



International Conference
Diaspora and Development

Prospects and Implications for Nation States

7th-8th September, 2011

Organised By

School of Extension and Development Studies
School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies

Sponsored by



About IGNOU

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) was established by an Act of Parliament in 1985 (Act No.50 of 1985). IGNOU, the National Resource Centre for Open and Distance Learning with international recognition and presence, provides seamless access to sustainable and learner-centric quality education, skill upgradation and training to all by using innovative technologies and methodologies and ensuring convergence of existing systems for massive human resource required for promoting integrated national development and global understanding. Irina Bokova, the Director-General of UNESCO in her keynote lecture on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), 2009 in New Delhi described IGNOU as “a living embodiment” for building inclusive knowledge societies in a globalised world.

School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS)

SOEDS was established in 2007 with an aim at providing quality education and training in various aspects of extension and development studies, i.e. economic, social and human development, by offering programmes leading to the award of Certificate, Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma and Post-Graduate Degrees in relevant subjects. The thrust areas of the School are Extension Education, Livelihood Education, Development Studies and Empowerment Studies

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS)

The School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS) was established in 2007 with a mandate for promoting academic study and research within and across conventional and emerging disciplines. It has moved to fulfil this goal by instituting innovative courses and programmes devoted to the study of social anthropology, labor and development, environment, diaspora, language and linguistics and Peace and Conflict among others. It has also promoted course offerings in the ODL mode in the sphere of Folklore and Cultural Studies, besides a new modular offering in the study of Philosophy at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

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Message from Hon'ble Minister, MOIA & Civil Aviation

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य तथा
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Minister for Overseas Indian
Affairs & Civil Aviation
Government of India
Akbar Bhawan, Chanakyapuri
New Delhi - 110 021
Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport,
New Delhi - 110 003



I am happy to know that IGNOU is organising a two day International Conference on 'Diaspora and Development: Prospects and Implications for Nation States' during 7-8 September 2011 in New Delhi.

Migration is an old and natural phenomenon. Many civilisation flourished due to migration of people. Today what we call diaspora are the migrants of few years back and who are adapted to the new environment without separating their links with the country of origin. Diasporas are capturing the transnational as well as national space day by day because of their role in socio-cultural, economic as well as political spheres. Globally many Diasporas are playing a constructive role in bringing cultures across nations.

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is specially committed to address the issues related to the diaspora. I am indeed happy to note that this Conference brings together scholars from different parts of the globe.

I wish the conference a great success.



(Vayalar Ravi)

Message from Hon'ble Dr. Karan Singh

Dr. Karan Singh
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)



3. NYAYA MARG
CHANAKYAPURI
NEW DELHI - 110 021



Diaspora is an important factor in the present times that is shaping the economy, politics, and cultures of any countries across the globe. The migration from one country to another is increasing despite various political and legal barriers. In many countries around the world substantial parts of their population live in diaspora. The impacts of diaspora are visible in the forms of remittance, films, literature and cultural events. Understanding the diaspora needs a holistic perspective as there are many factors interwoven in it.

This international conference brings scholars from diverse background interns of their domain of specialisation and scholarships and will enrich our understanding of the various issues related to the diaspora. The experiences of different countries are very important to share in a platform like this. I wish to convey my best wishes for international conference on 'Diaspora and Development: Prospects and Implications for Nation States' during 7-8 Sept 2011 organised by the School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) and the School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS), Indira Gandhi National Open University.


(Karan Singh)

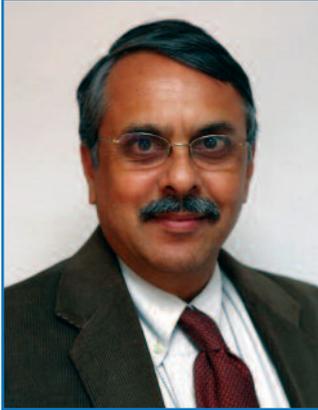
Message from Hon'ble Secretary, MOIA



सत्यमेव जयते

डॉ. ए. दिदार सिंह
सचिव
Dr. A. Didar Singh
Secretary

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
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I am very happy to note that Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is organising the International Conference on Diaspora and Development: Prospects and Implications for Nation State.

The size and spread of the overseas Indians today is truly impressive. The Indian diaspora spans across the globe and stretches across all oceans and continents. Overseas Indians constitute a significant and successful economic, social and cultural force in the world. In a rapidly globalising world the diaspora community is both the result as well as the driver of the globalisation.

India's engagement with its diaspora is symbiotic. The strands of both sides of both sides of the relationship are equally important to create a robust bond. To engage with diaspora in a sustainable and mutually rewarding manner across the economic, social and cultural space is at the heart of the policy of this Ministry.

I wish the International Conference on Diaspora by IGNOU all success.

(Dr. A. Didar Singh)

Message from Hon'ble Vice Chancellor



At the outset I congratulate School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) and School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS) for organising the International Conference on "Diaspora and Development: Prospects and Implications for Nation States". Diaspora in recent years is being recognised as a potential resource for development for their countries of origin as well as host countries. While country of origin has engagement through various economic and social channels such as remittances, investment, entrepreneurship, cultural exchanges and transfer of knowledge and technology, the host country too harness their mental and physical energy for its own prosperity. Economic and social development processes are not so simple; rather it is a complex interplay of many factors. In a sense, diaspora is seen in more of a positive than negative sense. However, there are also several issues relating to diaspora's role in development that are essential to discuss. This conference which finds interest of scholars across the globe will definitely confabulates in various issues relating to the role of diaspora in social, cultural, political and development will provide guidance and direction on how to engage diaspora meaningfully with various stakeholders at International, national and regional level.

I appreciate the gesture of Indian Council of Overseas Employment (ICOE) in providing the financial support to hold this conference. I also express my thanks to Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for their generous financial support for this conference.

I believe that the outcome of this Conference will provide input to the policy makers engaged in not only grassroot level, but also at regional, national and international level to harness the potential of diaspora in a meaningful way.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai". The signature is fluid and cursive.

(Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Vice-Chancellor

Message from Pro-Vice Chancellor



Human mobility is an inevitable process since the dawn of the civilisation. However, diaspora is pronounced and vibrant today due to the advancement in communication and transportation network. These technological advancement made the long distance human relation possible by not only creating virtual space for interaction but also by minimising the actual geographical space and time. This not only helped in human interaction but also made remarkable effect on the economy, culture, and politics of the world. Diaspora is recently seen as a very resourceful for development of not only the country of origin but also wherever they are settled. This International Conference on the theme “Diaspora and Development: Prospects and Implications for Nation States” is a very timely and important for the present scenario when the number of people living outside their home country is staggering.

I wish all the distinguished scholars coming from different countries to have a very fruitful deliberation and make the conference success.

I wish the School of Extension and Development Studies and School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University all success for organising the event.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Latha". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

(Dr. Latha Pillai)

Pro-Vice Chancellor

Letter from the Organisers



Prof. B.K. Pattanaik.



Dr. Sadananda Sahoo.

Dear Colleagues,

It is our immense pleasure to welcome you all on behalf of IGNOU. We are proud to have very distinguished scholars from across the globe. As you all know this conference is organised by the School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) and School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies. Both these schools started in 2007 and our journey is very new but challenging.

The conference is addressing one of the most important issues of our times. The mobility of people across the country is a defining phenomenon for development of human race today. This is likely to rise in the future. It is the time for the scholars to seriously engage in the subject to provide better direction to the policy as well as academics. The conference will broadly address the socio-economic, political, cultural and gender issues to provide holistic perspectives in understanding the inter-linkages in diaspora and development.

Here we would like to mention few things that made the event to come up to this level. We are grateful to the Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs Shri Vyalar Ravi who has been promoting the research activities alongside the policy. Dr. A. Didar Singh, Secretary of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs who readily provided all support to organise this International conference and who is also actively participating in the conference.

We are grateful to our Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajasekharan Pillai for his continuous moral support and encouragement for promoting research and teaching. This conference is the result of his continuous guidance and support.

We are also thankful to our Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Latha Pillai for all her encouragement directing the school activities towards excellence.

We are grateful to our sponsors, the Indian Council of Overseas Employment especially Shri Gurucharanji who has provided all help and support; Indian Council for Social Science Research, Indian Council of Cultural Relations and Reserve Bank of India for providing financial support to conduct this conference. Last but not the least we would like to acknowledge our gratitude to our colleagues and support staff from both the schools for providing academic and organisational support for this conference.

This conference is not just for sharing ideas but also to bring together the diaspora scholars across the globe to interact and share and explore more research issues in different fields of studies.

Wishing you fruitful discussions and a pleasant time at IGNOU!

(Dr. Sadananda Sahoo)
Joint Coordinator

(Prof. B.K. Pattanaik)
Conference Coordinator

Abstracts



The Promotion of International Best Practice in the Field of Diaspora Strategy: A Critical Reflection on the Experience of Policy Transfer to Date

Mark Boyle, Chair in Geography and Head of the Department of Geography, NUI Maynooth, County Kildare, Ireland

A diaspora strategy is an explicit policy initiative or series of policy initiatives enacted by a sending state, or its people, aimed at fortifying and developing relationships with expatriate communities, diasporic populations, and foreign constituencies who share a special affinity. It is perhaps best thought of as an overarching and organising framework for providing a level of coherence and coordination to a range of diaspora engagements devised and implemented by a variety of agencies. A cursory glance at existing international practice suggests that a wide range of different institutions, strategies, policies, programmes, and schemes are being developed and implemented across countries dependant upon the scale, history, geography, and nature of particular diaspora; the 'foreign affairs' institutional capacities which exist in sending countries, and; homeland conditions, motivations, and aspirations. Nevertheless, notwithstanding their obvious differences, many countries are seeing merit in sharing experiences, and, through joint 'policy transfer' workshops, seminars, publications,

toolkit manuals, and conferences, are participating in an important global dialogue on international best practice with respect to the design and implementation of diaspora strategies. The purpose of this paper is to: a) critically reflect upon the mechanisms through which particular diaspora policies come to be seen as global exemplars of best practice; b) to offer a conceptualisation of the ways in which such diaspora policies circulate between different countries, and; c) to identify and comment on the factors which determine the success or failure of specific policy transfers. The transfer of specific diaspora policies within and between the global north and south and with respect to remittances, philanthropy, return migration, roots tourism, and business networks will be drawn upon throughout to illustrate key themes.

The Link with a Home Country: A Comparative Analysis of Host Country Environments for Diaspora Engagement

Metka Hercog, Gabriela Tejada both are Scientific researcher & Jean-Claude Bolay, Professor and Director of Cooperation, CM 2 202, Station 10, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

The benefits that highly skilled migrants can bring to their home countries are increasingly regarded as important for development and many countries are seeking ways to profit from the experiences of diaspora. Policies of home countries are usually put to the forefront when discussing diaspora engagement. Nevertheless, migrants who are successfully settled in their host country have the best capacity to con-

tribute to development in their country of origin. Host countries institutional environment and policies, thus, play an equally significant role for the diaspora to have opportunities to gain relevant expertise and to mobilise. This paper focuses on host country environments in several European countries, and, aims to identify good practices of enabling policies to get skilled diaspora involved in socio-economic development of their home countries.

The paper is based on an in-depth policy review of France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Switzerland with respect to their migration and development nexus, and, on individual interviews with Indian professionals and leaders of professional diaspora networks. India is often quoted as a positive example of benefiting from skilled migration in terms of reverse flows of investments, the world's highest remittances, and expertise transfers. While there are a number of Indian diaspora knowledge networks present in the USA, little is known about the activities of Indian professionals in Europe. Continental European countries were, until recently, hardly present on the map of Indian mobile professionals. This paper, thus, aims to fill two gaps in the existing literature: firstly, examining the conditions of Indian professionals in new destination countries in comparison with the traditional ones, and; secondly, exploring the impact of structural differences between host countries and their ability to provide fruitful environments for diaspora engagement in home country development.

The African Brain Drain – Causes, Costs and Consequences

Brij Maharaj, Professor, School of Environmental Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Globalisation of the world markets has paved the way for the movement of people with scarce skills across national boundaries with relative ease. Professionals have been extremely susceptible, given their particular knowledge and skills base. The trend is for such professionals from developing countries, to fill the gaps in the labour market in developed countries. Africa

has not been immune to these trends and losing skilled migrants has serious implications for development. The aim of this paper is to present an overview of the African brain drain in terms of causes, costs and consequences. More specifically, the paper reviews the scale and extent of the problem; analyses the factors influencing the African brain drain; briefly examines the impact of remittances; and considers policy options to stem the tide. This has two major impacts on African economies: losing the most talented and skilled personnel, and increased expenditure on education and training to compensate for those who have left. The paper suggests that the brain drain from Africa is unlikely to be stopped or be curtailed in the short to medium term. Incentives to return to the home country receive lukewarm response because conditions which initiated the decision to migrate have further deteriorated. Restrictive migration policies have been largely unsuccessful. Neither have calls for reparation or compensation from receiving to sending countries. The challenge for African countries is to exploit perceived advantages (remittances/ Diaspora options/technology transfer) from what many consider to be a negative process.

Contrasting Regional Migration and Diaspora-led Transformation in Kerala and Punjab: Is it Evidence of Migration-led Development?

Margaret Walton-Roberts, Geography and ES Dept., Wilfrid Laurier University, 75 University Ave W, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3C5

Understanding the economic development of many nations in the Global South can no longer be comprehensively charted without a focus on international labour migration and its associated socio-economic and spatial transformations. Interest in the issue has emerged in the range of work exploring transnational migration, yet the spatiality of transnational practices has tended to be overlooked in much of this literature, which has tended to focus more intently on social practices to the neglect of related spatial transformations.

In this paper, I explore and contrast out-mi-

gration from two Indian states in order to identify the differences and similarities that emerge from international migration. In particular, I emphasise the way in which migration and the role of the NRI articulates with neoliberal restructuring processes already underway in India. I posit the figure of the migrant as one that is deeply articulated with modernity and neoliberal capitalism, but this intersection is differentiated by the geographical contexts they are embedded within. The migrant figure embodies a powerful influence that introduces new expectations and consumption patterns into the sending region, and this process occurs both in Kerala and Punjab, two Indian states with a long and active history of out-migration. Changes wrought by the migrant need to be understood as the outcome of specific sets of relations, but also as the product of the pressures of global, regional and national discourses of modernity, development and neoliberalism.



Africa's Money in Africa: The Impact of Remittance on Investment and Economic Development

Osabuohien Evans and Efobi Uchenna, Lecturer, Dept. of Economics & Development Studies and Dept. of Accounting, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria

Inflow of remittances from Diasporas is believed to be an important source of finance in the recipient economies. The global inflow of remittances in 2009 was USD 416 billion, which permeated across the regions of the world: USD 307 (73.82%) to developing countries; USD 85.69 (20.60%) to East Asia and the Pacific-EAP; USD 74.85 (17.99%) to South Asia; and USD 20.58 (4.95%) to Sub-Saharan Africa-SSA [World Development Indicators-WDI, 2011]. Diasporas remittances in home countries can either be channelled into consumption or investment purposes. Though both aspects seem 'good' in terms of enhancing welfare and stimulating in-

vestment, it is argued, that it can mainly prompt economic development when a sizable proportion is channelled into investment. The inflow of remittance to Africa has increased appreciably 1970-2009, the impact of such flow require further empirical investigation as there has not been consensus on whether remittances induce 'careless spending' or investment, and the effects on economic development. Thus, this paper examines the impact of remittances inflow on investment and economic development in Africa. The study achieves its objective by engaging data sourced from International Financial Statistics and WDI on 52 selected African countries (1970-2009). The data would be analysed using both descriptive and econometric (dynamic panel data) techniques across the five major sub-regions in Africa (namely: Central, East, North, Southern, and West). The rationale for this is to establish if there are significant differences in the sub-regions and proffer policy recommendations on how the regional economic communities play important role in this regard. The central thesis of the study is that remittances can only induce investment and economic development when there are structures that can make it happen, which calls for an inward looking framework in Africa in harnessing the potentials of remittances from Africans in Diaspora.

Remittance Inflow into Rural Economy of Bangladesh

Md. Saiful Islam, Professor, Economics Discipline, Khulna University, Khulna 9208, Bangladesh, Howlader Abu Bakar, and Syed Afroz Keramat are students in the same school in Khulna University.

Rural economy of Bangladesh is based on agriculture, which is of tremendous importance for it has vital supply and demand links with industry and is the second largest sector in the country. Bangladesh is the fifth highest remittance-earning country in the world. About five million people are currently working abroad, mainly in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Malaysia. The main objective of this study is to find out the impact of remittance inflow coming from abroad in rural economy of Bangladesh.

For this study, primary data will be collected through household survey. Data will be collected from two types of households: household which has at least one international migrant and household which has no international migrant. ANOVA will be applied to compare the features of these two types of households. It is expected that poor households will have no international migrants, because of high initial cost, and have no direct access to remittance. Then we will use Logit model to find out the impact of remittance inflow into rural economy. It is expected that households receiving international remittance generally use this to purchase consumer durables especially luxury goods, rather than investing in rural economy. Thus, rural households use major portion of remittance to purchase luxury goods which are mainly imported from outside.

Thus, we expect to show that remittance inflow into rural economy is not augmenting local industrialisation. This study will also find out that rural households invest a small portion of remittance in agriculture sector and in informal sector that do not create employment opportunities since rural farm and informal sector activities are mainly family enterprises. So, this study is expected to identify that remittance inflow into rural economy fails to ensure poverty reduction, employment generation and local industrialisation, and instead, it enhances the profits of foreign companies who produce luxury goods and export those to Bangladesh.

India's Diaspora Connect: Financial Instruments, Strategy, and Options

R P Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Humanities & Management Group, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus

India's strongest financial connect with its diaspora community has been through India Development Bond, Resurgent India Bond, and India Millennium Deposits. In three occasions this hard currency fund platform has provided new options for development finance. Beyond hard currency fund raising, NRI/PIOs now are incentivised for investment options through EXIM

policy and such other instruments.

In the political connect, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), Government of India is now the one stop shop to nurture a two way engagement corridor. Prominent policy steps in recent years include, Social Security Agreement with a dozen countries, Labour Mobility Partnership with a few countries, the extension of Indian Community Welfare Fund to all Indian Missions, and generic arrangements with EU.

The Indian diaspora, in terms of numbers, is far larger than the total population of Sri Lanka, and is as large as the population of Malaysia or Saudi Arabia. More than 27million Indian origin people are spread all over the world and are a constituency of growing political, economic, and development strength for their homeland, India.

In the context of the growing sensitivity and maturity of engagement of the Indian diaspora, this paper examines three issues: 1) the Government of India's existing financial instruments and their efficiency and limitations; 2) the prospect of widening financial options, and; 3) the financial benefits that accrue out of political connect policies.

Diaspora Bonds and the Caribbean: Tapping into Innovative Financing Mechanisms

Jwala Rambarran, Chairman, National Institute for Higher Education, Research Science & Technology (NIHERST), Trinidad & Tobago

The Caribbean has one of the highest emigration rates in the world and the region is the largest recipient of remittances in relation to its GDP. At the same time, many Caribbean countries have seen a dramatic reduction in flows of official development assistance (ODA) and have been encountering difficulties in obtaining private financing using traditional financial instruments, a situation which jeopardises their prospects for long-term growth and employment generation. Inevitably, the Caribbean will need to adopt innovative financing mechanisms to target previously untapped investors. Diaspora bonds are one such mechanism that can enable the region to borrow from its diaspora community. For diaspora investors, these bonds offer the opportu-

nity to help their country of origin while also providing an investment opportunity.

This paper investigates how best the Caribbean can tap into the wealth of its diaspora during difficult times to obtain a stable and cheap source of external finance. Section 2 discusses the rationale for origin countries to issue, and for diaspora communities to purchase diaspora bonds. Section 3 highlights some lessons for the Caribbean from the experiences of India and Israel, two countries which have successfully issued over US\$35 billion in diaspora bonds. Section 4 presents the external financing needs of Caribbean countries and puts forward some ideas on the potential for issuing diaspora bonds to help narrow these gaps. Finally, Section 5 concludes with a summary of findings and direction for future research.

On Some Aspects of Labour Migration and Remittances in Indian Experience

Akhil Alha, Research Scholar, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Remittances is an important source of extra income for migrants' families as well as for developing and least developed countries where the size of remittances is more than twice that of international aid flows. Visualising the importance of labour migration and remittances over the past two decades, barriers to cross-border trade and financial transactions have fallen significantly, but those on the cross-border movement of people still remain high. The paper tries to address the issue of why some developed and high income countries are against the phenomenon of international migration when it is beneficial to all. Looking at the ageing population of Europe and increasing population of India in working age groups, the paper discusses that the movement of people from India to some other preferred destinations for employment opportunities is likely to increase more in near future. So, there is a need for the source and destination countries to work on policies which can increase the gains from international migration accruing to both types of countries. In the case

of India, It can be a good policy measure to depart from the practice of leaving everything to recruitment agents and introducing policy interventions that can lead to a more even spread in the recruitment of migrant workers across India. Another helpful initiative, discussed in the paper for increasing remittances inflow, can be to work sincerely to identify new destination countries where skilful labour is needed and help an idle workforce at home in terms of training and facilitating employment in those countries.

Some of the ways to channelise remittance money towards investment is the formation of hometown associations and extending them financial aid to build new social institutions and infrastructural projects, and, providing loans to remittance receiving families to start new business ventures.

A Causal Note on the Relationship Between Migrants' Remittances and Economic Growth in Bangladesh

Mohammad Salahuddin (Presenting Author) and S M Shafiqul Alam, Assistant Professor, School of Business Studies, Southeast University, Road-18, House-64, Block-B, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh*

This study investigates the causal relationship between migrants' remittances and economic growth in Bangladesh, the 14th largest recipient of remittances in the world, using the most recent time series data for the period of 1976-2009. The Johansen co-integration technique and error correction methods are employed to examine the long run and the short run relationship between migrants' remittances and economic growth in Bangladesh. We use innovation accounting approach to find the causal link between the variables. Results suggest that migrants' remittances spur economic growth in Bangladesh in both the short run and the long run. The study also shows bi-directional causal link between remittances and economic growth. It is recommended that policy schemes should be emphasised toward how remittances will be used for more productive activities through various measures such as, involving remittance sender more in development oriented

projects, providing them with more investment incentives, investing the remitted money in infrastructure (electricity, gas, education, health, etc.) and other highly productive sectors, intensifying diplomatic efforts to uphold the interests of migrants in migrants' receiving countries, tapping the untapped markets for migrants such as Latin American countries, making pre-departure orientation programs mandatory for migrants, measures for transforming unskilled migrants into semi-skilled category in order to enhance its contribution towards higher GDP growth rate. Similar policies may be effective for other developing countries as well.

Can the Diaspora be an agent of Development? Assessing the role of diaspora finance in Punjab's economic development

Shinder S. Thandi, Faculty of Business, Environment and Society Coventry University, UK

This paper will start with presenting a conceptual framework for understanding the diaspora-development nexus based on recent research in this emerging area and will apply this framework for understanding and evaluating the contemporary role of different forms of diaspora finance - remittances, foreign direct investment, philanthropic finance etc - in the state of Punjab given its 120 year old Punjabi diaspora. The paper will use empirical evidence to highlight areas of positive impacts. The paper will then provide critical insights into the role of diasporas in general but diaspora finance in particular to act as a potential agent of development. The paper will conclude by highlighting various challenges faced by home governments in leveraging their diasporas and propose some policy solutions.

Indonesian Migrant Workers: Foreign Exchange Heroes?

Agung Setiyo Wibowo, Researcher, Jl. Mampang Prapatan XIV. No.33B Jakarta 12790 Indonesia

Indonesia is geographically largest and most populous country in Southeast Asia. Even

though, it has the largest Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the region, the unemployment and poverty still remain high to date. The migration is perceived as one best solution to overcome. The Indonesian migrant workers is popularly named as the TKI (Tenaga Kerja Indonesia) which widespread in many countries, especially Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Taiwan, Singapore, Uni Emirat Arab, Qatar, and Hongkong. Their remittance reached US\$ 6.73 billion in 2010 and its flows can bring positive impact on the country economic. Hence, remittance inflow can be highly significant in the local territory. In certain provinces, it's greater than the provincial income, such as West Nusa Tenggara. Remittance has been an important income to Republic of Indonesia for decades. To manage seriously, the government has established BNP2TKI (Indonesian Manpower Placement and Protection Agency). Remittance sent by migrant workers to Indonesia is a formulation of the element of placement and protection. The significant remittance can enhance the ability of government to pay foreign debts and import goods to support national development. Even, it's ever named as the most efficient foreign exchange compared with others due to not require too much capital. The importance of remittance to Indonesia government has emerged a controversial title to migrant workers namely Pahlawan Devisa (foreign exchange heroes). In brief, the government of Indonesia has counted them as the heroes of foreign exchange. This paper aims to analyse the importance of migrant workers remittance to Indonesian economic.

Proposals, Possibilities and Realities: Diaspora Linkages and Investments in the Homeland: The South West Cameroon's Example"

Richard Agbor Ayukndang Enoh (Ph.D.), Asst. Professor, Department of History, University of Bea, South West Cameroon

This paper seeks to explain the dynamics of the African (Cameroonian) Diaspora on a global scale and the relevance of the African (Cameroonian) push factors that prompted

these migratory waves. The paper further examines Africans (Cameroonians) adaptability and “image making” to self-determination in the Diaspora. Here, they sort to all odds, weather the storm of temptation, provocation and assimilation into a community full of opportunities and miseries on the other side (depending on choice). It must be made to understand here that, Diasporic Africans in general who took this option in the 20th and 21st Centuries were mostly martyrs in their respective families. They were the sacrificial lambs that have to take the risk from their “New discoveries” for the regeneration and restructuring of their family’s social and economic life. The paper also x-ray selected world societies were Africans (Cameroonians) found themselves and the process of capital formation, capital accumulation and capital investment transferred to the African homeland. More seriously, the paper will point out an arithmetical graphs indicating and taking a very strong position that Diaspora Investments changed and is still changing the social and economic perspectives in the African Homeland.



Diaspora as a Knowledge Community in Policy Making for Nation Building of Post-War Sri Lanka

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Sri Lanka being a nation of about 20 million people, has a proportionately very high population of diaspora of 1 million living in many parts of the world. Most of them have left the country as a result of ethnic conflict, and some have left due to economical reasons. It has been observed that Sri Lankan diaspora members have excelled in their careers in various disciplines in their guest countries. In a critical moment of the history, when the country is trying to rebuild the nation after three decades of

ethnic war, Diasporic people can play a major role in national reconstruction process with their expertise and their global experience. The Sri Lankan diaspora therefore is a very important knowledge community in nation building in post war Sri Lanka. This will include policy decisions on political solution to ethnic conflict, democratisation, and socio-economic development in the island nation. Even if the diaspora community shows a high enthusiasm for this process; still they remain fragmented and disorganised. The existing diaspora networks are divided along ethnic lines, religions or according to political ideologies. Many of them are ill-informed or left out in the policy dialog in developing the nation. Therefore, a mechanism to include the Sri Lankan diaspora community in policy making is a need of the hour, particularly in the view of the current political and development challenges that Sri Lankans face. The other main challenge has traditionally been the lack of network methodologies. In a world where information and digital technology have transcended boundaries, there are innovative ways of overcoming these challenges and networking such knowledge communities for policy making. The objective of this research is to find out the role of ICTs and web based technologies in networking the Sri Lankan diaspora community, for the purposes that follow.

- To create knowledge network of the Sri Lankan diasporic community across the globe.
- To facilitate the return of diaspora expertise to Sri Lanka's national development.
- To create fora where diaspora communities can contribute actively to creating knowledge.
- To use web 2.0 technologies as tools of knowledge management and policy making.

Data collection for this research has been done in Germany, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Spain, Sweden, Italy, United Kingdom, India, and Sri Lanka from 2005-2010. This study can also be used as a possible learning opportunity for other societies where diaspora communities can contribute back to their home country as a network of knowledge communities.

UNDP “Global Armenia” Initiative: A Platform for Transferring Armenian Diaspora’s Expertise, Experience and Financial Resources to the Homeland for Advancing Human Development

Armen Baibourtian, PhD, Senior Adviser to the UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative in Armenia

Diaspora-based development efforts are a powerful development resource, even though donor governments, international organisations and academia have only recently begun to think systematically about the actual and potential contributions of diasporas to the development and the reduction of poverty in their countries of origin.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Armenia launched a new initiative called “Global Armenia” to explore new policy measures that encourage expatriates to engage in the country of their origin. Expatriates are being cast as new sources of financial, human, and social capital.

‘Global Armenia’ provides a platform and a conducive mechanism for transferring Diaspora’s knowledge, experience and expertise to the homeland and mobilising resources for the implementation of projects aiming at reducing poverty and improving the quality of life.

The UNDP in Armenia has established a strategic partnership with the worldwide Armenian diaspora towards advancing human development and achieving the MDGs in Armenia. It applies continuous efforts to foster it. The main goals of this partnership are:

- engaging Armenian diaspora communities in a dynamic dialogue with regard to the developmental issues of Armenia;
- presenting the diaspora’s individuals and organisations with the most feasible and far-reaching opportunities for contributing to the advancement of the human capital in Armenia, especially in the dimensions of rural development, small and medium size enterprise (SMEs) development, vocational education and professional training;
- offering diaspora individuals and institutions

various programs through which they get a direct stake – and direct say – in the development processes of their homeland.

- Advancing ‘Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals’ (TOKTEN) program for Armenia - a global UNDP mechanism for tapping highly skilled Diaspora individuals, with the aim of inviting them to undertake, under UNDP aegis, short-term (one to six months) consultancies in their motherland and share their valuable expertise.

“Brain drain” from Greece: “Unskilled” People Migrating to Greece from Less Developed Countries while Greek Professionals Migrate to Developed Countries

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Recently, especially in the last twenty years, the ‘brain drain’ from Greece has increased. The aim of the paper is threefold: first, to present the main characteristic of this phenomenon and describe the profile of people involved in it; and, second, to explain the root causes as well as the implications of this phenomenon. Usually, the “brain drain” occurs between Less Developed Countries and Developed Countries (DCs), while between DCs there is what has been termed a ‘brain circulation’. Thus, it has to be explained why Greece, though it is one of the most developed countries in the world, suffers from a brain drain. The paper argues that this is primarily due to low demand for university graduates in the labour market rather than abundant supply of university graduates. Third, and finally, the paper argues that the brain drain can have many positive aspects too for a country like Greece that is sending highly educated individuals abroad, not only when these people return permanently, or, for long periods, but even when they stay abroad.

The paper is based on an extensive electronically circulated survey (2,800 questionnaires with many variables) that we conducted recently (May 2009 – Feb. 2010) with Greek university graduates who work or had worked in another country for at least one year.

Philanthropy and Sustainable Development in Regional Towns: Role of Diaspora Telugus in Guntur

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Diaspora philanthropy to the Guntur region has transformed from being individual driven to one that is driven institutionally. What was initially pursued by individuals is now, more or less, institutionalised – both by the government and non-government bodies – at the village and district levels. The emergence of a public-private partnership (PPP) model further accelerated the inward flow of diaspora donations to various development /service activities. Moreover, the model also sustained the flow of philanthropy. In fact, the PPP model has extended the realm of involvement by the diaspora Telugus back home, and above all, the diaspora Telugus have started to influence policy formulation at the district level. The Guntur model of networking with its diaspora has turned out to be a model for many districts in Andhra Pradesh, especially on issues pertaining to raising and managing philanthropy, and laid down a road map. Apart from tracing the emigration patterns from Guntur region, the paper attempts to emphasise, through a series of case studies, factors and incidents that have triggered philanthropy in various sectors and the role of diaspora Telugus in each of these. The paper also highlights the impact through data and appropriate visuals depicting the change achieved. Other issues such as feedback driven donations, role of parents in managing donations, etc., are discussed contextually.

Reverse Brain Drain: Millennial Strategies by Developed and Developing Countries

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This paper is an attempt at understanding both the roles played by developed countries, in particular the United States in retaining foreign tal-

ent in their countries as well as developing countries in making their countries more attractive to foreign talent. Historically, advanced economies, such as the United States, have thrived through visa regimes that are geared towards drawing the best and the brightest to their shores. With increasing opportunities now available in many developing countries such as India and China, the global recession in the United States, as well as stricter immigration laws have increased the phenomenon of “returnees” as thousands of professionals return to their home countries. The Start-up Visa Bill in the Senate represents the most aggressive attempt yet to both attract and retain the best of entrepreneurship and talent on American shores. On the other hand, the creation of many ‘edu-cities’ in different developing countries, reflects their grand strategy in becoming centres for Western education retaining their national talent as well as attracting many others. The paper will reflect on these strategies to gain a broader understanding of the many nuances in the debate on brain gain in the twenty first century.

Indian Diaspora and Knowledge Transfer: Myth or Reality

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Globalisation is a facilitator for long distance movements of people. The nature of migration has also been changing over the years. Migration of skilled professionals is an important segment which is a matter of concern here in this research paper. The migration of skilled professionals is voluntary. Both pros and cons are associated with such migration processes for places of origin and destination. Here, the focus is on the impact of emigration of skilled professionals on sending countries with special references to knowledge transfer. This paper focuses on the modalities of knowledge transfer and finds out the gap between theory and practice and to draw a realistic plan for harnessing this promising strength. The knowledge transfer concept is conceptualised on the basis of review of multi disciplinary theories. It is seen that

knowledge transfer can accelerate the developmental processes at the place of origin. In many parts of the world, this perspective of knowledge transfer modalities is explained by the process of brain circulation as talented emigrants contribute to their homeland with transfer of technology, capital, managerial and institutional know-how and so on. Such evidences are already emerging in India (Annalee Saxenian).

Tapping Talents in India through Diasporas Network: Opportunities and Challenges

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India had a strong cultural emphasis on education both at private and government level. Since 1990s, government spending on education has been growing at 12 per cent a year, of which, roughly a fifth goes towards higher education. India's higher education system now ranks alongside that of United States in terms of scale. However, as a share of GDP, total spending on education is still lower than in most developed countries. India spends 4.9 per cent of its GDP on education against 5.7% in OECD countries. Besides, non-government spending on education is a relatively high proportion of the total at 25 per cent. Over 12 million students were enrolled in universities and colleges of India in 2009. Roughly 20 per cent of students study commerce, economics, or management related courses, and tertiary enrolment rates are less than half of those in advanced economies such as the UK. Thus, while graduate populations are large in terms of absolute numbers, for the foreseeable future, India's economy will remain dominated by low skilled labour. By 2030, the share of skilled labour in the working population will be just 6.2 per cent compared to 14 per cent for the world as a whole, and 40 per cent in high income countries. This creates a big challenge as India aspires to move up the value chain. While India has made rapid strides in expanding higher education systems, she still faces a number of challenges in terms of effectively utilising the existing supply of talent as well

as increasing it sufficiently to meet the demands of rapidly growing economy. How to leverage expertise and knowledge of diasporas for the benefit of India is the main issue that the paper addresses, and emphasises the beginning of a new agenda of promoting policy reform and institutional innovation in collaboration with diaspora networks, which can be crucial bridges between policy, technological and managerial expertise, and local scenarios.

The Diaspora as Carrier of Soft Knowledge for Development to the Home Country: Evidence from Highly Skilled Filipino Migrants in New Zealand and Australia

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I analyse the migration-development nexus in the context of the knowledge transfers to home countries by their skilled diaspora. A departure from the Indian and Chinese cases that mainly tackle the mainstream types of knowledge transfer such as scientific, technological and business knowledge, skilled migrants are also carriers of 'soft' knowledge based on my study of highly skilled Filipinos in New Zealand and Australia. The study shows the transmission of cultural knowledge, skills in creative arts, capacity building skills, settlement and legal assistance, migration information and management tools from the diaspora to individuals and groups in the Philippines. Analysis indicates the usefulness of this type of knowledge transfer to the home country. It is influenced by the skilled diaspora's willingness to transfer and share knowledge and how this matches the home country's willingness to receive, use and value it. The presence of a learning culture between the diaspora's organisation in the host country and their collaborators in the home country also facilitates knowledge transfer. Skilled migrants are involved in various occupations encompassing science and technology, business and trade, cultural and creative arts and others, and accordingly, their knowledge transfers to the home country also go beyond the scientific or economic types. Thus, programs to promote di-

aspora participation in home country development should endeavour to reach all types of expatriate professionals and not just the mainstream groups.

Rethinking Development through the Dynamics of Skilled Human Migration from India

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Globalisation has contributed towards large scale movement of human capital worldwide resulting rapid rise of people crossing the national border. This exodus was previously regarded as brain drain because the migrant never chose to return to their home country. This has facilitated greater integration of global markets, but custom laws still govern the movement of capital, goods, and services across borders while immigration laws govern cross border movement of skilled and unskilled labour. Governments need to contribute, in terms of rethinking and redesigning development in the face of changing global scenario. The study by Khadria (2000) shows that the impact of brain drain on India should be examined in the light of globalisation of human capital and resulting 'second generation' possibilities for sustainable human development at home, through expatriate investments particularly in education and health.

Globalisation of labour has only just begun to take shape under Mode 4 of GATS in WTO – in terms of 'movement of natural persons' or 'presence of service providers, etc., for temporary stay for purpose of work in a foreign country (WTO (1998b), Khadria (1999c)). In India, a large pool of skilled manpower continues to remain unemployed. Through appropriate policy changes, international migration policies should be managed in such a way that it is beneficial to both origin and destination countries (Bera, 2010). Globalisation has, to some extent, replaced labour mobility in the form of trade and investment flows. The industrialised countries now export capital which uses scarce labour (Chang, 2006). But fair movement of

goods and services should also assist fair cross border movement of people. The paper focuses more on development from international labour migration, as return migration can be regarded as one of the important strategies for combating the problem of poverty and educated youth unemployment. This is an exploratory study and will try to highlight the positive effects of gainful migration.

Knowledge Diasporas: Educational Migration and Transnational Development

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This ethnographic study examines the educational experiences of diasporic students and faculty in U.S. higher education before and after migration. Participants include men and women from India, Mexico, the Philippines, Somalia, and Southern Sudan. Yang and Welch (2010) argue that international students and scholars serve as valuable human capital as they are knowledge carriers and producers in the global knowledge economy. However, there has been scarce research on international students and faculty experiences, particularly from an ethnographic and diasporic framework. This study seeks to fill this critical gap. Lukose (2007) argues for the need to bring together diaspora and immigrant education studies as they share "a crucial common object of study: the cultural and social worlds of migrant populations" (p. 406). Rizvi (2000) has found that international education has become a site for the creation of diasporic spaces, where new sociocultural processes and cultural changes and formations are taking place. Furthermore, the participants are emerging members of global knowledge Diasporas. Knowledge diasporas create new transnational networks that promote scientific, social, and economic development—clearly a profound shift from discourse on the "brain drain" and "brain gain". The participants are actively engaged in transnational development efforts, particularly in the areas of gender, education, and national development. Their narratives also

reveal disparities and diversity within diasporic groups—as the participants reflect on those who were not academically successful and the different pathways they have taken for migration or labour participation. Hence, Nussbaum and Sen (1993) argue that the “capability of a person corresponds to the freedom that person has to lead one kind of life or another” (p. 3). Indeed, the narratives of educational migrations bring into sharp relief critical issues in human development in an era of unprecedented human migration and the expanding knowledge economy.

Moroccan Reef Diaspora: History, Effects, and Plan for Development

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Morocco is located in the far Northwest of Africa. It is the closest African country to Europe. Morocco's closest region to Europe is called Reef, where Amazigh (or Berber) have been living for thousands of years. A transit region with difficult terrains, Reef has always been a source of migrants to Europe. One of the largest migration waves began in the 1960s, and it has not ended yet. Its main target is Western Europe. It is estimated that one million (out of four millions) Amazigh people reside in Europe now. This migration saddens the Reef people, and is considered by some of them as a catastrophe for the Reef's present and future.

This paper analyses the emergence and root causes of Amazigh Reef diaspora, the psychological and collective pains suffered by those who migrated and those who were left behind, and its impacts on the socioeconomic conditions of Reef. The paper aims at exploring how to make this migration an element of strength and development for Reef, Morocco as a whole, and the host European countries.

A South-South Approach to Migration and Development: Some Reflections on the Experiences of Overseas Filipino Workers

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International migration focused primarily on South-North relations wherein the migration flow is from the developing countries in the South to the developed countries in the North. However, current research suggests that South-South migration now equates the level of South-North migration. Hence, a South-South approach to migration and development is necessary in order to identify opportunities and challenges that the key actors in this new trend in international migration are facing.

This paper explores South-South migration as a new trend in international migration and development. It also aims to identify and develop potentials between Southern countries in terms of their migration policies for future collaboration. In order to do this, the author uses the experiences of the Overseas Filipino Workers who migrate to other Southern countries such as China, Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand. This paper answers the question ‘Why do OFWs migrate to another developing country?’, ‘How does this differ from South-North migration?’, ‘What are the challenges they face?’, ‘How do we view this phenomenon through a South-South approach?’, ‘What is the role of the state in shaping South-South migration?’, and, ‘How do these Southern countries forge cooperation among each other?’ One argument would say that even a small increase in income can have substantial effects among the Filipino families who have been relying on the remittances from abroad for several decades now. However, these Filipinos are also subject to much lower increases in income and to greater risks of exploitation.

While the Filipino is having a profound impact on the society where they migrated, the Philippines also benefit from these societies through remittances, investment, and technology transfer. Moreover, cooperation between the receiving country and the sending country in this term would facilitate cooperative partnerships on specific migration issues such as resource exchange, technical assistance, and knowledge sharing.

Brain Circulation and Indian Development: A Perspective from Australia and New Zealand

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It is increasingly claimed that the most important commodity affecting the development of nations in a globalising world is knowledge. This paper considers the role of brain circulation in the form of international students, professionals and other skilled workers, and migrants returning to their country of origin, for either a short term or permanently. For any particular country each of these types of diasporic mobility has the potential to make significant contributions to knowledge exchange and development. The paper will focus on the two migrant settlement countries of Australia and New Zealand and the Indian migrant populations within these countries. For both countries, the Indian population is diverse in terms of language, religion and region of origin in India, and the linkages between these countries of settlement and the Indian homeland are also diverse. This paper draws together a variety of data to illustrate these linkages and the potential outcomes for development in India that can be inferred. Sources of information include census data, immigration data, studies of Indian migrant populations in both Australia and New Zealand, and media accounts. These will be analysed in the context of theoretical perspectives such as brain circulation, knowledge exchange, and diaspora, as well as in the context of the evolving immigration policies of Australia and New Zealand.

Harnessing Diasporas for Grassroots Development: A Study in Rural Punjab

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Development is a complex process involving multiple actors. The traditional paradigms of development involving traditional actors and

practices are essential, but no longer sufficient for ensuring the overall development and empowerment of those at the grass roots. This necessitates a need to think beyond the state and the national systems of governance. This new development thinking is further facilitated by the intensification of processes of globalisation and de-territorialisation resulting in transnational flows of people, capital, ideas, and lifestyles. This transnationalism has enabled new actors like the diaspora communities to play a significant role in shaping development outcomes at the local levels. In this context, the paper theorises diaspora from a transnational perspective describing how diasporic communities are formed in a highly globalised world using transnational media, internet, ICTs, etc. The focus of the paper is on the ways the governments of the sending countries can effectively harness this resource for development and social change, thereby turning 'brain drain' into 'brain gain'. It is being increasingly recognised that diaspora are not a readymade source to be used in the developmental process, but one that needs to be harnessed and cultivated in a systematic way by governments of the sending countries. The role of the state remains important in creating an enabling environment for diaspora to function efficiently. The roles include, among other things, mandating, facilitating, resourcing, and endorsing. Through a case study of rural Punjab, the paper tries to demonstrate how the effective performance of these roles can be instrumental in capital, knowledge, and skill transfer for grassroots development. Along with a brief discussion on the emergence and spread of the Punjabi diaspora, the paper deals extensively with the transformation of rural space in the Doaba region of Punjab which has historically been the site of maximum outmigration. Punjab forms an interesting case study to analyse the development outcomes of Diasporas as the diasporic initiatives here have been widely recognised as 'innovative' and 'highly professional'. Based on the case study, the paper concludes with a reflection on some of the challenges before the governments seeking to mobilise the Diasporas as development actors.



Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion

Diasporic International Relations: Agent of Change as Soft Power Diplomacy

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The Indian diaspora has always generated a kind of support in the home country and homely countries. In fact, in some countries like the United States of America, the Indian diaspora enjoys both worlds, i.e., home countries: a double citizenship. The Patel communities and others from different parts of India somehow act as a catalyst in the warring economies and ideologies of the two blocks of world alignment. In the U.S.A., the emerging power of elected representatives like Bobby Jindal et. al., are seen as agents that work for the good of both countries. The contributions of the entrepreneurs and various other professionals are indeed praiseworthy, as many lives are changed in the country of origin. There is also a kind of security and support for the country of origin by these professionals, that make the countries feel quite at home in its relations with the apprehension that any kind of conflict could be resolved through mediation of these Diaspora.

The paper will look into the emerging power of the Indian diaspora in the US that plays a vital role not only as citizens of the US, but of India, too. It will also focus on the contributions made by the Indian diaspora community, commonly called non resident Indians by various sectors of the Indian economy and in polity. Above all, it will analyse the drain of brain and drain in wealth for the country of origin that could safely be concluded that in the national balance sheet i.e., debit or credit side is heavier in the process of assessments of the values of the contributions made thus far by the Indian Diaspora.

Joining the Mainstream Bandwagon: A Study of Political Participation of Indian Diaspora in the United States

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The Indian community in the United States is one of among many ethnic communities which have been increasingly visible in the last four decades. Although the flow of Indians as new ethnics started first as a trickle in 1895, their impact was really felt in the aftermath of the landmark 1965 immigration legislation. This "new immigration" group has begun to attract academic attention and has also been the focus of research by a number of scholars. The Asian Indians are an interesting group among the cluster of newly formed immigrant communities; their level of educational standard is particularly impressive; the rapidity of consolidation of economic indicator is remarkable; and the internal mobility of the Asian Indian community is very much viable. This paper analyses and examines the emerging sense of political consciousness and resulting participation of the Asian Indians and its leaders in the national as well as state and local level political arenas of the United States. This paper also addresses and evaluates the Asian Indians' attitudes toward pertinent domestic and international issues of importance in the context of US society and politics. It is shown as how the Asian Indian community wants to become part of the mainstream American society by exhibiting itself as a 'model minority'. It is surmised in this paper that in spite of its late entry and single digit population, the Asian Indian population has increasingly been assertive and politically savvy in converting this group's strength into a position of advantage by being both tactical and strategic in its political orientation.

Being Tibetan in Shimla: Cultural Hybridity and Social Development of the Tibetan Diaspora

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The Tibetan community is an important part of the economy and cultural tourism of contemporary Himachal Pradesh. How do we understand the social development of the Tibetan Diaspora that has been born in India and has only heard about Tibet? How have they transformed the cultural space of Shimla city and contributed to its economy? Our research questions interconnect theoretical literature with a small questionnaire survey administered in 2008 to Tibetans residing in Shimla city, and, based on our analysis, we explain how the Tibetan diaspora maintains its identity, perpetuating their culture, and significantly impacts part of the economy of Shimla city of Himachal Pradesh. The context of forced exile, belonging for their homeland, and gradual acculturation of youth bring forth numerous issues for discussion and further study on social development of this community. Our paper forwards debates on commercialisation of culture and cultural hybridity with Tibetans born in India increasingly interlacing elements of their host country with the culture practiced by their elders.

Fluid Boundaries and Diaspora: Multiple Identities and Globalising Networks

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Fluid boundaries imply that once comparatively stable socio-cultural, political and economic boundaries are being ruptured by a constant cross-cutting tide of people, information, images, goods and capital. Communities, previously bound to fixed locations, are being de-localised and linked by ever stretching networks that spread across continents. The current era of contemporary globalisation entails enduring fragmentation and active participation in various transnational networks. Among the diasporic communities, the question of identity has become more complex and intricate. The paper would focus on how multiple identities emerge among the diasporas in the 'host' communities where they are tied to various cultural reference groups resulting in a shift-

ing and multiple socio-political identities. It would explore how identities are localised and pluralised because of different preferences and practices among the transnational groups and diasporas. Also how there cannot be one homogenous model of identity for all the members of a particular diaspora. The transnational immigrants are caught within webs of social relations which spans many boundaries, and they draw upon these networks to create multiple and fluid identities. Thus, the paper would conceptualise and contextualise multiple identities among diaspora in the changing development process.

The Role of Ethnic Diasporas in the Innovative Development of Post Soviet Era

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After the collapse of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), many of the post Soviet countries faced with the problem of reforming the economy. The market economy brought new challenges to the countries. Till 2000 many countries undergone a phase of transition from closed economy to market economy. However since the early 2000, there has been visible changes through new development strategy. One of most controversial issues of Post-Soviet era was the labour migration and activities of ethnic diasporas. What is their impact on processes modernisation? There are two opposite views on this issue. On the one hand, the presence of strong diasporas is seen as destabilising factor. There is a strengthening of conflict in the society. On the other hand some researches and policy makers believe that the influx of foreign labour accelerates development with reduction of cost. The paper finds that the position of ethnic diasporas in the former USSR has its own distinction. Unlike Western Europe and North America, the majority of migrants in these countries come from the former Soviet Republics. These migrants share a common political and socio-cultural history for a long time. Thus, it is much easier for the mi-

grant groups to adjust to the new environment created by the disintegration of states. This makes the diaspora also to have better network with the external environment. It is found that, the main migration flows are directed towards areas where there is the presence of more dynamic sectors of the economy. Sectors like fuel and energy, construction, transport are the attracted more labour. Consequently, this resulted in creating remittance driven economy. Remittances represented a significant share of GDP as well as created investment in infrastructure development in the sending countries. For example, in Tajikistan, it is about a quarter of total GDP. Finally, diasporas play a significant role in the restoration of a single economic space increasing integration trend in the region.

Diaspora in Mauritius: Recipe for Contested Development

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Strategically situated in the Indian Ocean- yet with neither defence forces, nor any natural resources to trade-Mauritius relies on FDI, market access and military assistance for its survival. Due to its colonial links, Mauritius has benefited from a series of preferences from UK (e.g. Commonwealth Sugar Agreement) and from its Francophone membership (e.g., France Telecom investment). Its colonial past, coupled with a consequent ethnically unbalanced demography composed of 68 per cent of Indian descent, 27 per cent of African descent, 3 per cent of Chinese descent, and 2 per cent of Franco-Mauritian, Mauritius is liable to be cautious in its affiliation during exercises of international diplomacy. This is particularly relevant in the interplay between China and India on the Mauritian investment scenario. Aware of the Mahanian conflict between the two regional competitors regarding influence over the Indian Ocean, Mauritius aptly uses its active diaspora links with one as a negotiation leverage to incite investment cooperation from the other. It is in under a similar practice that Mauritius has secured the two biggest investment projects in its history: the Jin Fei Special Economic Zone by

China (2006) and the NeoTown zone project by Indian developers (2010). What is remarkable is that Mauritius adopts a management method allowing it to secure its diaspora loyalty to both home countries; while India is granted investment monopoly in ICT and services, Chinese activism is welcomed in construction and manufacturing. The Mauritian negotiation strategy almost resembles Putnam's two-level game (Putnam, 1988) though in an inverted fashion, whereby the international is harmonised at the domestic level. However, the use of diaspora links as a bait to lure investment from China and India needs to be evaluated as it might become an excuse for Mauritius to overlook more viable investment partnership alternatives.

Old Faiths and Global Organisational Frames

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Globalisation with its increasing connections and flows has reconfigured many old practices and transformed them. For instance, traditional notion of community which was thought to be face-to-face and geographically circumscribed is reconfigured in newer ways; through communication, networking and coming together of people to form cyber and diasporic communities. Similarly, identities which are primordial find new expressions due to use of global digital communication technologies and media. Telecommunication technologies, new production process and global markets underlie many old and traditional practices, religion being one of them. This paper examines the Hindu religious practices and institutions in the larger context of globalisation. The paper looks at the way Hindu temples are increasingly organised towards catering to the transnationally located audiences. The insights I draw are based on the field work conducted over two locations – Delhi and Chicago. – The two locations, and the non locational location of cyberspace, in essence, capture the transnational field of global network and connections. This transnational space reveals the presence of traditions

being transformed and articulated in global framework. In the process, there is great deal of use of modern technologies and the logic of global market practices. While attending to the needs of faith, tradition, nostalgia and perhaps a need for enchantment, the organisational frames of some of the Hindu institutions and practices, reveal a degree of rationalisation and the logic of global economic and market forces.

The Dark Side of 'Diaspora' in Africa's Great Lakes Region

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Conventional wisdom and some scholarly analyses herald diasporas' contribution to home development. It is argued that through remittances; linkages for education, health, research and other opportunities; formation of networks and global communities that connect home and outside; as well as creating pressures for democratisation, human rights, or peaceful resolution of conflicts through lobbying and advocacy (Gueron and Spevasek 2008) diasporas are able to uplift the general conditions of home countries. From this 'bright' side of diasporas we view the metamorphosis of migrants dispersed in various parts of the world - regardless of the conditions under which they migrated, their identities and politico-ideological configurations constitutive of them - into fruitful non-home development forces. Some countries, indeed, report earning considerably in budget contributions from remittances from abroad. This is only one side of the coin. Yet, the other equally significant side that is always ignored is the 'dark side' of dispersed peoples especially its politico-security dimension. A proper understanding of the development prospects and implications of diaspora for nation states requires an appreciation of the implications of such communities for national and regional security - including the state's geopolitically-constituted international relations, and people's safety within this geopolitical space defined by ethno-political security configurations, therein. To address this concern, this paper borrows

Zezeza's (2005) insight on "new African Diasporas" and Mushemeza's (2007) thesis on integration of refugees, to examine the security intricacies resulting from migrant communities in Africa's GLR using Banyarwanda as a case study. Stressing the role of dispersed peoples in Rwanda's post-1959 insecurities particularly and those of the Great Lakes Region generally, the paper argues that under conditions of ethno-political uncertainty and vulnerability coupled with state failures, some dispersed non-home communities and groups can become a significant source of insecurity and retardation to national and regional development.

The Impact of Turkish Diasporic Community Living in Germany on German and Turkish Laws

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The Turkish community in Germany, which has created significant impact both on Turkish and German cultural, social, political, and economical life, has long been regarded as a diasporic community, while there are substantial discussions among scholars about its consistency. The existence of the Turkish diaspora in Germany is highly significant for both countries as it constitutes the largest Turkish community outside of Turkey and is the largest foreign community in Germany. The collective migration of Turkish nationals to Germany dates back to the Labor Export Agreement between Turkey and Germany in 1961. Turkish nationals who have initially been accepted as "guest workers" turned out to be permanent residents in the course of time. Meanwhile, they grew in population and started to be more integrated in social and business life. This resulted in the demands of Turkish nationals to acquire German nationality while preserving their original nationality. The demand for "dual nationality" brought out the need for adjustments both in Turkish and German legislations. Turkey answered this demand positively. With an alteration in the Turkish Nationality Act, she abandoned her historical stand against dual nationality. However, Germany maintained its

contrary stand and even strengthened it. The alterations in the German legislation on nationality made possession of dual nationality for Turkish people almost impossible by requiring the relinquishment of former nationality for acquisition of German nationality. These new regulations caused dramatic debates among German and Turkish societies on the function and purpose of nationality. While the German legislator qualified the “relinquishment condition” as a need for integration, the Turkish diaspora considered it as “assimilation”. In the following years Turkey has made several alterations in her legislation in order to maintain its connections with the Turks, especially with the ones who had to relinquish Turkish nationality. A remarkable example of this is the “pink card” regulation which gave the former Turkish nationals the right to enjoy majority of the rights that a regular Turkish national has. The scope of the alterations in Turkish legislation is not restricted to social rights. They also include economic rights as Turkey benefits from the repatriation of the remittances and savings of the Turkish diaspora significantly. Moreover, some of the members of the Turkish diaspora turned out to be investors who possess large capital. In order to attract this capital, Turkey has included the Turkish nationals who reside abroad in the scope of “foreign investor” in its Investment Act. This has given the class of investors the right to access several opportunities and conveniences that regular Turkish nationals cannot benefit.

The subject of this study is the legal alterations concerning the Turkish Diaspora in Germany. The existence of Turkish Diaspora in Germany urged both German and Turkish governments to make several alterations in their legislations to deal with the difficulties and advantages of the situation. The study evaluates the development and the consequences of these alterations in a historical setting. As most of the alterations relate to nationality and foreigner laws, study will mainly focus on these areas. Taking into consideration the essential impact of economic factors on these alterations, the economic regulations and its interface with nationality will also be examined.

Incidence of Elder Abuse among South Asian Immigrants in USA: Quest for Some Remedies

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With the large influx of South Asian immigrants to the US in the 1960s and the 70s, these people are now well recognised by the mainstream American society as a visible and vibrant minority. They are mainly professionals from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Once they got settled by fulfilling their American dream of leading a comfortable life style, many of them have decided to bring their old parents and other dependents as dependant immigrants.

After living with their children in the American soil for a number of years, many of these elderly people felt a sense of neglect and even complained of mental torture inflicted by their children and grand children.

The author has been a participant observer at a number of community gatherings of South Asian immigrants in North America and has closely interviewed a number of elderly immigrants and some community leaders. He has also examined a number of books and research papers on the trials and tribulations of the immigrant societies in different nations. In this paper, he critically analyses the gaps in the expectations and fulfilment of some coveted goals of these elderly immigrants. He also looks at some possible remedies to eradicate these problems which have often tarnished the image of these resourceful immigrants from South Asia.

On the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Returned Overseas Chinese and the Relatives of Overseas Chinese

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Over the last twenty years, particularly one decade, the features of returned overseas Chinese and the relatives of overseas Chinese tend to favour increasing non-specificity. China is creating enormously advanced laws to protect the

rights of and interests of citizens. The legal foundation and principles of the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Returned Overseas Chinese and the Relatives of Overseas Chinese are facing significant challenges. The benign way to develop is to comprehensively rethink the law and explore an effective strategy. Arguably, the same right as the citizens without discrimination could be adjusted into the legal equality. Appropriate preferential treatment in accordance with the actual conditions might be gradually attached unimportance even quitted at last. The replaceable one is the enhancement of integration. The contents of the protection of the rights and interests of returned overseas Chinese and the relatives of overseas Chinese will be merged into other laws. When possible, the legislation of Law of Enhancement of the Integration of Returned Overseas Chinese and the Relatives of Overseas Chinese should be put on the governmental agenda.

Migrant Worker and Human Rights in the GCC Countries: Some pointers in the context of Labour Unrest

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Such is the spread of migrant work as a major economic option across the world that one out of thirty-five persons in the world migrates for work. Indian labour, mostly unskilled and unorganised, in the GCC countries amounts to nearly 1.2 million according to some estimates in 2006. Field data and comments from experienced community workers in the Gulf often contradict this data, for its minimalist approach and over dependence on formal sources for the estimation. Among various countries having their citizens working in the GCC countries, India has the highest number of persons. This paper is an effort to trace the lifeworld experience of the migrant workers who live in extremely difficult conditions of life, and work. Since 2004, the Indian labour was one of the strongest sections of workers participating in massive labour strikes, which was unheard of

in the GCC countries. Independent investigations by human rights bodies and public interest reports through investigative journalism have exposed many areas of urgent concerns for the workers.

For a place like Kerala, returns from migration is a key economic component for thousands of families. Any state action from the GCC countries which is detrimental to the interest of the working population will create difficulties in these families. Impact of labour displacements have surfaced in the past few years showing a crisis situation. The governments' in this precarious situation must work out immediate strategies for reinstating workforce. Such efforts should also address various issues raised by the workers and should focus on addressing the basic reasons for the deprivation of workers. Among the GCC countries, some senior officials have acknowledged the highly deplorable state of life of the workers and have even opined that the unrest among workers is an expression of their angst. Governmental response to the crisis varied across the GCC; from minimal regulation measures to radical intervention for protection of rights of the workers. However, reports indicate that a common GCC policy in labour related issues is in the making. This paper presents the general concerns that came through the labour protests of 2004 and 2008. It is an effort to know the reasons for the deterioration in workers lifeworlds, and to seek official and civil mechanisms for protection and promotion of human rights of the workers and their families. The discussion on rights is based on the regime of conventions of the ILO and other relevant conventions. The case of the workers plight in GCC countries is comparable to many sections of workers in India as well.

Muslim Diaspora and European Identity: The Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion

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Discussions about the Muslim diaspora in the European Union have gained significant space.

Numerous academic conferences, public debates and informal meetings seek to address this rather controversial topic. This controversy is very much due to the initial outlook of the then European (Economic) Community and the present EU. As noted by Checkel and Katzenstein, "the historical foundations of the European Union are undeniably Christian-Democratic, a capacious political tradition that accommodates temperate offshoots of conservative political Catholicism as well as a social Catholicism."¹ Since then, the things have significantly changed and many questions related to the EU's willingness and capacity to accept its Muslim diaspora have emerged and require immediate answers. Accordingly, in this paper, I analyse the presence of Muslims in the EU and look at various dilemmas surrounding this co-existence. The paper is divided into three sections: the first section offers a brief historical overview of the Muslim community's arrival and settlement process in the EU; the second section examines the post-September 11 debates; and, finally, the third section looks at future prospects and possible scenarios.

The paper concludes that the presence of the Muslim diaspora in the European Union represents a growing concern, both for the Muslims and the Europeans, who, while having to understand that the days when the Union was exclusively Christian are gone, will have to integrate their Muslim communities. In this respect, the paper addresses the situation characterising both the past and the present. In the future, new enlargements of the EU will bring more Muslims into the Union. Accordingly, policy making should focus on the process of inclusion and less on ideas of how to strengthen European identity that, intentionally or not, could lead to exclusion, or, to the emergence of an ever stronger Islamic identity across the EU. The media and the public are aware of the complexity of the subject and are ready to discuss the future. Indeed, while some contributions manage to inspire further Islamophobia, some others try to transmit what many European Muslims see as the cosmopolitan nature of Islam and its readiness to coexist with the others. However, under what conditions?

Diaspora, Cultural Disintegration and Underdevelopment: The Case of Zimbabwe in the Last Ten Years (2001 – 2011)

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This paper explores the question of diaspora, culture and development with reference to Zimbabwe. Its main argument, contrary to the generally held belief, is that in the unique circumstance of Zimbabwe, the political-violence induced emigration of over three million citizens in recent years to countries such as the United States, Britain, Canada, South Africa and Australia among others has resulted in a cultural schizophrenia and hybridity that in varying degrees manifests itself in the individual, the family, and in the nation itself. Zimbabwe, which may be described as having a new diaspora, sharply contrasts with the old diaspora that is associated with countries such as India and China. For these countries, diaspora have settled and fully acclimatised to different parts of the global village and are, therefore, better placed to assist in the sphere of development. In Zimbabwe, a trickle of foreign earning remittances are attributable to the diaspora, but this is nothing compared to countries like Lesotho and Eritrea where the diaspora make a significant, national economic contribution. To illustrate the central argument of this paper whose object is an interrogation of the interface of diaspora, culture, and development in Zimbabwe, we shall develop our argument on the basis of the following core concepts: loss or impeded indigenous language(s) competence, general family disintegration and decay, the emergence of individualism (death of communalism), embracement of insatiable materialism; a misapplied gender hyper-sensitivity and the cultural alienation and/or shock that the Zimbabwe diaspora suffers from. This paper will also discuss tendencies towards either cultural fundamentalism or its opposite, cultural rebellion by the diaspora – tendencies both of which are developmentally unhealthy.

Do numbers matter? Role of Indian Diaspora from Smaller States

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Emergence of information society and the knowledge economy have increased the scope for Diasporas to play a greater role in economic, social, cultural, family and political transnational networks in their native lands. Indian Diaspora is abuzz with a rejuvenated spirit to help their homeland in a role reversal through 'brain gain' but like in other areas, the case of a small state like Assam takes a back seat in such 'national' discourse. Faced with a number of political, social and image issues due to its prevalent portrayal as a "insurgent ridden, economically backward state, with poor infrastructure", the state and its Diaspora seems to be struggling hard to put itself in the league states like Kerala, Punjab, and Gujarat. But, do we have the sufficient number of people from the state living abroad to catalyse any economic or development agenda for the state? Or numbers do not matter as is the case with a number of countries like Haiti or Albania.

Against this backdrop, this paper discusses the issue of Assamese Diaspora and through a comparative analysis with other states in India as well as some foreign countries attempts to present a roadmap for a small state like Assam. Highlighting its geo-political strengths as well as underlining the weaknesses it has to overcome, the paper advocates a more pro-active role both on the part of the government as well as the Diaspora itself. In the byline of the main discussion it also justifies the apparent 'sub-national' overtones of identifying an "Assamese" Diaspora.



Diasporic Writings

The Creation of Diaspora and its Historical Significance: A Study of Amitav Ghosh's Sea of Poppies

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The first in Amitav Ghosh's new trilogy of novels, *Sea of Poppies* is a stunningly vibrant and intensely human work. At the heart of this epic saga is a vast ship, the *Ibis*. Its destiny is a tumultuous voyage across the Indian Ocean to the Mauritius Islands. As to the people on board, they are a motley array of sailors and stowaways, coolies and convicts. In a time of colonial upheaval in the mid Nineteenth century, fate has thrown together a truly diverse cast of Indians and Westerners, from a bankrupt Raja to a widowed village woman, from a mulatto American to a free spirited European orphan. As they sail down the River Hooghly and into the sea, their old family ties are washed away, and they view themselves as *jahaj-bhais*, or ship brothers, who will build whole new lives for themselves in the remote islands where they are being taken. It is the beginning of an unlikely dynasty. The historical adventure is played out in the poppy fields by the Ganga and relates to the Opium wars of China. This paper seeks to study the emergence of the concept of diasporic entity and its existence in the multivocal global village of today's time through the study of Ghosh's novel.

Diasporic Vision in Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*

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Globalisation has put forward new ideas and patterns of migration and proved to be a significant force of the last two decades. Consequently, the question of diaspora gets new direction with particular force: the relationship between place and identity, persona and profession and the ways cultures, traditions, languages and literatures interact. Writers of Indian diaspora such as Sir V.S. Naipaul, Salman Rushdie, Bharati Mukherji, Jhumpa Lahiri, A.K. Ramanujan, Vikram Seth, and Kiran Desai have created waves in the west and made their impact on Indian Literary scene. These migrant Di-

asporas and their descendants experience displacement, fragmentation, marginalisation and discontinuity in cultural discourse of the subject countries. They also face cultural dilemma when their cultural practices are mocked at and there is a threat to their cultural identity.

Kiran Desai, the third Indian winner of the Man Booker Prize, has given us a splendid novel. *The Inheritance of Loss* presents the struggle and conflicts of inhabitants surviving in different countries. Kiran Desai, being an Indian, has used her own experiences and diasporic sensibility. The mental condition of the displaced immigrants has caught the imagination of several novelists. Kiran Desai has tried to depict the real picture of India. The whole novel reveals her keen interests in nature and love for India as it opens with the description of arresting beauty of the Himalaya region. Her description of Nature in this novel is highly poetic and realistic. The plot of the novel sets in a valley in the Himalaya region, Kalimpong.

The novel explores colonial neurosis, multiculturalism, modernity, bitter experiences, insurgency and the game of possession, gender bias, social discrimination, changing human relation and historical relationships between people from different cultures and backgrounds.

The novel is a close analysis of a person who leaves his native land and suffers from fundamental questions of identity and existence. He leaves his native land to earn ample amount of money, but, surprisingly he has to lose so many things instead, like loss of identity, loss of human relation etc. He is consciously preoccupied with the thought of getting success, but, unconsciously, he is uprooted from his cultural existence.

Diasporic Enclosures in the Writings of Peter Nazareth, Vassanji & Tejani

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Diasporic writing occupies a significant position between cultures and countries as it constructs a new identity which negotiates boundaries and confines and relates to different temporal

and spatial metaphors. In the era of liberalisation, privatisation and Globalisation it signifies a case of extracting not just culture, but the producer of culture. The word 'Diaspora' is literally a 'scattering', 'carrying within it' the ambiguous status of being both an ambassador and a refugee. The requirements of the two roles are different, while one requires the projection of one's culture and the ability to enhance its understanding, the other seeks refuge and protection and relates more positively to the host culture. There is a natural pull between the two: the unitary essentialist and subjective and the decentered and dispersed.

Focusing on the work of Bahadur Tejani, Peter Nazareth and Moyez Vassanji, this article attempts to account for the popularity of tropes of miscegenation in the literature produced by East African writers of South Asian descent. The appearance of the figure of the half-caste in this body of writing is especially striking given the fact that miscegenation was much derided in colonial discourse and viewed in fear by traditionalists within the diaspora who saw in it a violation of the integrity of communal boundaries. This article argues that the invocation of miscegenation, and related ideas, was an attempt on the part of this group of writers to reconsider the meanings of citizenship and belonging along the broad lines of secular humanism. In some important sense, the halfcaste symbolised a quest for freedom from the authority of tradition and the naturalisation of cultural difference during colonialism.

Diasporic Sensibility of the South Asian Writers: Nostalgia, Concern for Homeland or Cashing of Emotions

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"To have lived without even attempting to lay claim to one's portion of the earth; to have lived and died as one has been born, unnecessary and accommodated."¹

These words reflect the painful diasporic

consciousness of a person who has migrated to a land where he lives but cannot call his own. A remarkable portion of English literature, especially belonging to twentieth and twenty first century, comprises of diasporic sensibility. Diaspora, in the twenty first century, has given way to the new modes of thinking in the field of theory. A brief understanding of diaspora is imperative in the further elaboration of diasporic literature and theory that abounds in a different sort of sensibility.

Diaspora derives from the Greek word diaspora meaning 'dispersion'. In the English language it refers to the scattering of Jews to the countries outside Palestine after Babylonian captivity. Furthermore, the word expanded in its literal meaning and began to be understood as migration from one country to another. South Asia, known as Third world by the Western countries, has seen a large scale of migration of people to U.S.A., U.K., Germany, France, or other European countries for the sake of professional or academic purposes.

The last quarter of the twentieth century has witnessed a sharp rise in the migration of people from South Asia to the Western world for the above mentioned reasons, and for the search of better options in standard of living. Since literature is the only medium of expression of a person's experiences, there has been an abundance of diasporic literature in the past few years. "The diasporian authors engage in cultural transmission that is equitably exchanged in the manner of translating a map of reality for multiple readerships. Besides, they are equipped with bundles of memories and articulate an amalgam of global and national strands that embody real and imagined experience."²

This paper will present a study of South Asian diasporic writers who are writing with a feeling of dispossession, rootlessness, abandonment, despair and disintegration. This paper will also critique the lack of genuine sensibilities as found in a few writings.

Diasporic Vision of African and Indian Women Novelists

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Diaspora may be defined as a movement, relocation or displacement of people or group of people from their native place to another land. The reason for their immigration may be a desire for a better leaving, for seeking jobs, as refugees and many more. Diaspora may be said to be a mixing of different societies and cultures. The immigrant faces the pangs of loneliness, nostalgia, disappointment and identity crises when in exile in an alien land. The immigrants condition during exile can well be described in the words of Edward W. Said where he avers that, "The unhealable rift forced between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home, its essential sadness can never be surmounted."

The Diasporic writers themselves face the problems of cultural conflict, caught between the homeland and new home and so he deals with these things of immigration and cultural displacement in their works. In this connection Klaus Steinvorth avers thus: The position of Indo-English novelist is on the periphery of their own society, they are partly even separated from it by emigration or expatriation, which does not mean they are sufficiently integrated in their new society... Almost everyone of them feels, or is considered, an outsider standing between India and the West, often led to believe that these two complex and abstract ideas can be reduced to a pair of simple opposites. According to Salman Rushdie in Imaginary Homelands diasporic writing "is obliged to be in broken mirrors, some of whose fragments have been lost."

Through my paper I would like to throw light on the diasporic vision of some African and Indian women novelists such as Alice Walker and Kiran Desai.



Gender in the Diaspora

Does Role Mobility Empower Immigrant Women?

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Increasing migration is a prominent demographic feature of Taiwan over the last fifteen years. Currently there are 427,779 immigrants constituting about 2 per cent of the total population of Taiwan. Ninety per cent of immigrants are females, mainly from Southeast Asia and China via transnational marriages. Immigrants' spouses are largely from working class and low-income backgrounds, and some with disabilities. These families still maintain traditional gender role expectations for immigrants, and, thus, family care and childbearing become primary responsibilities for female immigrants. However, family economic needs would turn female immigrants into family providers.

Within the context of globalisation, there could be something new or nothing new to people in everyday life. For Taiwanese, globalisation usually means changes in population composition but not in cultural diversity. This kind of insensitivity to multicultural society could hamper the dynamics of gender relation in either the private or public sectors. For instance, immigrants have brought significant impacts on the culture of Taiwanese society and the relation of family. While multicultural gradually become a part of everyday life for Taiwanese, the atmosphere of the whole society is unfriendly. Immigrants are often stereotyped as "not good mothers, wives, and daughters-in-law" and "money grubbing".

Accordingly, this study, based on in-depth interviews with 40 immigrants from Southeast Asia and China, explores the gendered ways of family care and housework within immigrant households. The research findings demonstrate that family support plays an important role in gender role mobility within immigrant households. Immigrants in extended families gain more support from family relatives, but lose opportunities to shift traditional husband-wife roles of care and housework. Different from the predominant stereotype, most immigrants are full-time or multiple part-time employed for supporting family economic needs. This article

argues that globalisation not only gives third world women opportunities to get away from disadvantaged living conditions, but also gives men in receiving countries to change gender role in everyday life.

Women of the New Algerian Diaspora: Networks, Social Consciousness, and Political Engagement

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This paper explores the concept of the 'diaspora' and the role of gender in shaping 'diasporas', not as a consequence of migration, but rather as a complex and fluid process by which migrant women articulate new identities and new social and political meanings about their relationship to one another, to co-nationals living elsewhere, and to "home". The contemporary era of global transformations, including cyberspace have re-oriented the academic debates on the construction of ethnic and 'race' boundaries with an emphasis on the growth of non-nation based solidarities. Although this debate has helped to identify the economic and political removal of national borders, as well as the growth of transnational cultural constructions, social constructionists suggest that the concept of the "diaspora" privileges the notion of ethnicity as the point of 'origin' in constructing identity and solidarity between migrants. This process fails to explain trans-ethnic commonalities and overlooks the differences of gender, age, and social class.

Drawing on these debates, the paper explores the extent to which the lack of freedom of thought, restrictions associated with Algerian family law and increased violence, motivated a high number of Algerian women to migrate during the 1990s. It looks at the agenda and expectations of Algerian migrant women and their feeling of belonging to a diaspora, including digital diasporas, that could be used to help combat human rights abuse in their country of

origin. These raise the question of the politics of identity in relation to social class and gender. Finally, the paper examines the Algerian government's policy towards its diaspora. The paper looks at the gender policy of Algerian services abroad, looking at the extent to which it reflects the Algerian government's gender policy and how it affects the engagement of Diasporas towards development programs for "Home".

Rationale for Establishing a Return and Retirement Fund for Indian Overseas Women Migrant Workers in the ECR Countries

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Overseas Indian Workers are excluded from access to formal social security and retirement savings schemes available to residents of the ECR countries. They are also excluded from formal pension, provident fund, and gratuity schemes available to Indian workers. No mechanism presently exist to enable and encourage these workers to either save for their old age or have a motivation to come back to India for a return and resettlement. As a consequence, a majority of these Overseas Indian Workers face the grave risk of poverty when they return to India and become too old to work.

On an average, nearly one in every five Indian workers in ECR countries is a woman. These women workers are even more vulnerable to old age poverty since they enjoy a higher life expectancy than men, but are disadvantaged due to relatively lower incomes, a shorter working age, and interruptions in employment due to childbirth and other family responsibilities.

The paper focuses on the rationale and requirement for such a scheme and provides recommendations to the policy makers towards designing such institutional mechanism that would encourage the target population to voluntarily save for their scheduled return and to also improve their retirement incomes. The paper argues in favour of using Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) mechanism for providing

socioeconomic safety net. Even with needed reforms of formal sector pensions, part of the requirement for retirement income security will need to be met from newer instruments such as the CCTs. CCT have received considerable attention as instruments for eliciting desirable behaviour on the part of the recipients, minimising transaction costs and errors in delivery of public services. That the CCT mechanism can be used effectively and efficiently to motivate pension savings in India has been partly demonstrated by states like Rajasthan and Andhra by launching co contributory pension scheme with the states contributing financially to augment retirement savings of low-income individuals.

Women of Malaysian Diaspora in Qatar: Managing Home and Managing Properties

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Malaysians staying abroad in the era of 21st century form active participants of a global transnational communities. They are part of Malaysian diaspora who are less of a 'brain drain' phenomena but are more of the contributors of financial and human capitals for Malaysia. Malaysian diaspora in the West Asian region started back as early as during the pre Malaysia independence years mainly in the nineteen-fifties. Based on a research undertaken in Qatar, the main objective of this article is to uncover the various roles hold by Malaysian women diaspora in Qatar and to describe the challenges they faced. The emergence of Qatar as one of the Gulf nations in oil-producing and exporting economies has no doubt contributed to the increasing number of Malaysian expatriate communities to this region. While the Malaysian men have gone working, the Malaysian women while managing their homes, they are involved in managing properties in the home country. Undertaking a qualitative research methodological approach, this paper also elaborates

the voices of Malaysian women in the new emergence of Malaysian diaspora in the Arabian Gulf. The paper concludes by suggesting some policy initiatives in advocating a more balance bilateral relationship between the two nations in view of the new emerging scenario in the studies of Malaysian diaspora in the Gulf region.



Film & Theatre

In search of and connecting to Indian Identity: the popular Hindi cinema and Diaspora

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Contemporary popular cinema has emerged as an important site for engagement with the problems resulting from Indian middle class diaspora, and, for the articulation of Indian identity in a globalised world. For Gandhi and many other freedom fighters, the cinema was associated with the hedonistic ways of the West. The West, of course, signified not only a place corresponding to the economically powerful countries of western Europe and the USA, but what Stuart Hall (1992) outlines as a concept that: i) characterises societies into different categories; ii) describes a set of images; iii) provides a model of comparison, and; iv) functions as an ideology. Dada Sahib Phalke brought a different notion of the West into play, one relating to available technologies for cinematic magic (Kaur & Sinha, 2005). Indian films, unlike Hollywood films, introduce in world cultures a fragmentary process. The circulation of India's cinema through the globe has led to the proliferation and fragmentation of its fantasy space, as its narrative and spectacle beget diverse fantasies for diasporic communities, and others. Hindi cinema today is seen as a conveyor of Indianness to diverse audiences and a means of negotiating both Indianness and its transformation, particularly when representing and being received by diasporic populations. Hindi films

are an important element of the diasporic South Asian public culture. Their consumption by an eager diaspora helps sustain a link with 'the old country'.

The present paper is an attempt to locate the link and relationship that diaspora has with the Hindi films, especially the films from 1990's onwards. Many scholars have done quality research and have pointed to the fact that the Hindi films of nineties had started taking note of Non Resident Indians as being cosmopolitan, English-speaking possibly with American accents, but with their hearts and souls in the right place, i.e., respecting all things Indian. Films even had diasporic characters taking centre stage. Many films captured the sensibilities which constitute the diasporic subjects like displacement, new beginning, and, issues of belonging and alienation.

This made the films popular as the diasporic audiences themselves were experiencing social and cultural shifts in their societies which were undergoing modernisation and change. The paper builds up the argument through a journey of films like *Pardes*, *Dilwale Dulhaniya le Jayenge*, *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham*, *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*, and *Swades*.

From Cultural Degradation to Cultural Recognition: Indian Diaspora through Hindi Movies (Bollywood)

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In the 60s and the 70s, our very own Bollywood film industry projected Indian diasporas in a negative way. The characters, who were either NRIs or PIOs were always outrageously wealthy, morally corrupt, and compromised 'Indian cultural values'. These films vividly used beautiful foreign locales but portrayed foreigners or PIOs as 'harbingers of the bad ways of the West'. Manoj Kumar's *PURAB OUR PASCHIM* is a good example of this genre. The hero come to a foreign country for studying and found his native people are trying to assimilate desperately to their foreign counter part. The film is about how the hero changed the common men's idea

about India and feel them proud as Indian.

The dichotomy between reverence for the foreign locales and unflattering representation of the diaspora has been changed in recent past. The liberalising policy of the Indian Govt. helped Hindi film industry to go global. Not only beautiful locales but also the main characters are now NRIs. They born and brought up in diasporic culture but inherit Indian ethnic heritage. They are ready to live fast western life but with an Indian soft soul. The journey starts with Aditya Chopra's DILWALE DULHANIYA LE JAYENGE. The hero despite of his NRI background respects Indian values and rejects the common foreign attitude in case of serious matters. Against this backdrop this paper tries to search the way Indian Diasporas find cultural recognition in the Bollywood film industry. We may add in this context that a good representation always carry a good number of diasporic investors as well as audiences. Thus Bollywood completes the cycle of diasporic culture in the light of cultural development which is ready to mix up both the culture in perfect proportion.

Diaspora in the Indian Cinema and the Notion of Indianness

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The term Diaspora has its context of origin in the forceful expulsion of Jews from their motherland. Etymologically dia means through, and speiro means to scatter. In this era of globalisation, it is found that cinema remains arguably the most prominent visual medium for articulating the experiences of diaspora. It is this cinema that exists for and prominently caters to a diasporic audience of Indians.

It is an age where a rapidly expanding body of scholarship on transnational flows of people, capital and culture, questions of re-territorialisation - of how migrants re-craft a sense of community and cultural identity in new socio-geographic contexts --- have taken a central place. More specifically, a larger domain has emphasised the influence of transnational media

flows in constituting subjectivities in diverse migrant settings.

This paper would, therefore, demonstrate how Hindi film narratives, viewing practices, and patterns of socialisation in the American diaspora intersect to create a discursive realm of consensus regarding the notion of Indianness. Several journalists and scholars also have commented on the centrality of Hindi cinema to life in the Indian diaspora worldwide. However, it is this shift regarding the flow of the mutually constitutive relationship between commercial Hindi cinema and Indian immigrant communities, particularly in the UK and USA, began in the mid 1990s.

Another noteworthy aspect that the paper likes to examine is that the audiences can no longer be treated as merely markets catalysing the globalisation of the Hindi film industry, or, as communities seemingly starved of cultural resources, but rather, as an integral part of the cultural imagery of Hindi cinema. It means that Hindi cinema has the power to influence and shape the politics of identity of being Indians in the US.

Moreover, I would also like to point out how Hindi films (here, I will be citing examples from Hindi cinema) have been able to permeate various social rituals and interactions within socio-cultural networks that viewing practices created, and, have sustained the expatriate Indian's desire to express their Indianness and remain, at least culturally, residents of India. Therefore, over the years, Indian films have evolved tremendously on the basis of the cultural framework that is characteristic of the time zone that they belong to and the masses that they associate with.

"Irangeles" – Representation of Migration in Films of the Iranian Diaspora

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Thanks to the globalisation of travel, media, and capital, exile appears to have become a post-modern condition. Since the Islamic revolution in 1979 many Iranians had to flee their country.

As of 2010 there are an estimated four to five million Iranians living abroad, mostly in North America and Europe.

Behind these refugees and migrants are people and their stories which do not end with their establishment in the West but just starts from there. Migration is seen as a process of spatial displacement of the life-centre which is associated with the experience of social, political, and/or cultural boundaries. This migration process is not only to overcome geographical distances, but it means an extraordinary psycho-social effort and can sometimes last from one generation to another.

All the modalities of placement and displacement are mediated by one or another of the media, from letters, telephone, and email, to audiovisual media of photos and films.

The focus in this paper will be on 25 films, from 1979 till today, about the life of Iranians in the diaspora. The main question will be: how are they represented? It will have a closer look at how these films are dealing with inside or outside spaces and on the meaning of portal places which are often charged with intense emotions.

The film analysis is imbedded in the theoretical debate of imageries the West has from the East, and vice-versa. According to Stuart Hall, the construction of stereotypes is a strategy of division which makes it possible to draw symbolic boundaries. How are these boundaries shown in the films? Accordingly, it raises the question of how the "new" western society is shown.

This paper is about the micro level impact of the diaspora, contextualising the frames of exile, consisting of house, home and homeland. It discusses the way in which film is shaping identities and cultures in an increasingly globalised world on the basis of an analysis of spaces and places in films of the Iranian diaspora.

The Empire Writes from Within: Kali Theatre Company- A Case Study

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This paper is an overview of South Asian diaspora to the United Kingdom and its cultural expression in theatre, with particular attention to women's artistic productions.

After a short introduction on South Asian diaspora and reflection on term choices, the paper focuses on the United Kingdom, analysing the evolution of South Asian presence in theatre from its origins in 19th century ("ayahs, lazars and princes" R. Visram, 1986), through World War 2, theatre in original language, urban theatre of the 70's and 80's to the 90's, including history of Arts Council Founding System, and its policy.

After an overview of the context, the paper examines South Asian women experiencing diaspora through the production of Kali Theatre Company from 1990 to 2003. Kali Theatre Company is a group founded in 1990 in London by writer Rukhsana Ahmad and actress Rita Wolf, whose aim is to support the presence of South Asian women in British theatre, both as actresses than as playwrights. The paper moves from a historical point of view to sociological aspects of diaspora, through the words of the women interviewed, trying to throw light on experiences that have been obliterated by history and analysis for many years, and even now, are often forgotten.

South Asian women in UK suffer a double alterity, being women and South Asian, that is increased and underlined in the artistic field. In the meanwhile they are challenging the male dualistic system of "centre/periphery" because woman place themselves in the hic et nunc, this means that in the diaspora they are writing and acting in the "centre".

Academic Profile of Conference Participants



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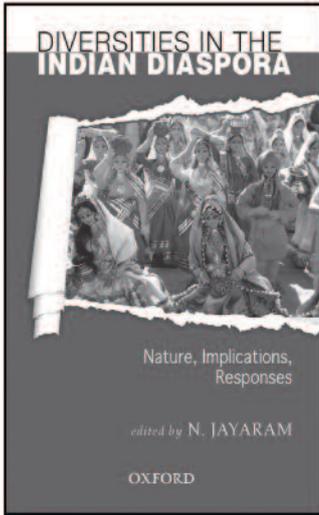
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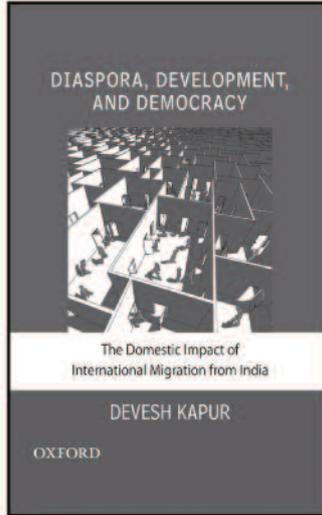
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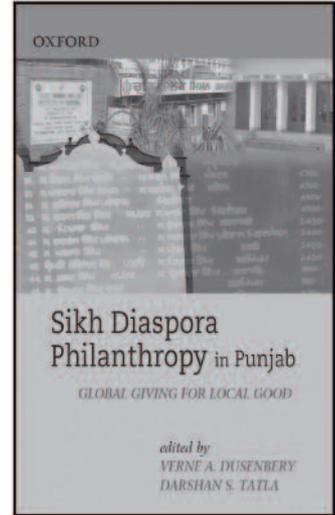
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