

ARTISANS MIGRATION AND URBAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONFIGURATION IN DALA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KANO STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study examined Artisanal Migration from Rural to Urban Areas on Urban Community Configuration and implications for Security Situation in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State. The objectives of the study were to determine the social and economic impact of migration of artisans from rural areas to urban areas. The study adopted a survey research design, with a population of 1743 and sample size of 338 was used for the study. The procedure used in selecting the sample was snowballing and instrument used in collecting the data was Questionnaire for Artisans Migration and Urban Socio-economic Configuration (QAMUSC). To validate the instrument, test re-test method was employed and the reliability co-efficiency of 0.67 was obtained. The method used for data analysis in the study was frequency count and simple percentage. The findings of the study revealed that improving socialization of migrants, increasing crime rate in the urban centers, making their families vulnerable to dangers and over stretching the general urban landscape are among the social consequences. Proving occupation, improving economic fortunes and reduction of poverty were among the economic consequences. Based on these findings, it was recommended that continuous expansion of employment opportunities in the rural areas by investing more into agricultural activities, organization and sponsorship of integrated rural development programmes will tackle the problem of electricity, healthcare, water, roads, education and security.

Keywords: Artisans, Configuration, Migration, Rural-Urban, and Socio-economic

Background to the Study

Migration is the movement of people from one geographical location to another, whether permanent or temporary. Migration as a movement from one place to another is a global phenomenon. In contemporary Africa and developing countries, the trend has been an increasing movement of young men and women from the rural areas to the urban areas, because of the rapid process of urbanization and industrialization (Melesse & Nachimuthu, 2017). As a result of lopsided nature of development in most African countries, most industries and modern amenities are concentrated in a few urban centers. According to Agyemang & Abu 2013, rural areas are not technologically groomed in terms of production in that this may bring a great setback in their socio-economic development. This means that youth often remain jobless in rural areas. This clearly shows that apart from the natural causes of population growth, (birth rate), there has been increased influx of people from the rural areas to cities. For instance, in Nigeria, Kano has witnessed the largest influx of migrants in the past 5 years with a total of about 15 million people. The population of rural areas has decreased as the urban population takes a huge increase, with its correspondent effect. Rural-urban migration in Nigeria occurs with the migration of rural dwellers, especially young men and women, seeking greener pasture in cities.

The effects of migration are viewed from two directions. On one hand, migration causes excessive urbanization, unemployment, income inequalities,

ecological stress and population explosion, and, on the other hand, it is part of economic growth and tendencies that would facilitate industrialization. At best, it would improve income distribution and technological change in agriculture. Migration offers ample freedom for one to choose economically-based opportunity he or she feels is convenient to him or her (Somik et al, 2006).

The theoretical framework of this study was based on Lee's theory of migration for pulls and push factor developed by Ronit Barman and Tylor Lumpkin in 1966. This theory does not isolate certain push and pull factors; every location has certain number attributes of positive, negative and neutral factors. Example of pull factor are basically better living conditions like job opportunities and better education, while some example of push factors could be war, famine, drought and especially low job. This says that pull and push factors are responsible to determine the engage on either immigration or emigration activities in daily basis. The theory postulates that the Pull and push factors are basically for emigration and immigration; the Lee's theory of immigration assumes that, whenever an individual embarks upon any movement as migration, it is either one of these two factors, these are pull and push factors. This assumption is related to the study, for the fact that, there are a lot of pull factors in Dala Local government area Kano State that are attracting people from different rural communities to migrate to Dala. These factors include economic factors, like having access to artisans activities and job opportunities in the urban centers, beside that there are much

push factors in rural areas such as unemployment, drought, poverty etc that are responsible for pushing people to the urban centers, or industrial area in search of better living. Push factor; nevertheless, is any factor that will render the un-conducive of an environment which leads to the evacuation of an individuals this assumption holds that whenever there is unfavorable environment, there are many tendencies for the reasonable number of inhabitant to embark upon migration from that particular place to the favorable one. This assumption is related to the study with regards to the sizable number of artisans who are migrating from rural areas to urban areas of Dala Local Government Area Kano state. Therefore, it is push factor that propel them out of their home villages to the urban areas. However, pull factor of attraction is a factor that attracts people towards coming to the particular area in search of livelihood improvement. The justification of using this theory in this study was on the fact that, the out-migrant artisans are mostly youth moving on daily bases from different rural communities to the city of Dala Local government area, Kano State, in search of different occupations so as to earn a living. The push factors of artisans from their place of origin include lack of social amenities, occupations, low density population and many others. The inability of these artisans to provide adequately for the sustenance of their families leads to their seasonal migration to urban areas of Dala.

Rural areas constitute the economically backward areas in Nigeria (Mabounguje 1978), with its inhabitants having low

standard of living. The gap between rural areas and urban areas seems to be widening in recent years consequently, the condition of rural people has remained unchanged inspite of governmental efforts and activities of many stakeholders interested in the development of the rural areas. The common dominant characteristics of rural areas in Nigeria remain the absence of essential social amenities and inadequate resources which has not changed over time (Utomi, 2003). The seeming neglect of rural areas by governments has widened the gap between rural and urban centers. Unemployment raises the desire of youths to move out of rural areas, and this leads to serious increase in immigration from rural areas to urban centers. Migrants usually became apprentices in various crafts but some of them go back to their villages and establish themselves. For some of the artisans, life becomes better and living conditions get improved. However, some of the migrants end up in poverty because many cities are not able to absorb the large influx of new residents in a proper way. This leads to rural-urban migration problems such as poverty, environmental problems crimes, sub-standard housing, expansion of slums and shanty towns, increasing air pollution as well as overpopulation.

Statement of the Problem

The urge of rural migrants to have security of income generation has necessitated them to engage in various activities in the urban area of Dala local government. The more these migrants are secured in terms of occupations, the more the increase in

the level of their income. Most migrants in Dala Local Government Area engaged in various activities such as selling of water, gardening, bricklaying, shoe-making, tricycle riding, laundry services, tea-selling, pedicure and manicure treating, petty trading and so on. This consequently leads to the general turn-over and configuration of the overall community in which the sustainability of social amenities, occupations, lives, and properties can be improved over time in Dala local Government Area. Unfortunately, it is very doubtful if the socio-economic configurations of the communities have been investigated over time based on the artisans' rural-urban migration. It is in the light of this that this paper focused on artisans' rural-urban migration and the socio-economic configuration of communities in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State.

Objectives of the Study

The study was guided by the following objectives:

- i) Determine the social consequences of migration of artisans from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government area, Kano State
- ii) Ascertain the economic consequences of migration of artisans from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State.

Research Questions

The following research questions were answered in the study:

- i) What are the social consequences of migration of artisans from rural

to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State?

- ii) What are the economic consequences of migration of artisans from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State?

Methodology

This study adopted a survey research design with a population of one thousand seven hundred and forty three (1743) artisan migrants involved in the study. The sample size for the study was 338 subjects. This is in line with what Research Advisor (2006), said that a population of 1743 will require the use of 338 samples. The procedure for selecting sampling in this study was through the snowballing sampling technique. A self designed questionnaire (QAMUSC) was developed using multiple-choice response pattern. To validate the instrument, the questionnaire was submitted to the team of experts in area of Test and Measurement. For the reliability of the instrument the questionnaire was administered to different groups within two weeks interval. The responses were correlated using Pearson Product Moment Correlation and a coefficient of 0.67 was obtained. Data generated from the questionnaires were analyzed using descriptive statistics in form of frequency counts and simple percentage.

Results

Research Question 1: What are the social consequences of artisans' migration from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State?

The research question was answered using frequency and percentages and data was presented on the following table, n= 338.

Table 1 Social consequences of artisans' migration from rural areas to urban areas in Dala Local Government Areas, Kano State

Social Consequences P	Options	F	M	SD
Improvement in the socialization of the migrants 42.3	Yes	143	1.2739	.26194
	No	110		
	Not really	85		
32.6			1.8419	.81552
25.1				
Over-stretching of social amenities 19.5	True	66	1.7689	.89197
	False	167		
	Undecided	105		
49.4			1.8595	.84788
31.1				
Increase in the rate of crime in The urban areas 65.1 34.9	Yes	220	1.8595	.84788
	No	118		
Leaving families in abject poverty 65.9	Yes	223	1.8595	.84788
	No	60		
	Others	55		
17.8				
16.3				
Cumulative			1.686	.70433

Table 2 above shows the responses on whether there is improvement in socialization because of rural to urban migration. Accordingly, 143 (42.3%) of the respondents said yes, that there is remarkable development, while 110 (32.6%) of the respondents said no, 85 (25.1%) of the respondents are not certain about their response. On overstressing essential amenities of Dala Local Government Area, 66 (19.5%) of the respondents said yes, 167 (49.4%) of the

respondents did not agree while 105 (31.1%) of the respondents were undecided. On the responses to the vulnerability of family members left behind as a result of their migration, 223 (66.9%) of the respondents said yes, 60 (17.8%) of the respondents said no. Lastly, increase in crime rate shows that 220 (65.9%) respondents of the respondents said yes while 118 (34.9%) of the respondents said no.

Research Question 2: What are the economic consequences of artisans’ migration from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State?

In answering this question also, frequency count and simple percentage were used in the following table, where n=338 respectively.

Table 3 Economic consequences of artisans’ migration from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State.

Economic consequences	Options	F	M	SD
Active Participation in occupational activities	Yes	208	2.3687	.66842
	No	90		
	Not interested	15		
	Others	25		
Making a lot of gains	Yes	185	1.9594	.54417
	No	87		
	Others	66		
Opinions and comments of				

Migrants about poverty reduction amongst them	Poverty reduced at minimum	226	2.4276	.95703
66.9	Poverty Reduced	11		
3.3	Others: increase in income and revenue generation	101		
29.9				
Cumulative			2.251	.72321

Table 3 above shows the responses on whether their migration from rural to urban lead them to acquire any occupational skills, 208 (61.6%) of the respondents say yes, 90 (26.6%) of the respondents say no, 15 (4.4%) of the respondents were not interested, 25 (7.4) of the respondents have other reasons. On the responses whether they have recorded any social mobility changes as a result of their migration, 185 (54.7%) of the respondents say yes, 87 (25.7%) of the respondents say no, 66 (19.6%) of the respondent have other reasons. Responses on their comment or opinion about Dala local government economic environment, 226 (66.9%) of the respondents say it was reduced at minimum, 11 (3.3%) of the respondents say it was reduced, 101 (29.9%) of the respondents have other comment or opinion like increase in income and revenue generation.

For the purpose of increasing precision on frequency counts and percentages the reported mean of 2.251 which was above 1.00 justified the acceptance of the items in the questionnaire.

Findings of the study

From the preceding analysis of data, the following findings are deduced:

- i) The social consequences of artisans’ migration from rural to the urban areas are improving socialization of migrants, increasing crime rates in the urban centers, making their families vulnerable to dangers and overstretching the general urban landscape.
- ii) The economic consequences of artisans’ migration from rural to urban areas are providing occupations, improving economic fortunes and poverty was reduced since there were increase in income among the migrants and revenue generation in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State.

Discussions

The discussions of the findings were based on the research questions. The first finding revealed that social consequences of artisans’ migration from rural to urban areas consist of improving socialization of

migrants, increasing crime rates in the urban centers, making their families vulnerable to dangers and over-stretching the general urban landscape. This may be due to care free attitude of government on providing basic social amenities. This is in conformity with the study of of Melesse, and Nachimuthu, (2017), on Causes and Consequences of Rural-Urban Migration in Ethiopia. In which causes and consequences of rural- urban migration in Ethiopia included Environmental degradation, lower agricultural productivity, inadequate social services, demographic pressure, and land shortages in rural areas. According to these scholars, the most significant consequences of migration in the urban areas are overcrowding and congestion, strain on urban social services rising food costs, worsening air and water quality and increasing violence, prostitution and diseases. The study justified the significant outflow of workers and inflow of remittances, as well as the continuous exchanges of goods, ideas and cultural values, which have changed the rural landscape economically, socially and demographically. However, the second finding revealed that the economic consequences of artisans' migration from rural to urban areas in Dala Local Government Area, Kano State were provisions of employment, improving economic fortunes and reduction of poverty since there were increase in income among the migrants and revenue generation. This may be as a result of the available resources in the urban areas. This, however, is in relation to the findings reported in the study conducted by

Meerza, (2010), entitled "Rural-Urban Migration and Its Consequences on Rural Children." The study is based on link between rural-urban migration of adult persons and child labour in rural area. In which sample was restricted to households that own and/or operate agricultural land in rural area. The study revealed the impact of rural-urban migration on rural children. Rural-urban adult migration, mainly adult male migration makes heavy demand on all family members, but especially on children who are left behind in rural area to shoulder the responsibility of agriculture production and food security. Labour shortage due to rural-urban adult migration may mean that children in rural area often have to face tighter time schedules and patterns of time use and human energy inputs required in agriculture production.

Conclusion

From the findings, majority of the respondents gave various problems that they have encountered and are still going through. They have agreed that rural-urban migration has both positive and negatives' effects, though some made it clear that it was because of the economic opportunities in the cities that made them migrate, they have not yet established themselves in the cities because some face accommodation problems, and even getting job. Though, some made it clear that it was not just because of economic reasons that they migrated. The study found out that the number of migrants in the city is rather high, causing the number of houses available to be less proportionate to the number of people in the town. In the rural areas however, it was a case of neglect and

younger people who are supposed to uphold the activities in the villages in terms of agriculture are no more in the villages. Failure of government agricultural institutions to provide adequate farming tools and machinery to villagers had caused many of them to migrate to urban areas in search for means of survival.

Recommendations

- i) Government should provide modern farming implements to local farmers at subsidized price, pesticide and insecticides, fertilizers and high yield variety seeds and other agricultural inputs should also be sold to farmers at subsidized rates. This will go a long way in mechanizing agriculture.
- ii) Governments at state and local levels should provide loans, and empowerment through capacity building so as to support artisans' function more effectively and contribute to the development of internal revenue generation that will help the government to provide adequate services to the citizens. Here, Non-governmental organisations and individual philanthropists will make their effective contributions through community development programmes to empower artisans in both rural and urban areas of Kano State in general.

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