that not required capacity of understanding higher forms of intellectuality, and few respondents that are students (who migrate for the purpose of studies) .

The study is equally convinced that the desire for better Jobs, improve living standards and acquire western education and Qur'anic education (*Almajiranci*) are some of the reasons why rural people of these areas migrate particularly to the urban areas. Therefore, it is important to find solution in order to discourage rural influx to the destination areas particularly urban centers, thereby reducing the problems that are caused by rural migration if socio-economic development is to be achieved.

Recommendations

There is a need for government to expand employment opportunities in the rural areas by investing more money in small scale and medium scale labour intensive industries. Also, maximum effort must be geared towards the development of agricultural activities and the rural economy in general.

Government should create a well-designed project for integrated rural development. This should include infrastructural facilities such as schools and provision of medium that will enable complete year agriculture e.g. dam construction. These will reduce the disparities between the rural and the urban areas. Certain dimension of welfare package can be furthered extensively through government programmed.

Government should also focus attention on income generated both in farm and non-farm employment in order to enhance economic growth and development in the rural areas and the state in general. Rural dwellers and farmers on their own should form a cooperative society in order to be Unisom so as to agitate for development.

Finally, for these strategies to be a successful there must be a mass mobilization and participation of people at grassroots, trained personnel and project should be self-defined and goal oriented to the need of the people.

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