

Inter-Regional Migration and Urban Growth: A Case Study of Pakistan

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Abstract

The study focuses on the urban growth pattern in various districts, which have been greatly influenced by the inter-regional migration. A number of districts show tremendous urban growth resulting from such flow of people. Punjab and Sindh in particular show considerable urban growth in a number of districts which are at the receiving end of migrants' population. The scope of this study falls in the jurisdiction of researches in migration, urban growth and regional development. The study is conceived specifically as an investigation of the inter-regional migration flows and regional characteristics in Pakistan and their contribution towards some very significant urban growth patterns during the 1981-1998 periods.

Introduction

Migration is termed as movement of people from one place to more favorable destinations holding better prospects of livelihood. It is a topic that interests social scientists from a wide range of disciplines. Their approaches differ although their objective of study is the same that is migrant population. The study of migration is multi-dimensional in nature with political, economic, cultural, social, strategic and spatial implications. Surges and sags of urban growth in both receiving and sending districts cause city ward migration. Since the emergence of Pakistan, variations in the relationship have emerged across levels of development. There are cases where exceptional urban growth has been noticed in a number of districts not only in Punjab and Sindh but also in less developed provinces of Balochistan and NWFP resulting in the

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growth of urban areas in rural-oriented districts especially around administrative capitals.

Every soul need to search for livelihood and security. Persisting disparities between rich and poor nations has escalated the movement of people over national borders. Causes of migration include poverty, under development, lack of good governance and inability to access health, education and employment¹ and above all political instability. Migration has proved to be politically explosive issue in a significant number of countries, to the extent that it seems to have played an important role in determining the outcome of several elections. The discourse on migration has thus become a highly polarized one at national, regional and global levels, with limited common ground between the different constituencies that have an interest in the issue.²

In the growing literature on the study of migration, two theoretical issues have attracted the greatest attention, one, why people migrate and two, how far is their destination. A simple model for explaining the reasons why people move has been formulated in terms of the pull-push forces.³ This has been elaborated variously to take account of internal migration movements of the rural-rural, rural-urban, or urban-urban types as well as international migrations.⁴ The issue of how far people move has, in turn, given rise to the formulation of a surprisingly large number of models of varying degrees of statistical or mathematical sophistication.⁵

¹ P. Martin, S. Martin and S. Cross, 'High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development', *International Migration*, 45:1 (2007), pp.7-25.

² 'Report of the Global Commission on International Migration', *Documents, Population and Development Review*, 31:4 (2005), pp.787-98.

³ J.C. Mitchell, 'Migrant Labor in Africa South of the Sahara: The Causes of Labor Migration', *Bulletin of the Inter-African Labor Institute*, Vol. 6, 1959, pp.8-46.

⁴ R.T. Appleyard, 'Migration and Development: A Critical Relationship', *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 1:1 (1992), pp.1-18. Also see Douglas S. M, et al, 'Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal', *Population and Development Review*, 19:3 (September, 1993), pp.431-66.

⁵ M.O. Hesiler, 'Migration, International Relations and the New Europe: Theoretical Perspectives from Institutional Political Sociology'. *International Migration Review*, XXVI:2 (Summer, 1992), pp.596-622. See also R.L Morrill, and F. R. Pitts, 'Marriage, Migration and the Mean Information Field: A Study of Uniqueness and Generality', *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 57, 1967, pp.401-22.

Migrants have often been amongst the most dynamic and entrepreneurial members of society, people who are prepared to venture beyond the confines of their own community and country in order to create new opportunities for themselves and their children. It is no coincidence that some of the largest concentrations of migrants are to be found in global cities, dynamic, innovative and highly cosmopolitan urban centers that are enabling people, places and cultures in different parts of the world to become increasingly interconnected.⁶

Rural-urban migration also represents an essentially spatial concomitant of the economic development of a region. Indeed, it has been suggested that one of the basic goals of economic development is to reverse the situation wherein greater proportion of the population is involved in agriculture and therefore lives in rural areas while much less is engaged in non-agricultural activities and lives in urban areas. Rural-urban migration is a complex phenomenon which involves not only the migrants but also a number of institutional agencies, and it gives rise to significant adjustments everywhere in a region.⁷

It can be argued with a great deal of justification that some of the theoretical models have considered migrations, especially rural-urban migration, as a spatial flow whose dynamics and spatial impact must form part of any comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon.⁸ In this paper an attempt is made to define major components and relationship in a formal, mathematical manner. The emphasis here is on simple analysis of the ways in which the system of migration operates. It is hoped that this will enable us to identify areas where existing knowledge is fragmentary and where future research may be directed with some profit.

Study area

Pakistan is spread over an area of 803,940 sq. km. between 23° N to 37° N latitude and 61° E to 75.5° E longitudes, with widely contrasting environment. These range from the extreme northwestern mountainous terrain to the eastern upper and lower Indus plains. The river Indus and its four tributaries flow through the province of Punjab while the main river (Indus) enters into the province of Sindh with extensive fertile lands. The rivers are the major sources of one of the most developed

⁶ 'Report of the Global Commission on International Migration', *op.cit.*

⁷ M. Parnwell, *Population Movement and the Third World* (London: Routledge, 1992).

⁸ L.M. Akin, 'Systems Approach to a Theory of Rural-Urban Migration', *Geographical Analysis*, Vol. 2, 1970, pp.1-18.

perennial canal irrigation system in the world providing enormous economic opportunities. Administratively in 1981, Pakistan was divided into sixty four (64) districts (Fig. 1), while in 1998 the number of districts rose to one hundred and five (105) (Fig. 2). Islamabad is functioning as a Federal Capital Territory.

Methodology

ArcView GIS software has been used for showing spatial pattern of Immigrants and degree of urbanization for 1981 and 1998 period in the districts of Pakistan. In some places categorization has successfully depicted the spatial relationship between urbanization and in migration. Data related to migration and urbanization has been derived from various census reports of 1981 and 1998.⁹

To find out the relationship between urban population and in migrants, correlation coefficient and coefficient of determinants have been employed. Correlation coefficient is a useful abstract measure of the strength and direction of association between two variables. It ranges from -1 to $+1$. The high correlation coefficient $-ve$ or $+ve$ indicates that a very strong relationship exists between the two variables.¹⁰

The coefficient of determinants gives the proportion of the variation of Y, which is associated with variation in X. Its range is from 0 to 1.

Inter-district migration

Migration from rural to urban areas is generally considered as the most important form of internal migration especially in countries experiencing industrialization. Rural-urban migration is primarily a response to economic motives. In the areas of departure population pressure, modernization of agriculture (especially the mechanization and methods

⁹ a. *Census Atlas of Pakistan 1980-81*, Population Census Organization, Statistical Division, Government of Pakistan, 1989, Islamabad.

b. *Provincial Census Report 1998 Balochistan*, Population Census Organization, Statistical Division, Government of Pakistan, 2002, Islamabad.

c. *Provincial Census Report 1998 NWFP*, Population Census Organization, Statistical Division, Government of Pakistan, 2002, Islamabad.

d. *Provincial Census Report 1998 Punjab*, Population Census Organization, Statistical Division, Government of Pakistan, 2002, Islamabad.

e. *Provincial Census Report 1998 Sindh*, Population Census Organization, Statistical Division, Government of Pakistan, 2002, Islamabad.

¹⁰ B.J. Lenon and P.G. Cleves, *Techniques and Fieldwork in Geography*, (London: Bell and Hyman, 1987).

of commercial production) as well as the traditional systems of land tenure have been the key push factors while the rapid increase of employment opportunities (often with better working conditions) in urban areas are the major pull factors.

Mostly internal migration has taken place from the economically depressed areas where there is much pressure on land and resources, industrialization process is absent, employment opportunities are not available and infrastructure is poor.¹¹ The role of transportation facilities (especially the land transport) in breaking down traditional rural isolation has been primordial in many parts of the world.¹²

Rural-urban migration involves the less fortunate in advanced countries at least it has been beneficial in correcting labor surpluses and employment in rural areas. It has been observed that migrants from rural areas or small towns move towards large urban centers and sometimes many of them settle along roads, leading to these areas or in the shape of informal settlements.¹³ Sometimes in case of such migration unplanned settlements appear causing congestion and pressure on the existing infrastructure and environment.¹⁴ Many rural-urban migrants are taking up their first employment, but others are changing their occupation often from an agricultural to non-agricultural one.

Rural areas are also influenced by internal migration. In some cases male head of the family moves towards large cities and intern earning are sent to families living in the rural areas raising their standard of living. The migrant families in urban areas have adopted urban life styles e.g. education of children.

Results and discussions

The spatial dimension involved in migration carries special significance in geography. Geographers are interested in the pattern of migration, factors responsible for migration and the impact of migration on origin and destination areas, its volume and composition and the variation in it

¹¹ A. Hasan and M. Raza, 'Migration and Small Towns in Pakistan', *Working Paper Series on Rural-Urban Interactions and Livelihood Strategies, Working Paper 15*, Human Settlement Programme IIED, London.

¹² T. M. Dieleman, 'Struggling with Longitudinal Data and Modeling in the Analysis of Residential Mobility'. *Environmental Planning*, Vol. 26, 1992, pp.1659-70.

¹³ A. Hasan and M. Raza, 'Migration and Small Towns in Pakistan', *Working Paper Series on Rural-Urban Interactions and Livelihood Strategies, Working Paper 15*, Human Settlement Programme IIED, London.

¹⁴ R. Ali, 'How Urban is Pakistan?' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Volume XXXVII, Nos. 44, 45, Delhi.

through time. As far as the volume and composition of migration is concerned, a number of cultural, social, economic and geographical factors are involved in it. To a large extent these factors determine the number of migrants who move from one location to another.

Volume of population that migrates from one area to another depends upon the strength of pull factors in the receiving area and the severity of push factors in the areas of origin. To put in a more generalized way, we can say that the degree of spatial imbalance in terms of push and pull factors between the two ends of migration stream, to a certain extent, determines the amount of flow between them.¹⁵

Two other factors that condition the amount of flow are the interesting opportunities (for example alternative destinations) and the friction of distance between them. Present research is based on a case study of in-out migrants of the four provinces of Pakistan. Various factors involved in the migration have been analyzed.

Migration and urbanization 1981 and 1998

The major contributions to this study are the empirical demonstrations that there exists a relationship between the influx of population and economic attractiveness of urban districts of Pakistan in 1981 and 1998.

Migration and regional development properly begin with the spatial structure within which migration flows are major connecting links. A large number of people have migrated from various provinces to Sindh, which includes the mega city of Karachi, which is undoubtedly the hub of commercial and industrial activities (Fig. 3a).

The spatial distribution of Immigrants has changed through time. The districts with very high influx of Immigrants in 1981 were Karachi and Quetta (Fig. 3a). The regional attractiveness of these districts differs though both of these districts include provincial capitals and the large urban centers of the provinces. During the late 1970's and early 1980's Quetta received large number of Afghan refugees, mainly due to its close proximity to Afghanistan.¹⁶

It is clear that these two districts have exerted pull forces with tremendous regional attractiveness. The developed districts act as focal points of attraction. These districts offer economic opportunities to the migrants from the two province in which these are located as well as the

¹⁵ Odland, J., 'Longitudinal Approaches to Analyzing Migration Behavior in the Context of Personal Histories' in Fischer and Getis, *Recent Developments in Spatial Analysis*. Berlin, Springer Verlag, 1997, pp.49-70.

¹⁶ A. Hasan, *The Scale and Causes of Urban Change in Pakistan*. (Karachi: Ushba Publishing International, 2006).

remaining two provinces of Pakistan. Karachi stands out with the highest degree of urbanization (Fig. 3b and Table 1) and large number of Immigrants, thus reflecting the highest level of regional attractiveness. Karachi, being the largest urban center of Sindh and the whole country, is the core of industrial and commercial activities.¹⁷ Its ports provide export facilities not only to the entire country but also to Azad Kashmir and Afghanistan. The multi-faceted economic establishments located at Karachi offer a number of employment opportunities. In 1981, Karachi accounted for 31.8% Immigrants which is the largest number of Immigrants in any district of Pakistan.

The intensity of migration for various districts of Pakistan in 1981 is shown in Table 1.

Table: 1 Intensity of Migration – 1981

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Very High (31.80% – 25.44%) | Karachi, Quetta |
| High (25.44% – 19.08%) | Lahore, Sheikhpura |
| Intermediate (19.08% - 12.72%) | Vihari, Bahawalnagar, Faisalabad, Kasur, Loralai, Gujranwala, Hyderabad, Rawalpindi, Sahiwal, Muzaffargarh, Bahawalpur |
| Low (12.72% - 06.36%) | Sanghar, Sukkur, Sialkot, Sargodha, Multan, Badin, Rahim Yar Khan, Peshawar, Malakand, Jhang, Gujrat, Mianwali, Sibi, Nasirabad, Nawabshah, Tharparkar |
| Very Low (06.36% - 00.00%) | Kohat, Jhelum, Dadu, Abbottabad, Khairpur, Dera Gazi Khan, Thatta, Chagai, Lasbela, Swat, Mardan, Dera Ismail Khan, Attock, Larkana, Kachhi, Bannu, Pishin, Shirakpur, Dir, Zhob, Kalat, Khuzdar, Manshera, Jocababad, Gwadar, Kohlu, Kohistan, Chitral, Kharan, Turbat, Panjgur |

In 1998, the emerging spatial pattern of Immigrants is very interesting. It is quite different from that of 1981. Karachi, the largest urban center of Sindh retains its position as the main recipient of

¹⁷ K. Manhood, 'Impact of Karachi on Development of Sindh', *Journal of Social Science*, Vol. 31, 2004, pp.23-9.

immigrant population (Fig 4a). Karachi plays its vital role in the overall economy of the province and the country. It offers employment opportunities to a large number of Immigrants especially from the Punjab and the NWFP. Much of the migration flow has taken place between Sindh and the two northern provinces of the country. The result is that Karachi has become a melting pot of various ethnic groups, which entitle it to the status of mini Pakistan.

According to the findings, the magnitude of Immigrants is closely related to the degree of urbanization (Fig 4a and 4b). Next to Karachi, Rawalpindi has emerged as a symbol of very high regional attractiveness for Immigrants. It has also emerged as very important district of Pakistan with numerous economic opportunities. Enjoying the neighborhood of Islamabad, Rawalpindi shows vital signs of a developed commercial area in Potwar region. Districts showing high level of attractiveness in 1998 are Lahore and Gujranwala, both from the province of Punjab. It is important to note that Lahore has retained its position as a highly attractive district after Karachi and Rawalpindi.

In the wake of rural to urban and urban to urban migration in Pakistan a large number of migrants live in informal settlements in the cities like Karachi, Lahore, and Rawalpindi etc. Several small towns have grown into larger towns in chain like growth along highways both in Sindh and Punjab. This linear development is evident especially around Gujranwala, Lahore and Faisalabad.¹⁸

The leading city of Quetta, which is the provincial capital, has dropped from the top position of attractiveness in 1981 to the intermediate category in 1998. The repatriation of Afghan refugees could be attributed to this change (Table 2).

In Balochistan, only Loralai, Nasirabad and Bolan fall in low (9.5% to 4.75%) category. The remaining districts of Balochistan fall in the category of very low attractiveness. Most of the districts of the NWFP and Sindh as well as marginal districts of Punjab show very little attractiveness. They have very low degree of urbanization where even basic necessities of life are missing.

Table: 2 Intensity of Migration – 1998

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Very High (23.75% – 19.00%) | Karachi, Rawalpindi |
| High (19.00% – 14.25%) | Lahore, Gujranwala |
| Intermediate | Lasbela, Faisalabad, Vihari, Quetta, Pakpattan, |

¹⁸ A. Hasan, *op.cit.*

(14.25% - 09.50%)

Toba Tek Singh, Peshawar, Layyah, Sheikhpura

Low

(09.50% - 04.75%)

Okara, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Sargodha, Khanewal, Sialkot, Sahiwal, Bhakkar, Narowal, Jhelum, Kasur, Bahawalnagar, Hafizabad, Bahawalpur, Gujrat, Mirpur Khas, Nowshera, Nasirabad, Bolan, Mandi Bahaiddin, Lodhran, Jhang, Loralai, Multan, Kohat, Mardan, Rahim Yar Khan

Very Low

(04.75% - 00.00%)

Dera Ismail Khan, Muzaffargarh, Sibi, Dera Bugti, Malakand, Kohlu, Zhob, Nawabshah, Chagai, Haripur, Sanghar, Abbottabad, Chakwal, Mastung, Mianwali, Khuzdar, Jaffarabad, Badin, Gwadar, Buner, Thatta, Hangu, Swabi, Rajanpur, Dadu, Dera Gazi Khan, Tank, Jocababad, Ghotki, Ziarat, Lower Dir, Batgram, Khairpur, Charsadda, Qila Saifullah, Naushero Firoz, Shikarpur, Manshera, Barkhan, Qila Abdullah, Kech, Chitral, Khushab, Lakki Marwat, Swat, Pishin, Larkana, Kohistan, Kalat, Karak, Shangla, Musa Khel, Kharan, Panjgur, Tharparkar, Bannu, Attock, Jhal Magsi, Upper Dir, Awaran

Geometrical propagation in the number of districts at the receiving end has been witnessed (Tables 1 and 2). For example the two districts of Karachi and Quetta stand at the top (Table 1). While at the bottom there were 31 districts with low percentage of migration intensity showing pyramid of urban population. The role of pull forces extended by large urban centers such as Karachi is quite evident.

The inter-provincial migration is also an interesting phenomenon. There has been tremendous movement between various provinces of Pakistan (Fig. 5 and 6). In 1981 high proportion of migrants from NWFP moved to Sindh, which is 62% of the total migrants. 33% people migrated to Punjab and 5% to Balochistan (Table 3). From Punjab 80% migrants chose Sindh as their destination. From Sindh, out of total migrants, 14% went to NWFP, 8% to Balochistan and 71% chose Punjab. People migrating from Balochistan chose Sindh and Punjab as their destinations in exact terms, 50% of these people moved to Sindh whereas 48% went to Punjab.

Table: 3 Inter-Provincial Migration – 1981

| Migrated from | Migrated to | | | | Total |
|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|-------|
| | NWFP | Punjab | Sindh | Balochistan | |
| NWFP | - | 33.02 % | 62.02 % | 4.94 % | 100 % |
| Punjab | 12.58 % | - | 80.24 % | 7.16 % | 100 % |
| Sindh | 13.58 % | 77.50 % | - | 8.9 % | 100 % |
| Balochistan | 1.57 % | 48.02 % | 50.40 % | - | 100 % |

According to 1998 census of population, 32% of the migrants of NWFP chose Punjab as their destination and 65% moved to Sindh. Very negligible number went to Balochistan (Table 4). From the province of Punjab the majority of people (89%) moved to Sindh. As compared to 1981, in 1998 there has been considerable decrease (from 12% to 5.40%) in the number of people who chose NWFP as their destination. From Sindh, 79% of the total migrants moved to Punjab, 8% to NWFP and 13% to Balochistan in 1998 (Table 3 and 4).

Table: 4 Inter-Provincial Migration – 1998

| Migrated from | Migrated to | | | | Total |
|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|-------|
| | NWFP | Punjab | Sindh | Balochistan | |
| NWFP | - | 31.80 % | 64.81 % | 3.37 % | 100 % |
| Punjab | 5.40 % | - | 89.01 % | 5.5 % | 100 % |
| Sindh | 8.00 % | 78.94 % | - | 13.05 % | 100 % |
| Balochistan | 0.90 % | 20.40 % | 78.69 % | - | 100 % |

Table 5 describes that the highest percentage of Immigrants in NWFP during 1981 were from Punjab (85%). While in Punjab the highest percentage of Immigrants was from NWFP (57%), due mainly to its proximity. In Sindh about 60% Immigrants came from Punjab and 35% from NWFP.

Table: 5 Immigrants - 1981

| Place of Origin | Current Destination | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| | NWFP | Punjab | Sindh | Balochistan |
| NWFP | - | 57.35 % | 34.93 % | 30.56 % |
| Punjab | 84.68 % | - | 59.68 % | 58.47 % |
| Sindh | 13.79 % | 26.82 % | - | 10.96 % |

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| Balochistan | 1.52 % | 15.82 % | 5.38 % | - |
| Total | 100 % | 100 % | 100 % | 100 % |

Table 6 shows that in 1998, the highest number of Immigrants in NWFP belonged to Punjab that is 76%, whereas 22% and 2% came from Sindh and Balochistan respectively. In Punjab, the highest number of Immigrants were from NWFP (64%), followed by Sindh (31%) and then Balochistan. Punjabis contributed the highest proportion among the Immigrants in Sindh province that is about 54% of the total migrants. Those who came from NWFP accounted for 40% in Sindh during 1998. Balochistan also has a large number of Immigrants from Punjab that is 48%. At least there were 13% more immigrants in Balochistan from Sindh in 1998 as compared to 1981.

Table: 6 Immigrants – 1998

| Place of Origin | Current Destination | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| | NWFP | Punjab | Sindh | Balochistan |
| NWFP | - | 63.60 % | 39.83 % | 29.55 % |
| Punjab | 75.85 % | - | 53.71 % | 48.00 % |
| Sindh | 22.41 % | 30.95 % | - | 22.43 % |
| Balochistan | 1.72 % | 5.44 % | 6.45 % | - |
| Total | 100 % | 100 % | 100 % | 100 % |

Table 3 and 4 show, that Sindh is the most preferable destination among the migrants both in 1981 and 1998 even from a distant province like NWFP. With improved economic opportunities, good governance and as the biggest hub of services sector in the country, Sindh collectively has played its role in attracting more people from other provinces.

While analyzing Table 5 and 6, it is obvious that in NWFP, Sindh and Balochistan a large number of Immigrants belong to the Punjab. Though the province is endowed with considerable resources and opportunities but due to high growth of population its resources fall short of its needs. Hence large segment of its population keeps moving towards greener pasture, like Karachi in order to find better opportunities for their livelihood.

Tables 7 and 8 depict a good relationship between in-migrants and degree of urbanization. For example Sindh received the highest percentage of Immigrants and the degree of urbanization is also at the

highest level as compared to other provinces both in 1981 and 1998. In terms of economic resources, Sindh is the richest province in Pakistan. Karachi has two major ports from where over 90% Pakistan's international trades originate. Sindh has an equally impressive production ratio of industrial goods and agricultural commodities in Pakistan.¹⁹

Table: 7 Migration and Urban Population – 1981

| Province | Immigrants (%) | Emigrants (%) | Urban Population (%) |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NWFP | 1.05 | 5.38 | 15.1 |
| Punjab | 0.72 | 1.65 | 27.6 |
| Sindh | 5.56 | 0.62 | 43.3 |
| Balochistan | 2.22 | 2.61 | 15.6 |

Table: 8 Migration and Urban Population – 1998

| Province | Immigrants (%) | Emigrants (%) | Urban Population (%) |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NWFP | 0.16 | 2.29 | 16.9 |
| Punjab | 0.27 | 0.54 | 31.3 |
| Sindh | 2.18 | 0.26 | 48.9 |
| Balochistan | 0.70 | 0.82 | 23.3 |

Correlation coefficient and coefficient of determinants: The correlation coefficient (R) and coefficient of determinants (R²) support the idea that immigration and urban growth has positive relationship. The R-value calculated for 1981 was 0.69 and for 1998, 0.72 while R² for 1981 was 0.47 and for 1998, 0.51 showing strong relationship.

It is clear that the degree of urbanization has been a very important factor in the regional attractiveness.²⁰ Urbanization represents modernization and development.²¹ It can be termed as an effective stimulus to migrate. It is important to know why people migrate from rural to urban areas. There could be a number of push and pull factors responsible for this movement. The stimulus to migrate is related to the

¹⁹ S. Ghausi, 'Migration Factors Can't be Overlooked', *Sunday Magazine, Dawn*, 19 October 2003, p.1.

²⁰ K. Mahmood, 'Dynamics of Inter-district Inequality in Pakistan: 1981–2001', *Pakistan Perspectives*. Vol. 9, No. 2, 2004, pp.85-103.

²¹ K. Mahmood, *Changes in the Spatial Structure of Administrative Areas in Pakistan: A Geographical Evaluation*, Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Geography, University of Karachi, 2003.

extent of the integration of rural activities into the national economy, to the degree of awareness of opportunities outside the rural areas and to the nature of the social and economic expectations held by the rural population for themselves. The major issue related with the act of moving is the transport cost, the distance and the direction of movement. These variables have clearly determined the crisscross channels of migration as well as their destinations in Pakistan.

Conclusion

Results of the analysis indicate the impact of urbanization and modernization on overall migration pattern. The huge volume of net inter-provincial movement can be seen in the net differences in the volume of the inter-provincial migration between census periods of 1981 and 1998 (Fig. 7 and 8). During seventeen years period Sindh has experienced net migration gains as compared to each of the three provinces. The strength of the pull factors in Sindh is manifested by the intensity of migrants especially from the Punjab and the NWFP. Most of the migration took place in the post-independence period. 1981 is the year when a large number of Afghan Immigrants also entered various provinces specially Balochistan and NWFP. This has been a proof of the positive contribution of migration towards urban growth in the districts at the receiving end. Quetta reflects a good example of this phenomenon where huge investments were made in the wake of Afghan crisis in 1980's.²² A number of districts in Sindh, Punjab and the NWFP (Hyderabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Peshawar and Nowshera) have also shown the contribution of migration towards urban growth.

The two patterns of the intensity of migration from province to province clearly show a drop in the intensity from 1981 to 1998. Though for both the census years Karachi has been at the receiving end offering maximum opportunities of employment, education, health etc, the distance between the NWFP and Karachi did not affect the direction of flow of migration. Very large numbers of immigrants have moved from various districts of the NWFP and the Punjab. Another flow of migration took place from the NWFP to the Punjab as well. To a lesser degree some migrants also moved from Punjab to the NWFP.

But in 1998, the situation changed from that of 1981. Migration from the NWFP and the Punjab was less than 1981 to the province of Sindh whereas from Sindh to these provinces, very little to Punjab and negligible to the NWFP (Fig 5) and (Fig 6).

²² K. Mahmood and A. Azad, 'A Profile of Regional Inequality: the Case of Balochistan', *General Geographic*, 4:2 (2003), pp.51-7.

The results clearly show the significance of urbanized districts, which include large urban centers offering a variety of opportunities to the migrants. The process of migration itself has played a key role in contributing to the further growth of urban centers in various districts. It is this inter-district migration, which has played a vital role in influencing the growth of urban centers included in these districts.

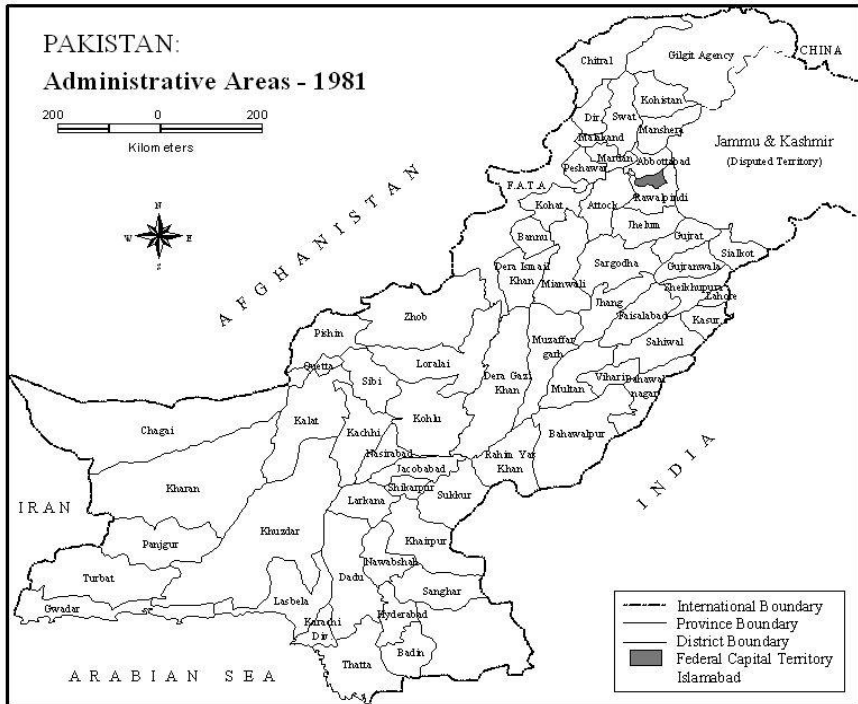


Figure 1

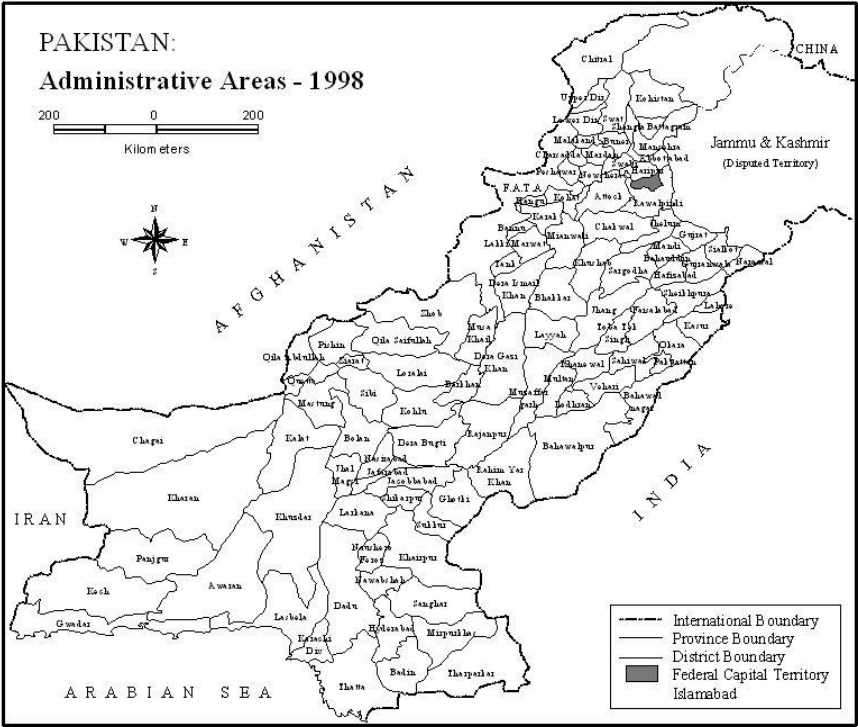


Figure 2

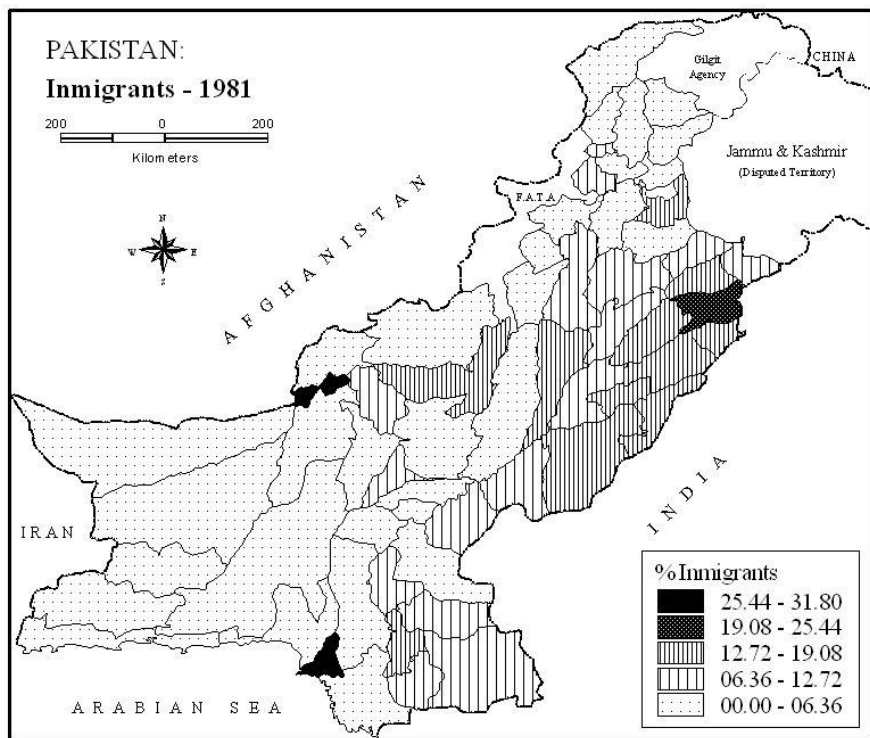


Figure 3a

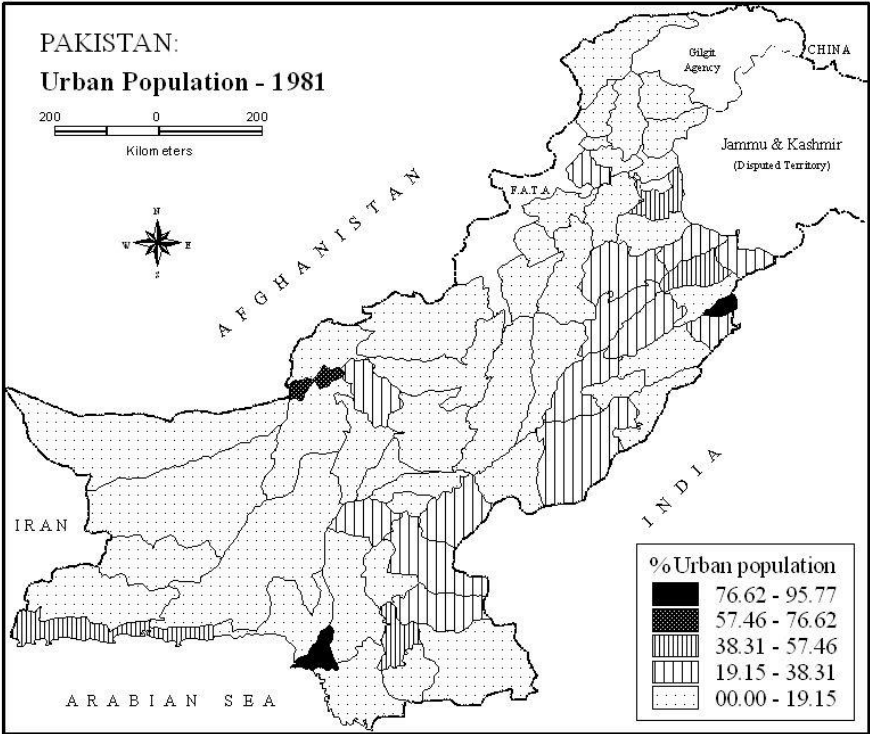


Figure 3b

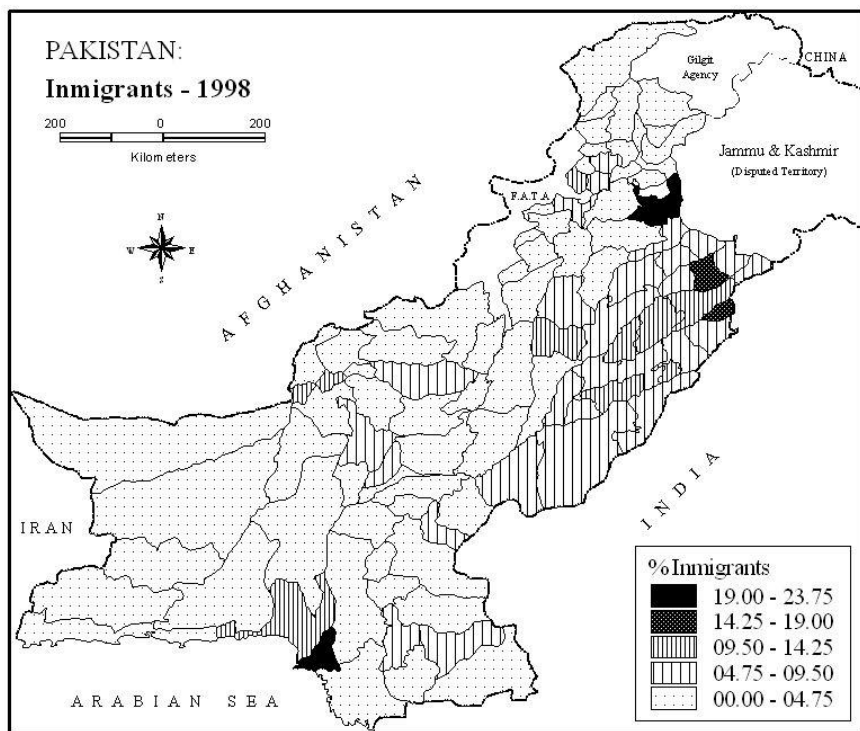


Figure 4a

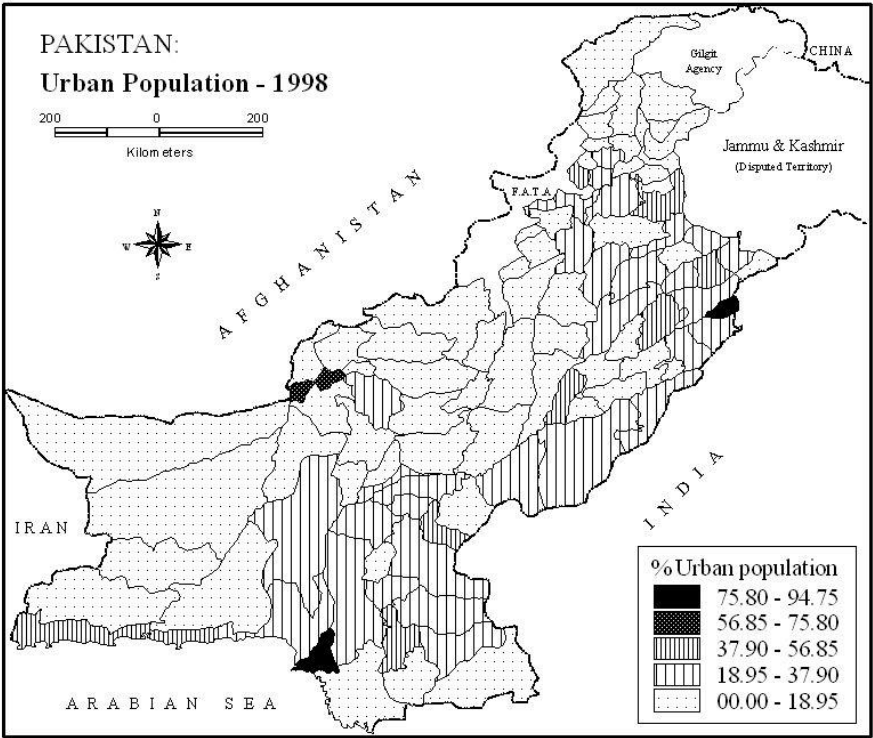


Figure 4b

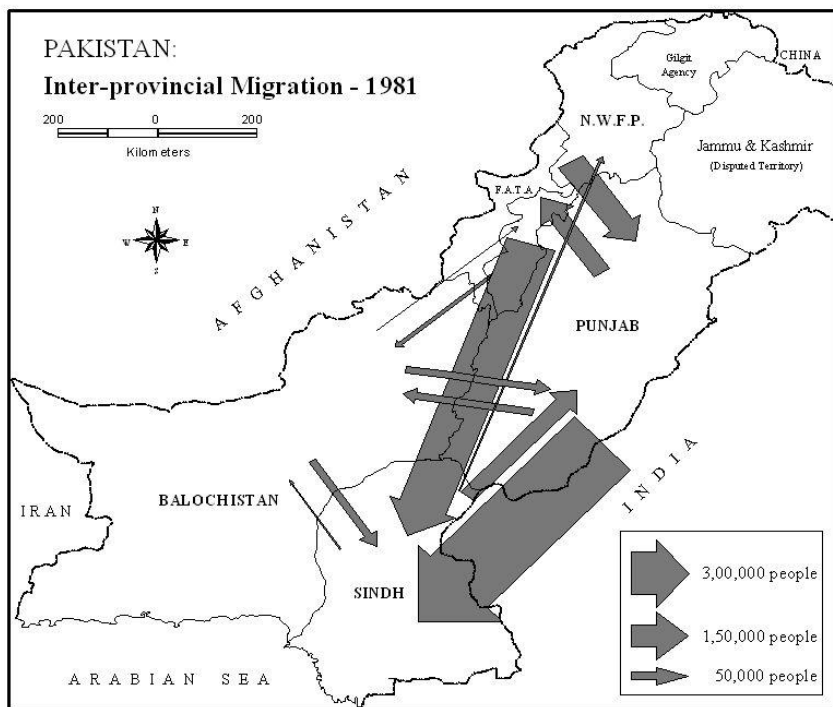


Figure 5

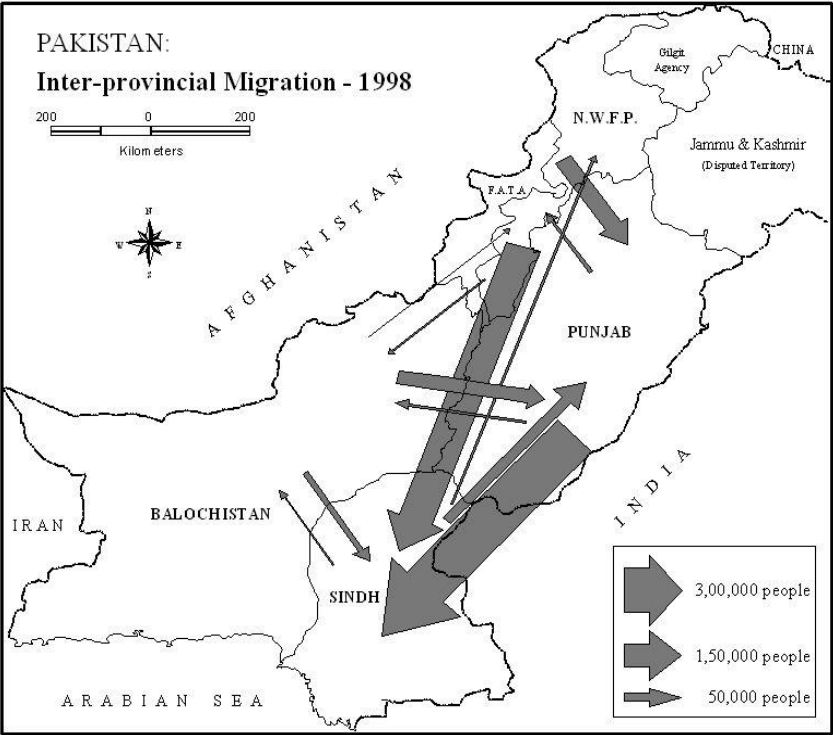


Figure 6