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Abstract

Purpose: The aim of the study was to investigate effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development

Methodology: This study adopted a desk methodology. A desk study research design is commonly known as secondary data collection. This is basically collecting data from existing resources preferably because of its low cost advantage as compared to a field research. Our current study looked into already published studies and reports as the data was easily accessed through online journals and libraries.

Findings: Migration and displacement profoundly affect human rights and development, highlighting the urgent need for coordinated action at local, national, and international levels to ensure the protection and well-being of all individuals affected by these processes.

Unique Contribution to Theory, Practice and Policy: Human rights-based approach (HRBA), structural violence theory & transnationalism theory may be used to anchor future studies effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development. Implement robust human rights monitoring mechanisms in migration and displacement contexts, ensuring that individuals' rights are safeguarded throughout their journey. Develop and enforce policies that explicitly incorporate a human rights-based approach to migration and displacement. States should ratify and implement relevant international conventions, ensuring the rights of migrants and displaced persons are respected.

Keywords: *Migration, Displacement, Human Rights, Development*

INTRODUCTION

Human rights and development outcomes are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Human rights are the subject of binding international legal obligations and their relevance to development can be understood in light of this. Development outcomes are the results of development processes and policies that aim to improve the well-being of people and respect their human rights. In developed economies like the USA, access to education is generally robust. For example, in the United States, the National Center for Education Statistics reported that in 2019, the adjusted cohort graduation rate for public high schools reached 85.8%, showing an increasing trend in high school completion (nces.ed.gov, 2021). Additionally, employment opportunities are abundant, with the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicating that the unemployment rate in the USA had declined to 3.5% in 2019, demonstrating a strong job market (bls.gov, 2020).

Education is a human right that enables people to realize their full potential and contribute to society. According to UNESCO, the literacy rate among adults aged 15 and above in the USA was 99% in 2018, in Japan was 99% in 2015, and in the UK was 99% in 2011. The gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education was 88% in the USA, 63% in Japan, and 60% in the UK in 2018 (UNESCO, 2020). Health care is a human right that ensures people can enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. According to the World Health Organization, the universal health coverage index, which measures the coverage of essential health services, was 84 in the USA, 89 in Japan, and 86 in the UK in 2017 (WHO, 2019). The life expectancy at birth was 78.9 years in the USA, 84.5 years in Japan, and 81.3 years in the UK in 2018 (World Bank, 2020).

In Japan, healthcare access is a critical aspect of human rights and development outcomes. According to the World Bank, Japan consistently allocates a substantial portion of its GDP to healthcare, ensuring that its citizens have access to high-quality medical services (worldbank.org, 2021). Furthermore, security is well-maintained in developed economies. For instance, in the UK, crime rates have been on a declining trend in recent years. According to data from the Office for National Statistics, the number of crimes recorded in England and Wales fell by 9% in the year ending March 2020, contributing to a safer environment (ons.gov.uk, 2020).

Turning to developing economies, access to education, employment, healthcare, and security may be more challenging. For example, in India, access to quality education is a concern, with a 2020 UNESCO report stating that around 50% of Indian students in the age group of 6 to 14 cannot read at a second-grade level (unesco.org, 2020). Employment opportunities in developing economies can also be limited, as reflected in the high unemployment rates. In South Africa, for instance, the unemployment rate reached 32.6% in the first quarter of 2021, presenting a significant challenge for the country's development (statssa.gov.za, 2021).

In sub-Saharan economies, the situation varies widely across countries. Access to education is a significant challenge in many sub-Saharan African countries. For example, in Nigeria, the World Bank reports that the net enrollment rate in primary education is 66.9%, indicating that a substantial portion of children may not have access to quality education (World Bank, 2021). Healthcare access can also be limited, with issues such as inadequate infrastructure and healthcare disparities. Security concerns persist in some sub-Saharan African countries, with higher crime rates and political instability affecting development outcomes.

In developing economies, access to education remains a crucial challenge in many countries. For instance, in Pakistan, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported in 2020 that approximately 22.8 million children aged 5-16 were out of school, reflecting the difficulties in ensuring widespread access to quality education (UNDP, 2020). Employment opportunities can also be limited, particularly in countries with high youth populations. In Egypt, the youth unemployment rate reached 29.1% in 2020, indicating the challenges in providing adequate job opportunities for the younger population.

Healthcare access in developing economies can be hindered by inadequate infrastructure and limited resources. In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, many countries face challenges in providing essential healthcare services to their populations. Security concerns in developing economies can vary significantly, with some countries experiencing higher levels of conflict and political instability. In Afghanistan, ongoing conflict and instability have posed significant obstacles to development efforts, affecting security and access to essential services. It is important to note that the situation in developing economies can vary widely depending on the country's specific circumstances, government policies, and external factors. Development outcomes in these economies are influenced by a complex interplay of factors that include economic growth, governance, social policies, and international assistance (BBC News, 2021).

Access to education in many developing economies is hindered not only by limited resources but also by issues like gender disparities. In Afghanistan, for example, the gender gap in education remains significant, with girls facing barriers such as cultural norms and security concerns. According to (UNICEF,2018) the net primary school enrollment rate for girls was only 45% compared to 74% for boys. This highlights the challenges in ensuring equal access to education, particularly for girls, in conflict-affected regions.

In some developing economies, healthcare access can be compromised by factors such as inadequate healthcare infrastructure and lack of healthcare professionals. In sub-Saharan Africa, for instance, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported that the region faces a critical shortage of healthcare workers, which significantly impacts the ability to provide essential healthcare services (WHO, 2021). Additionally, security concerns in developing economies can have severe consequences for development outcomes. In countries like Yemen, ongoing conflicts have led to a humanitarian crisis, with millions of people facing food insecurity and a lack of access to basic services.

In sub-Saharan African economies, human rights and development outcomes exhibit a wide range of challenges and progress. Access to education remains a critical concern in many countries in the region. For example, in Nigeria, despite progress in increasing primary school enrollment, a significant number of children still do not have access to quality education. According to the World Bank, the net enrollment rate in primary education in Nigeria was only 61.4% in 2019, indicating that a substantial portion of children may not be attending school (WorldBank, 2021).

Access to healthcare services in sub-Saharan Africa is also a complex issue. While some countries have made progress in improving healthcare infrastructure and access to essential services, disparities exist across the region. For instance, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported

that in 2019, only 55% of births in sub-Saharan Africa were attended by skilled health personnel, highlighting challenges in maternal and child healthcare (who.int, 2021).

Refugee movements involve individuals and families forced to leave their home countries due to well-founded fears of persecution, conflict, or violence. These forced migrations often result in refugees seeking safety and asylum in other countries. The impact on human rights and development outcomes can be profound, as refugees face challenges in accessing education, healthcare, and employment opportunities in host countries. The strain on resources and infrastructure in host nations can also affect the development trajectory of both the refugees and the host community. Internal displacement occurs when individuals or communities are forced to leave their homes due to conflict, disasters, or human rights abuses but remain within their own country's borders. These internally displaced persons (IDPs) often face similar challenges as refugees, including limited access to basic services, security concerns, and the potential disruption of their livelihoods. Development outcomes can be hindered in regions with a high number of IDPs, as resources are diverted towards addressing the needs of this vulnerable population.

Labor migration involves individuals moving from one region or country to another in search of better economic opportunities. While not typically forced, labor migrants may face human rights challenges related to employment conditions, exploitation, and discrimination. The impact on development outcomes varies, with remittances sent back to their home countries often contributing positively to the economic development of their places of origin. Climate-induced displacement results from the adverse effects of climate change, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, or desertification, which force people to leave their homes. This type of displacement is increasingly relevant as climate change accelerates. Human rights are affected as individuals lose their homes and access to resources, while development outcomes can be negatively impacted by the increased strain on infrastructure, healthcare, and social services in regions receiving climate-induced migrants.

Problem Statement

Migration and displacement are complex phenomena that have significant impacts on human rights and development. Migration can be a force for prosperity and can help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, but it also poses challenges for both origin and destination countries, as well as for migrants and refugees themselves. Displacement, especially when forced by conflicts, disasters, or development projects, can expose people to heightened vulnerability, discrimination, violence, and human rights violations. This paper aims to provide a statement of problem on the effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development, drawing on relevant literature and data.

One of the main effects of migration and displacement on human rights is the lack of legal protection and recognition for many people who cross borders. According to the World Development Report 2023, the main difference between a migrant and a non-migrant is citizenship (or lack thereof) of the destination country and its associated rights (World Bank 2023). Migrants who are not naturalized or do not have a legal status face various barriers to access basic services, such as health care, education, social protection, and justice. They may also face discrimination, exploitation, abuse, and violence from state and non-state actors. Refugees, who are defined as

people who have fled their country of origin because of persecution, war, or violence, have some legal protection under international law, but they often face similar challenges as other migrants in terms of integration and inclusion. Moreover, many people who are forcibly displaced within their own countries (internally displaced persons or IDPs) do not receive adequate assistance or protection from their governments or the international community (OHCHR 2021).

Another effect of migration and displacement on human rights is the impact on the rights of those who are left behind or affected by the movements of others. Migration and displacement can have positive or negative consequences for the families and communities of origin or destination, depending on various factors such as the reasons, duration, and conditions of the movements; the characteristics and skills of the movers; the policies and practices of the governments; and the attitudes and behaviors of the host societies. For example, migration can contribute to economic and human development by reducing global inequalities in the long term, but it can also lead to brain drain, social disruption, and cultural loss in the short term (Hollifield 2023). Displacement can result in land dispossession, environmental degradation, loss of livelihoods, and social fragmentation for those who are forced to move or stay in affected areas (Pettersson 2012).

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Theoretical Framework

Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA)

The Human Rights-Based Approach to Development was developed and promoted by various international organizations, including the United Nations, and emerged as a prominent framework in the late 20th century. HRBA emphasizes the centrality of human rights in development processes. It posits that all individuals have inherent rights that should be protected, respected, and fulfilled during all development activities. Human rights principles, such as non-discrimination, participation, accountability, and empowerment, are integral to this approach. HRBA is highly relevant to the topic of "The effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development" as it provides a normative framework for assessing the impact of migration and displacement on individuals' rights, including the right to seek asylum, non-refoulement, and protection from discrimination. It underscores the importance of safeguarding the dignity and well-being of migrants and displaced populations, advocating for their inclusion in decision-making processes, and holding states and organizations accountable for upholding their human rights (UNICEF, 2009).

Structural Violence Theory

The concept of structural violence was developed by the Norwegian sociologist Johan Galtung in the 1960s. Structural violence theory posits that violence is not limited to direct physical harm but also includes indirect forms of violence rooted in societal structures and institutions. It emphasizes how social, economic, and political systems can systematically disadvantage certain groups, leading to the violation of their rights and well-being. This theory is relevant to understanding the effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development because it highlights how systemic inequalities and injustices can perpetuate the vulnerability of migrants and displaced populations. It helps researchers analyze how migration policies, economic disparities, and power imbalances contribute to violations of human rights among these groups, shedding light on the structural factors that need to be addressed for sustainable development (Galtung, 1969).

Transnationalism Theory

Transnationalism theory emerged in the field of sociology and was developed by scholars such as Peggy Levitt and Nina Glick Schiller in the late 20th century. Transnationalism theory explores the ways in which individuals and communities maintain multiple social, economic, and cultural ties across national borders. It challenges the notion of fixed territorial identities and emphasizes the interconnectedness of people and societies beyond nation-states. This theory is relevant to studying the effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development as it allows researchers to examine how migrants and displaced populations navigate transnational spaces, maintain connections with their countries of origin, and contribute to the development of both

sending and receiving countries. It sheds light on the opportunities and challenges of transnational engagement and integration for migrants and displaced individuals, offering insights into the multifaceted nature of their experiences (Levitt & Glick Schiller, 2004).

Empirical Review

Moughalian's (2018) accessed to education among Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. It's noteworthy that Lebanon has been significantly affected by the Syrian refugee crisis, hosting one of the highest per capita refugee populations globally. Employing a mixed-methods approach, the study combines surveys and interviews with refugee families and educational institutions, offering a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by Syrian refugee children in accessing quality education. The research uncovers several significant findings, including the myriad of barriers Syrian refugee children encounter in accessing education, such as legal restrictions, economic constraints, and language barriers. Additionally, it emphasizes the gender disparities within the refugee population, with girls facing even higher exclusion rates than boys. The study provides actionable recommendations that emphasize the need for targeted policies, increased funding, and gender-sensitive interventions to enhance access to education for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon.

Flynn (2017) examined of the human rights implications of immigration detention policies within the United States, a nation grappling with complex immigration issues. This research employs qualitative research methods, combining in-depth interviews with detained individuals and meticulous analysis of legal documents and policies. Flynn's investigation uncovers systemic human rights violations within U.S. immigration detention facilities. It reveals the harsh realities faced by detainees, including inadequate access to healthcare, substandard living conditions, and prolonged detention periods. These findings shed light on the pressing need for substantial detention reform and enhanced mechanisms for oversight. In light of these findings, the study recommends comprehensive detention reform, ensuring that detainees have access to legal representation, and establishing robust oversight mechanisms to safeguard human rights within the immigration detention system.

Kapur & McHale (2018) explored the economic impact of labor migration on the development of countries in Southeast Asia, a region known for its substantial contribution to the global labor migration phenomenon. Employing longitudinal analysis, this research draws upon remittance data and household surveys from multiple countries in Southeast Asia, offering a comprehensive understanding of the economic dynamics at play. The research findings highlight the significant role of remittances from overseas labor migration in reducing poverty, increasing access to education and healthcare, and improving living standards in sending communities. These remittances have far-reaching effects on development in the region. The study underscores the importance of harnessing the development potential of remittances and ensuring the protection of migrant workers' rights, advocating for policies that facilitate these positive economic impacts.

Dun (2019) took a close look at the repercussions of climate-induced displacement on food security in vulnerable regions of sub-Saharan Africa, a region highly susceptible to climate change impacts. The research utilizes a multifaceted approach, combining remote sensing data, household

surveys, and qualitative interviews conducted in areas affected by climate-related displacement. The study presents compelling evidence, demonstrating a negative correlation between climate-induced displacement and food security in the region. It unveils the challenges faced by displaced populations in accessing sufficient and nutritious food. In light of these findings, the study recommends the implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices and support for displaced communities to help them build sustainable livelihoods in the face of climate-induced challenges.

Kalverboer (2017) delved into the psychological well-being and human rights of unaccompanied migrant minors in Europe, a particularly vulnerable group. The study employs cross-sectional surveys and interviews conducted with unaccompanied minors residing in European reception centers, providing invaluable insights into their experiences. The research uncovers the significant vulnerability of unaccompanied migrant minors to exploitation, mental health challenges, and human rights violations in their host countries. It paints a detailed picture of their struggles and the complex challenges they face. In response to these findings, the study makes recommendations that focus on enhancing protection mechanisms, providing crucial psychosocial support, and expediting family reunification processes to ensure the well-being and human rights of unaccompanied migrant minors in Europe.

Haque (2020) explored the intricate relationship between urbanization, internal migration, and access to healthcare in rapidly growing cities across Asia. The research employs a combination of spatial analysis, shedding light on healthcare facility distribution in urban areas, and qualitative interviews with migrant populations, offering comprehensive insights into the healthcare access challenges faced by migrants. The study reveals disparities in healthcare access for migrant populations, attributed to factors such as affordability, language barriers, and discrimination. It paints a vivid picture of the challenges faced by migrants in accessing adequate healthcare. Building upon these findings, the study recommends the improvement of healthcare infrastructure in urban areas, along with the implementation of inclusive health policies to ensure equitable healthcare access for migrant populations.

Winkler (2018) delved into the long-term developmental effects of repatriation programs on internally displaced populations in post-conflict settings. The study utilizes longitudinal analysis of socioeconomic indicators and combines it with qualitative interviews with repatriated individuals, providing a rich understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by returnees. The research findings highlight the complexities of repatriation efforts in addressing the multifaceted needs of returnees. It underscores the challenges related to land tenure, livelihoods, and social reintegration. The study emphasizes the importance of comprehensive post-conflict development strategies and support for returnees, addressing the intricacies of rebuilding communities and ensuring a successful transition to post-conflict life.

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a desk methodology. A desk study research design is commonly known as secondary data collection. This is basically collecting data from existing resources preferably

because of its low-cost advantage as compared to field research. Our current study looked into already published studies and reports as the data was easily accessed through online journals and libraries.

FINDINGS

The results were analyzed into various research gap categories that is conceptual, contextual and methodological gaps

Conceptual Research Gaps: While Moughalian's (2018) study addresses access to education among Syrian refugee children in Lebanon, it highlights significant gender disparities within the refugee population, with girls facing even higher exclusion rates than boys. A potential research gap is the need for further exploration into the underlying factors and consequences of gender disparities in refugee education and strategies to mitigate them. Kalverboer (2017) shed light on the psychological well-being and human rights of unaccompanied migrant minors in Europe. However, there is a research gap in understanding the long-term psychological impacts of migration on this vulnerable group and effective interventions to support their mental health.

Contextual Research Gaps: Dun (2019) examines the repercussions of climate-induced displacement on food security in sub-Saharan Africa. A contextual research gap may involve investigating the specific challenges faced by different sub-Saharan African countries or regions in responding to climate-induced displacement and implementing sustainable food security solutions tailored to their unique circumstances. Winkler (2018) delve into the long-term developmental effects of repatriation programs in post-conflict settings. A contextual gap could involve studying the varying success rates and challenges of repatriation efforts in different post-conflict regions, considering factors such as cultural differences, political contexts, and the presence of ongoing conflicts.

Geographical Research Gaps: Haque (2020) explore the relationship between urbanization, internal migration, and healthcare access in Asian cities. A geographical research gap exists in understanding similar dynamics in rapidly urbanizing regions outside of Asia, such as Africa or Latin America, where urbanization and internal migration also pose challenges to healthcare access. Flynn (2017) examines the human rights implications of immigration detention policies in the United States. A geographical gap could involve investigating the human rights aspects of immigration detention policies in other countries, assessing variations in practices, and identifying successful models of detention reform worldwide.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

The effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development are multifaceted and interconnected, shaping the trajectory of individuals, communities, and nations. Migration, whether forced or voluntary, carries both opportunities and challenges, influencing the realization of fundamental human rights and impacting development outcomes. While migration can lead to positive contributions such as remittances, cultural diversity, and skill transfer, it also poses risks, including human rights abuses, discrimination, and social exclusion. Displacement, especially in the context of conflict, climate change, or persecution, exacerbates vulnerabilities and disrupts the lives of affected populations, straining resources and infrastructure in both host and origin areas.

Addressing these complex dynamics requires a rights-based approach, recognizing the inherent dignity and entitlements of all individuals, regardless of their migratory status. It necessitates policies and interventions that protect human rights, ensure access to essential services, and promote social and economic inclusion for migrants and displaced persons. Moreover, the sustainable development agenda must be inclusive, acknowledging the role of migrants and displaced populations as agents of change. Harnessing their potential through education, skills development, and empowerment can contribute significantly to the achievement of development goals. In essence, the effects of migration and displacement on human rights and development underscore the imperative of balanced and comprehensive approaches that uphold rights, mitigate risks, and leverage the potential of mobility for the betterment of individuals and societies as a whole. Addressing these challenges is a global responsibility, requiring collaboration, empathy, and a commitment to the principles of human dignity and equality.

Recommendation

Theory

The theoretical contribution lies in emphasizing the centrality of human rights in understanding migration and displacement. Theoretical frameworks should integrate human rights principles, such as non-discrimination, participation, and accountability. The theoretical contribution emphasizes that development should be inclusive, involving migrants and displaced populations as active contributors to economic and social progress. Theoretical contributions should emphasize the need to address root causes of migration and displacement, including conflict, climate change, and human rights abuses. Theoretical contributions should incorporate a gender-sensitive perspective, recognizing the unique challenges faced by women, girls, men, and boys in migration and displacement. Theoretical contributions should underscore the importance of international cooperation in addressing the global nature of migration and displacement. Theory can benefit from a greater emphasis on evidence-based policymaking, acknowledging the role of research in shaping effective responses.

Practice

Implement robust human rights monitoring mechanisms in migration and displacement contexts, ensuring that individuals' rights are safeguarded throughout their journey. Invest in education, skills training, and access to decent work for migrants and displaced persons to enhance their contribution to local and national development. Invest in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and climate resilience to reduce forced displacement at its source. Implement gender-responsive

programming, ensuring that services, protection mechanisms, and livelihood opportunities are tailored to the specific needs of different genders. Collaborate with international organizations, civil society, and academia to share best practices, data, and research on migration and displacement. Invest in research on migration and displacement, including studies on the socio-economic impact, protection mechanisms, and mental health of migrants and displaced populations.

Policy

Develop and enforce policies that explicitly incorporate a human rights-based approach to migration and displacement. States should ratify and implement relevant international conventions, ensuring the rights of migrants and displaced persons are respected. Develop policies that facilitate the socio-economic integration of migrants and displaced populations into host communities. Encourage entrepreneurship and support businesses run by migrants and displaced individuals. Develop policies that prioritize diplomacy, conflict resolution, and climate adaptation strategies to address the underlying factors contributing to migration and displacement. Enact policies that address gender-based violence, provide access to reproductive healthcare, and support gender equality in host and origin communities. Develop policies that facilitate coordination among countries of origin, transit, and destination to ensure a coherent and humane response to migration and displacement. Develop policies that prioritize data collection and research, ensuring that decision-makers have access to accurate and up-to-date information to formulate effective policies and interventions

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