

EXAMINING THE EFFECTS OF RURAL-TO-URBAN MIGRATION ON GENDER ROLES AND FAMILY STRUCTURES IN KARNATAKA'S URBAN AREAS

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Abstracts

In Karnataka's urban districts, migration from rural to urban areas has a significant and diverse impact on gender roles and family structures. Traditional family structures and gender roles experience profound shifts as people from rural areas relocate to metropolitan areas in pursuit of greater economic possibilities. This study uses a quantitative method to investigate how gender roles and family structures are affected by migration from rural to urban areas in Karnataka. A cross-sectional research approach was utilized, whereby structured surveys were utilized to gather data from migrant households throughout a range of urban stay durations. According to the data, there is a significant positive association between the amount of time spent in metropolitan areas and the change in perceptions of gender roles toward those that are more progressive. Gender roles in urban environments are regularly rated higher than in rural ones, suggesting that as migrants adjust to urban norms, gender attitudes change significantly.

Keywords: *Rural-to-Urban Migration. Gender Roles, Family Structures, Urban Areas, Karnataka*

1. INTRODUCTION

It is commonly acknowledged that internal migration—which is defined as the movement of individuals within a nation's smaller units—plays a crucial role in the process of economic development. Any country's monetary advancement is hampered by the workforce's sluggish shift from the rural sector to the extending present day metropolitan urban area. Since work will be moved from low-efficiency, low-pay occupations and regions to high-efficiency, top level salary occupations and regions, this cycle is viewed as socially useful. Industrialization is accordingly anticipated to develop all the more rapidly. Movement from rural to urban regions takes on specific significance in this situation.

Migration from rural to urban areas both contributes to and is a consequence of changes in the productive systems. There is disagreement among social scientists who have studied the subject on the effects of migration. One perspective holds that mobility is an essential component of economic expansion, an equilibrating factor that promotes industrialization, enhances income inequality, and drives technological advancements in agriculture.

Contrary to the previous opinion, it is maintained that there is a loss of rare entrepreneurial and creative talent when relatively more resourceful, competent, and educated individuals move away from rural areas. Their shift entails a substantial exodus of human capital from the rural economy, which could have a negative impact on agricultural incomes and productivity and exacerbate rural inequality.

1.1. Gender Dimensions in Rural-Urban Migration

A gender perspective on migration makes an effort to address the lack of focus on women's participation and presence in the migratory stock. Although many women migrate with their families, an increasing number of women are now doing so independently. Despite their claims to be gender-neutral, research studies on migration are not. They frequently wind up using migratory models that are derived from the experiences of men. Even when taken into account, women's contributions are disregarded and they are viewed as dependents. Many low-income immigrant households are headed by women as the primary wage earners. A gender perspective on migration investigates the gender-specific reasons for migration in such a setting. The effects of both internal and international migration, as well as the

vulnerability and opportunity for empowerment of migrant women. Even though women now have more opportunities because to globalization, they still make up the majority and are more likely to work in occupations that are associated with women, such as domestic work, the garment industry, nursing, and teaching. Migration itself may be an empowering experience for women, regardless of whether they work in traditional or modern jobs, since they go from environments where they were subject to conventional patriarchal authority to environments where they have more control over their own life. Women who are empowered help both the greater community and themselves. In addition to improving women's independence and well-being, the advancement of women's abilities offers numerous other benefits for everyone. In many cases, increasing women's active agency can have a significant positive impact on everyone's quality of life. -both men and women, kids and adults alike. Although women in migrant homes in India are crucial to the survival of their families, the way concepts are defined and data is gathered means that these women are sadly overlooked in official statistics.

1.2.Effect of Rural-Urban Migration on the Family Structure

The social structure of Pashtoon society is greatly impacted by the high incidence of rural-urban migration, and numerous changes have been made to all of the society's institutions. In particular, when it comes to the family system, we observe that migration from rural to urban areas has had a significant impact on it. As family members seek employment in other cities in order to support their family, the decision-making system is also impacted.

The social structure of Pashtoon society is greatly impacted by the migration of people from rural to urban areas, and every institution in the society has seen a great deal of change. Specifically, when we talk about the family system, we learn that the migration of people from rural to urban areas has had a significant impact on the family system in the district of Karak. This is because family members are traveling to other cities for work, education, or other reasons, and because the majority of them have brought their families with them to the city. Additionally, because they must make decisions quickly and are unable to consult their elders who still live in the city, the centralized decision-making system—which is made by the head of the family alone—is affected.

The education system is also impacted in this way because, in the past, no one bothered to pursue higher education because there was no competition for achieving a higher educational status because there were no highly educated people in those areas. However, due to the migration of people from rural to urban areas, those who moved there on priority acquired a high level of education, and upon returning to their communities, they sparked competition for higher education in those areas. The same is true of the Pashtoon marriage institution, where many other factors are taken into account for marriage purposes but the endogamy and planned marriage system that were previously strongly prevalent in the Pashtoon society of district Karak are now not as heavily followed.

1.3. Research Objectives

To examine the correlation between the duration of stay in urban areas and the extent of shifts in traditional gender roles among migrant families.

To analyze the impact of rural-to-urban migration on the traditional gender roles within families that have relocated to urban areas in Karnataka.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Singh, A. M. (2019) is to pinpoint the significant trends and features of female migration from rural to urban areas and, whenever feasible, to supplement the results with data from smaller-scale research. The findings' policy implications are discussed, with particular attention to the urban poor. Since this is the steadiest variety to rise out of both macrolevel and microlevel information, more assessment is justified given the amazing contrasts between female rural to-urban migration designs in the north and the south. Both macrolevel and microlevel research reliably feature the various examples and attributes of female rustic to-metropolitan relocation in northern and southern India. It was discovered that men controlled the family's property, income, and labor force, and that women were virtually completely estranged from this control. Since women are assumed to be men's dependents, their migration to Indian cities has long been written off as unimportant to urban development.

Singh, C., & Basu, R. (2020) Examine how migration and commuting can help Karnataka, India, address livelihood risk along the rural-urban continuum. The authors conclude that categorizing migration as an adaptation technique or not does not fully convey the range of

experiences and consequences for migrant families' means of subsistence that they encounter. Within a home, moving and traveling can make certain family members less vulnerable while making others more vulnerable. Larger-scale migration that makes sense for households may not be so at the systemic level, as cities cannot support or accommodate migrants who frequently live in extremely precarious situations. Ultimately, migration and commuting influence livelihood paths and decisions that extend beyond the migrants themselves over time, and it is critical for adaptation research to comprehend how these tactics impact household vulnerability in the long run. They also emphasize the use of life histories as a methodological tool that enables for in-depth and time sensitive investigation into the causes and effects of migration, complementing existing econometric methodologies examining migration.

Raj, N., Kumari, V., & Prasad, K. (2024) In order to address the complex effects of migration, the study highlights the need for comprehensive measures. It offers sustainable farming methods, the development of infrastructure, the creation of jobs, and the promotion of tourism as possible tactics. This paper offers insights into the complex nature of rural to urban migration and emphasizes the significance of comprehending its varied implications for efficient policy formulation and societal development through a thorough examination and synthesis of the body of available material.

Zhang, C., Gao, Q., & Li, X. (2013) Based on empirical research of 89 rural-urban migrant households in Beijing, the paper aims to investigate how migration challenges traditional views on gender and patriarchy. The most significant element influencing changes in domestic gender relations is the shift in women's status in the work force, according to a comparison of three distinct types of migrant homes. However, the progress has been restricted because of the persistently discriminatory policies towards migrants and the gender-biased labor market environment. The results have significant policy ramifications for enhancing the quality of life for migrants in urban areas.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Research Design

In order to investigate how gender roles and family structures are impacted by rural-to-urban migration in Karnataka's urban districts, this study uses a quantitative research design. A

cross-sectional study of immigrant households is part of the design, with an emphasis on the connection between the length of stay and the evolution of gender roles. The goal of the study is to comprehend how migrant families' ideas of gender roles and family dynamics are influenced by extended exposure to metropolitan environments. The study aims to find patterns and correlations that provide insight into the wider effects of urban migration by examining data from migrant households throughout a range of stay periods.

3.2.Data Collection

In urban Karnataka, a sample of migrant households provided the data for this study. An organized questionnaire was used to collect data on the length of stay and related gender role ratings. Households with durations of urban residency ranging from one to twenty years are included in the sample. In order to compare changes in attitudes, the survey included gender role scores for both rural and urban areas. To make it easier to analyze the connection between changes in gender roles and the length of migration, data was methodically gathered and arranged.

3.3.Ethical Considerations

Ensuring informed permission from all participants and protecting the confidentiality of their answers are ethical considerations for this research. The goal of the study was properly explained to the participants, and their anonymity was guaranteed. By refraining from using coercion of any kind and protecting the anonymity of participants, the research complied with ethical guidelines. Participants' rights were protected throughout the whole research process, and data gathering protocols were created to limit any potential harm to them.

3.4.Statistical Analysis

In order to evaluate the direction and intensity of the association between the length of stay and the change in gender roles, the statistical study involved computing the correlation coefficient. Strong link between these variables was indicated by the high positive correlation (0.976) found in the correlation matrix. The gender role scores for various lengths of stay were summarized using descriptive statistics, and comparison analysis brought to light the variations between gender role scores in rural and urban areas. This analysis validates the

study's findings about the effects of urban migration and sheds light on how perceptions of gender roles are influenced by the length of movement.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

Table 1: Correlation between Duration of Stay and Shift in Gender Roles among Migrant Households in Urban Karnataka

Migrant Household Code	Duration of Stay (Years)	Shift in Gender Roles (Score)
MH001	2	25
MH002	5	30
MH003	4	35
MH004	1	40
MH005	3	45
MH006	2	50
MH007	5	55
MH008	4	60
MH009	8	65
MH010	2	70
MH011	4	72
MH012	7	74
MH013	6	76
MH014	4	78
MH015	2	80
MH016	5	82
MH017	7	84
MH018	6	86
MH019	7	88
MH020	4	90

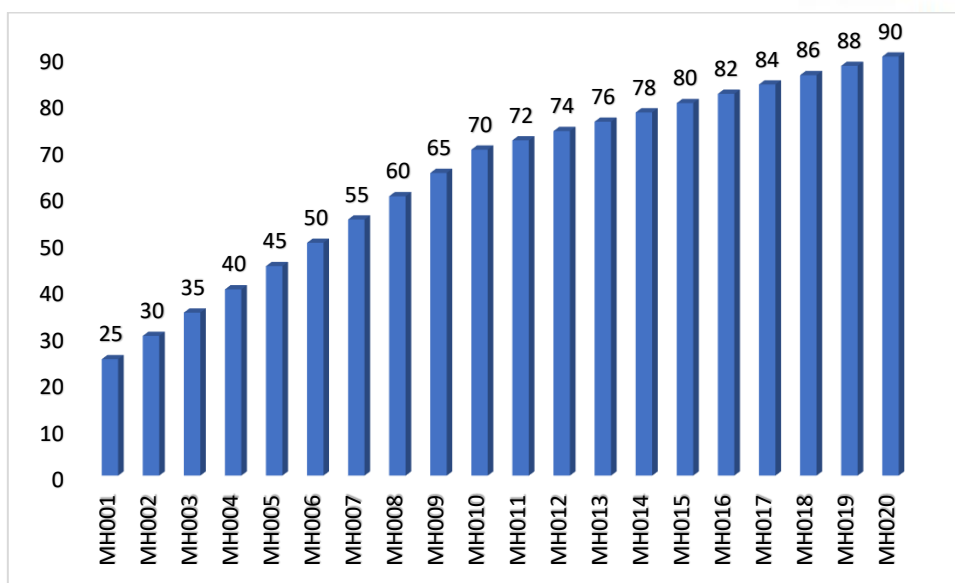


Figure 1: Shift in Gender Roles (Score)

Data on migrant households in urban Karnataka are shown in Table 1, together with information on the length of stay and associated changes in gender roles scores. It demonstrates how the shift in gender roles generally gets more pronounced the longer people stay in urban regions. Longer-lasting households—like MH009, MH012, and MH013—show higher ratings, which suggest a more significant shift in traditional gender roles. In comparison to those with shorter stays, such as MH001 and MH004, MH019, with a stay of 7 years, had the highest score of 88, indicating major shifts in gender roles.

Table 2: Correlation

	Duration of Stay (Years)	Shift in Gender Roles (Score)
Duration of Stay (Years)	1	0.976
Shift in Gender Roles (Score)	0.976	1

The association matrix between the length of stay and the change in gender roles is shown in Table 2. The two variables have a very strong positive association, as indicated by the correlation coefficient of 0.976. This strong link indicates that there is a statistically significant shift in migrant attitudes towards more progressive gender roles as the length of residence in metropolitan places grows.

Table 3: Gender Role Scores by Duration of Stay for Rural and Urban Households.

Household Code	Duration of Stay (Years)	Rural Gender Role Score	Urban Gender Role Score
MH001	2	20	30
MH002	5	25	40
MH003	4	30	45
MH004	1	35	50
MH005	3	40	55
MH006	2	45	60
MH007	5	50	65
MH008	4	55	70
MH009	8	60	75
MH010	2	65	80
MH011	4	68	81
MH012	7	70	82
MH013	6	72	83
MH014	4	74	84
MH015	2	76	85
MH016	5	78	86
MH017	7	80	87
MH018	6	82	88
MH019	7	84	89
MH020	4	86	90

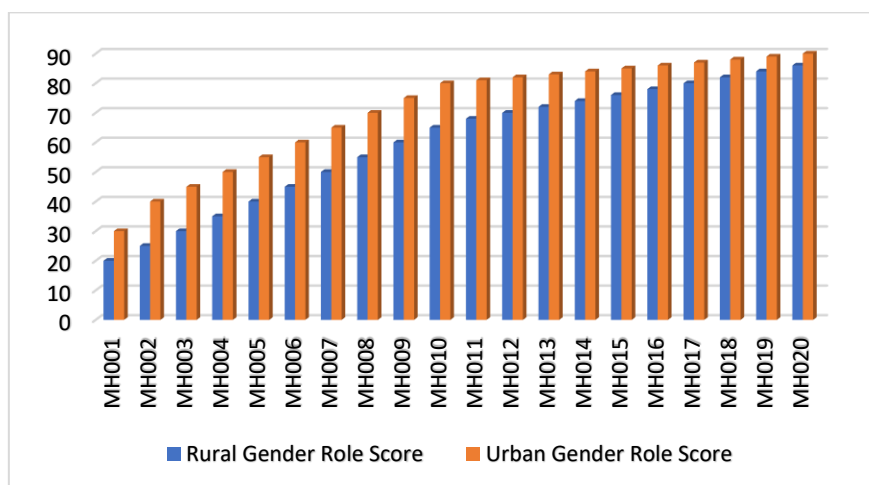


Figure 2: Rural and Urban Gender Role Score of different House holds

Table 3 presents a comparative study of gender role scores for households in rural and urban areas during different lengths of residence. It demonstrates a distinct trend: urban gender role scores sharply increase with the length of stay in metropolitan regions, suggesting a stronger departure from traditional gender roles. For example, MH019, who has lived in cities for seven years, exhibits a significant shift in her gender role from a rural of 84 to an urban of 89. On the other hand, MH001 and other households with shorter stays in cities have lower urban scores than their rural counterparts, indicating less significant shifts in gender roles.

5. CONCLUSION

Traditional gender roles and family structures are changing as a result of the migration of rural migrants into Karnataka's metropolitan centers. Women are left to run houses and, more and more, enter the workforce while men travel in quest of better job prospects. The study comes to the conclusion that gender roles and family structures in Karnataka's urban districts are greatly impacted by migration from rural to urban areas. The data analysis shows that there is a discernible movement towards more progressive gender role beliefs among migrants as they spend more time in metropolitan surroundings. This shift is indicative of a larger effect of urbanization on gender attitudes, where views on gender equality are more prevalent in urban environments than in rural ones.

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