

Brain Drain and Family Strain: The Impacts of Immigration on Pakistani Families.

(1) Introduction:

Thesis Statement:

Family stress and pressure often result in Brain Drainage, which make an individual so helpless that he does compromise on even his self respect. If this the condition of an individual, obvious the impacts of brain drain on their families would be more adverse but fruitful as well.

(2) How Family Strain and Brain Drain are interrelated.

(3) Impacts of Immigration on Pakistani Families:

(i) Psychological and Emotional strains.

(a) Stress and anxiety.

(b) Isolation and Loneliness

(ii) Cultural and social disintegration

(a) Generation gap has been developed

(b) Family Breakdown

(iii) Economically reliance on remittance

(a) Loss of Primary source of income.

(b) Overdependency on remittances

(iv) Challenges to the families that are left behind.

(a) Counselling Challenges.

(b) Interruption in family matters.

(c) Impacts on the education of youngster in the family

(d) Create tension regarding responsibilities

(e) Immigration can weaken different ties.

(a) Weaken friendship and family relations.

(b) Separation from social interactions

④ Other Side of -the image: Positive impacts of immigration on the families:

(i) Financial stability.

(ii) Education and cultural exchange.

① Pakistan's a born people become alumni of Prestigious institutions.

(iii) Positive impacts on education.

(iv) Road map for other individuals.

(v) Guidance and Counseling according to overseas experience.

(vi) Overcome society and family barriers.

⑤ Conclusion:

A Holy saying is that "Poverty leads to illegitimacy and infidelity" means any oppressed person can adopt every mean of earning, legitimate or illegitimate, in order to feed himself and his family. Same is the case in modern world but in a modern way. When a student graduate from university, he/she has confident enough to thrive his abilities in development of country and nation. However, the conditions he face after completion of his degree, Coerce to follow any route in order to release the debt of family over him. Thus the student tries to find a shortcut to make himself stable and support the family. So, ⁱⁿ such situations the individual finds it easy to move abroad and seek the opportunities for stability. In light of his decision, ~~then~~ the pressurized individual used to do any sort of task assigns to him abroad, because he has no other way to support his family. In such situations, the person even compromise on self respect and self-esteem. Though, the condition of individual in abroad is not really good but his family is also facing some pluses and minuses of the decision. The impacts of immigration on the families in Pakistan, would be adverse and fruitful at the same time.

Brain drain in Pakistan is due to multiple factors. The issue of unemployment, unstable government, lack of rule of law, culture of bribe and corruption, and political instability all can be held responsible for creating chaos of brain drain in Pakistan. There are certain other factors behind this monstrous issue but the most important and foremost factor is the culture of competition in Pakistan's societies. From the birth of a child, irrespective of the gender, till the death, people of the society, including one's family, compare him/her with others. They intervene in the decision making process of the person too. The family members, sibling, and parents even does not hesitate to impose any decision, irrespective of one's well and keeps/links high expectations with that too. So, in order to meet the needs of the family, and fulfill the expectations of beloved, a talented mind decides to move abroad and begin a new chapter of life. This decision of immigration impacts his family left behind in Pakistan in many ways.

Firstly, the brain drain creates a psychological and emotion strain in the family. In eastern societies, people are very closely associated with each other. Some people hold spiritual linkage with some members of the family. When the beloved ones left the country, their vacuum creates stress and anxiety in their beloved ones. They feel lonely and no one is there to be his/her confidant. This isolation and loneliness often leads to multiple uncurable disorders. So, the psychological and emotional strain is one of the major negative impact caused as in family members as a result of brain drain and immigration. Similarly, it also affects the daily routine and performance of family members.

Secondly, leaving the country for the sake of opportunities is good but it causes cultural and social disintegration. The family members, once used to live in harmony, love, and care, has now broken down. No cohesion, spiritual affiliation remained among the family. Every member and object of the family seems dispersed and this disintegration persists for long - Such situation of social disintegration creates generation gap. This is because the person immigrated can't even attend the family functions and festivals, nor the family members visit to meet. The efforts made in way of social integration become in vain with the separation of one of its members.

Thirdly, the family of immigrated persons enjoy the remittance in Pakistan irrespective of knowing the situation of their beloved one in abroad. Overdependency of remittance does not let the members of the family to work with full potential. The person in abroad is going through different situation such as job insecurities, political situation, immigration policies of the country, and system of wage. In spite, the family expectations remained the same forever. Every member expect the same amount and incentives from him, but when he/ she the main abroad fails to meet all the expectations due to some personal matters, the family residing in Pakistan seek to find an alternative in order to meet their requirements. For the sake of this, they even lost their primary source of income as well. Thus, the economically reliance on remittance too much, is not good for the families in Pakistan.

Fourthly, the important facet of immigration is to overcome different challenges left behind with the person shifting of abroad. Whenever an

elder or leader of a family like father or elder brother, leave for abroad, ~~major~~ many of solutionless problems, a lot of difficult situations, and uncount challenges arises in the family. Some of those situations and challenges are so tensed that it become difficult for the family to handle. The members of the family become helpless and does not know what to do. Exemplly, when father or elder brother of a respective family is in abroad and visits once in ~~an~~ years, create a vaccum of leadership in the family. No person in the family become competent enough to fill that vaccum. Similarly, juniors and youngsters of the family faces certain counselling challenges in their careers. Furthermore, ~~an~~ when their is not head of the family, every one courage to intervene in the internal affairs of respective family. Also, there is a lack of a loyal guide in the family who can retrack the lives of children and to teach them what to do and what to be avoided. The education of the members of family also impacted with the immigration of its leader. Similarly, the lack absence of elder in the family creates tension in the members regarding the responsibilities ~~here~~, because no one becomes able and confident enough to perform the role of an elder one. Thus, the immigration of a family member, unsets the whole setup of the family and create a lot of unhandable situations.

Fifthly, as a result of immigration, the ties among different relationships become weaken. In this temporal life, many relations are seasonal and timely, when a person fails to give enough time to these relation, they got ~~frag~~ fragile and become weaken with the passage of time. Same is in

The case of immigration. Upon migration to another country, the person becomes unable to attend family events and family and relative functions. As the expectations ^{of relatives} from such members are so high, and the reality is revert of that, thus it weakens the ties among different relations. People of the family links their expectations with such a person who is unable to meet and see them in years, who is in separation from social interaction. As a result, their expectations are ruined and the member of the family becomes in loath of the immigrant. Thus, the shifting of to another country weakens the ties with the members in Pakistan.

The aforementioned was the only one side of the picture and that were negative impacts of immigration over the families in Pakistan. This is not the only image, there is another side of the picture as well. That side is about the positive implications of immigration on their families in Pakistan. Although, the negative aspects were a bit bitter but that's not the everything. The positive side of immigration impacts on their families is most fruitful.

Foremost positive aspect of immigration on families in Pakistan is the financial stability. As Pakistan is a developing country and going through different political, social, and economic crisis. The internal conflicts, border disputes, and geopolitical tensions has further escalated the worst situations of the country. Hence, due to all these factors, the currency of the state Pakistan has devalued against the currencies of other state. Further, the population of Pakistan is unable to meet their needs. According to a statistical report, almost 40% population of Pakistan has compromised on their expenses to

just to meet their everyday needs. In such tensed situations, when even more stable families are facing difficulties in fulfillment of their need, then how can a family with average or below average would survive. So, this is the best option to move abroad and seek opportunities for stability. When one person of the family settles abroad, then whole family enjoy their settlement even in Pakistan they even feel themselves financially stable and become easy for them meet their needs of life. In order to seek/find opportunities abroad, almost seven million plus well educated people left Pakistan last year. It means, with the settlement of this huge number, million of the families would be feed and feel themselves financial stable and secure -

With the immigration of well educated people, the finding of opportunities abroad is not a big task for them. They possess the capabilities to thrive their energies in different field like education and cultural exchange. These individuals enrolls themselves in different universities in different disciplines and when they successfully completes their studies from the well reputed institution, it becomes an honour for the family and even the whole nation that a Pakistan's born person, become an alumni of a Prestigious institutions. When these immigrants 'seated on high positions, it provides an immense pleasure to their families and the country in whole. Hence, shifting abroad can often provide the opportunity to become a pride for the family and an example and role model for new generation.

Another positive impact of immigration is on the quality of education. It can provide an opportunity to invest in the education of the family members. Pakistan has a high number of out of school children which is about 26 million. ~~So~~ the main/prime reason for this high number is poverty, financial instability, and unemployment. Thus the immigration of family members make a family financially stable upto that level that the family can provide better education to all its members. So, it is the most vital impact of immigration. On one hand it educate the individuals, whereas, on the other hand it reduces the number of out of school children which is a good sign for the family and the country.

There is another important ^{positive} aspect of immigration is that it provide a road map for the other individuals of the family. In Pakistan, most of the families are below average class and they does not have adequate opportunities or access to the right guidance. So, when a member, and that too a well educated, settles abroad it become a role model for their family youth. The family members does not need any other route to follow because they has their well defined route. Thus

it provides an opportunity to be a guide for the new generation of the family - therefore we can say that a leader in the family born when someone settles abroad, who can guide, motivate and support others in their voyage of lives. Furthermore, the person can guide and council the family youth, can handle the situation, and resolve the dispute of the families in light of his oversea experience. Though, the immigration has a wide range of advantages for the family in specific and the youth and new generation of the family as a whole.

Most importantly, immigration to ~~fore~~ can make the family capable of different jobs. It encourage the members of the family to approach different problem for its solution in a modern way. It is widely helpful in overcoming of certain barrier and hurdles. Exemplary, in Pakistan, most of the families, especially conservative families, deprive their women from their due right. They does not take it serious to empower their girls through education and other opportunities. Thus, the immigration of an individual from such families can play a vital role to divert the thinkings of their

families and hinder the societal barriers in the ways of development. So, it would not be wrong to say that immigration can provide an opportunity to curb social evil and overcome barriers.

The decision of immigration always been taken in tough situations. The individuals of a family immigrates because of some factors like family strain, lack of opportunities, for the sake of uplift, and some other serious matters. With this the individual suffers from uncount ups and downs, pluses and minuses, but his mission remains the constant and that is to feed his family and provide a high rank of living among the people of the society.

In contrast to this, the families of such people pass through different situations that impact their lives in different ways. They have several positive and many negative impacts upon the lives of their families in Pakistan. When an individual shifts abroad because of some reasons, his family becomes unable to fill the vacuum been created. It also affects the decision making process, relation within the family, and mental health of the family members. Whereas, the immigration also provides financial stability, better life style, guidelines, and foreign experience to their families which is not only good for his family, but for the whole country as well.