

Development and the Social Phenomenon of Immigration

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Abstract

Immigration is a phenomenon that refers to the transfer of human habitation. All societies have somehow faced with the challenge of immigration due to the wide range of immigration. Immigration has different cultural, social, economic and political implications. On the other hand, the development includes all the effective factors in the improvement of the living conditions, that is, the economic, social, cultural and political factors of the society. The purpose of this present study is to assess immigration and its effects on different dimensions of development. Immigration phenomena like any other social phenomenon can be assessed from different perspectives. Immigration has two types of effects, its effects on the origin and destination of immigration. If migrants are efficient at origin, their efficiency will be reduced due to migration and changes in production costs will occur, but if they do not migrate due to efficiency, it can be said that the work force of migrant is not efficient at the source and are considered as surplus capital in compare of other sources and production institutions. Only attention to physical issues cannot prevent immigration from an economic point of view, but attitudes must also be changed. Immigration cannot be treated individually and separately from other social, economic and political phenomena, so it is expected that its control is possible in a comprehensive approach. Its development and its continuity should also be noted in a time processing, and its control is not expected until a specified and proportional development pattern is prepared to the needs of the countries.

Key words: Development, Immigration, Social phenomena

INTRODUCTION

Development is one of the basic issues in today's societies, and it is an important index of their development amount in discussing and comparing on the different societies.

Development is not the same as economic growth. Because development is a multi-dimensional flow that involves itself reorganization and different orientation of the whole economic-social system. It can be said simply that according to the main goal of development is the elimination of inequalities, the best concept of development is growth along with social justice.

Immigration is a social phenomenon that has a two types of internal and external in order to the location. Any migration beyond the boundaries of a country is called foreign immigration. Any displacement and permanent or semi-permanent change of house and place of residence within the geographical territory of a country is called internal immigration. These displacements can take place from rural to urban, from small towns to major cities.

Immigration can be divided according to the following criteria:

1. Based on compulsory factors (such as immigration to escape prosecution, natural disasters, extreme poverty) and attractive factors (such as the availability of job opportunities in the destination country)
2. Based on motives based on rights (family reunification, exploitation of the asylum right) and motives based on economic factors (work force immigration)
3. Based on lawful, unlawful principles
4. Based on the duration of immigration, permanent or periodic

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Trends and Approaches in Immigration

Immigration can be studied in the light of a general approach and three approaches from the developed countries, developing countries, and the international community.

Immigration is statistically increasing. But direction of immigration moves from the outward boundary to the inside. Perhaps the most important general trend in the phenomenon of immigration is the security of immigration in developed societies. Immigrants in developed countries are considered as a threat to the job position of native non-professional workers (economic security) creation of financial burden for taxpayers as refugees and part of the welfare system (Financial security), an importer of diseases (health security and.) in the light of the politicization of the immigration issue and its changing into an electoral issue in the West now. The change in the composition of immigration in the form of increasing the share of women in the immigrant community is a new phenomenon of this subject.

Immigration and the Developed World

Pontus and Edomalm have evaluated a historical background and current status of immigration in the West, explaining that the West has used from immigrants in two periods. The period of work force immigration and the current period that these communities are faced in a negative balance and aging population. The inevitable competition among them has been intensified with the population aging in developed countries to attract selective immigrants. Douhan has evaluated this discussion within the framework of the well-known debate on brain drain. At the same time, the governments of the Western societies are faced with a multifaceted puzzle in the immigration issues. The various dimensions of this paradox are:

The need for immigrant work force due to the aging population and the importance of the educated work force in basic knowledge economics

The failure of traditional methods to create social convergence between the second and third generations of immigrants with the community and the values of the West

Converting the issue of immigration to an electoral subject in Europe, which, along with the impact of the 9/11 incident, has secured the phenomenon of immigration in its various dimensions.

Immigration in Developing Countries

European societies have experienced sending and accepting migrant in two different periods, while the characteristics of developing countries are that they have both migratory

rule at the same time. The multiple crises in this area, on the one hand, and the existence of two sets of poor and rich countries among them, can be considered as factors in the formation of this dual role. At the same time, it is noteworthy that the mentioned experience in its turn has led significant gains in immigration case, which has not been well documented in advanced countries.

Immigration is considered a multifaceted phenomenon and can be viewed from various dimensions. Immigration has different implications and reflections as a social phenomenon.

There are generally positive and negative attitudes in relation with immigration and its effect on development.

Functionalists, neoclassicists, and followers of the modernization school have a positive view of immigration. Neo Marxists consider affiliation school followers and the theory of global immigration systems as a negative phenomenon.

The necessary condition for the survival and durability of the social system in functionalism approach is the existence of unity and balance in the system. Immigration is considered as a change in the direction of the survival and balance of the social system, and it promotes the development of sending-migrant societies. Immigration also causes the flow of capital (money transferring and investment) and knowledge, development and modernization. Recursive immigrants play a key role in economic growth from this perspective.

Developers believe that some regions in order to developing have surpassed other areas and have created various opportunities for those in the regions. Accordingly, the accumulated human resources in a region will be drawn to areas where have opportunities more than the personalities of its people and will restore the lost balance to society.

Immigration will cause North-South transferring of investment funds and acceleration in the transformation of traditional societies into liberal, causing rational and democratic ideas, education and modern thought from the point of view of developers. Recursive immigrants were dubbed as “important factor of changing, inventors and investors” from this point of view. Recursive immigrants are expected to invest heavily in their homeland.

The influence of the developed countries’ values in the developing countries creates new aspirations among the people of these countries from the point of view of the advocates of modernizing approach. Population movements are taking place to the major cities or other

countries in order to achieve these aspirations. Immigration is for the economic development of countries in this perspective. The theory of neoclassical migration is the best and most well-known functional paradigm in the field of immigration. The neoclassicists have taken a great deal of influence from Rwenstein. Many of the theorists know Ernest Georges Rwenstein as the father of modern immigration studies. He expressed his opinions as “Migration Laws” in an article in 1885. He has important views on the role of immigration in development in his last three laws:

Law 9: Increasing the volume of immigration will improve transportation and commercial and industrial development.

Law 10: The main route of migration is from agricultural areas to industrial and commercial centers.

Law 11: The main reason for immigration is economic and perhaps it is better to say economic development.

Neoclassicists believe that individuals tend to maximize their well-being in order to the limited budget. Neoclassicals believe at the macro level that wherever workforce supply is more than capital, wages are declining and salaries are rising in places where capital accumulation is more than workforce. This situation arouses workforce from the first to the second region, creating a balance between wages and workforce and capital is expected to move in the opposite of immigration direction.

The important difference that neoclassical theories have with other positivist approaches are their view in wisdom level. Neoclassicists consider migrants and their families as actors with the ability to think and decide that migrate based on their own financial interests from one place to another. While other economic theories, in their macro-attitudes, consider international migration to be the birth of forces that are superior to the individual and in contradiction to their desire and inclination. In general, the role of immigration is raised as the factor of price uniformity in the neoclassical view. The neoclassical view of immigration and development was considered to be the dominant attitude of international financial institutions until recently.

Pessimistic View of Immigration

Negativism believes that immigration endangers human development, and has the fall of the tradition of local sustainable societies. This will lead to the development of passive non-productive societies, and will depend on the transfer of funds. In addition to the brain drain, the work force escape, the massive exodus of powerful and young men and women from rural areas, result of a sharp decline in agricultural work force, deprives regions of their available workforce. Since the poorest societies generally do not have the highest migration, immigration and fund

sending were considered to increase the inequalities of the community of origin.

Immigration increases the underdevelopment in immigrant-sending societies in structuralism theory of migration. Capital flows are contrary to the flow of immigration in this view. Structuralisms believe that the flow of work is in line with the flow of capital. Traditional economic structures that are weakened as a result of the connection to the system of political economy of the world, people make themselves to migrate and move. People are deprived of their traditional livelihoods, and this homeless population becomes cheap workers in cities who satisfy the interests of urban capitalists.

Dehass believes that the existence of a level of socioeconomic development along with relative deprivation in the form of inequality is a determining factor in the migration of societies more than extreme poverty in the development opportunities. One of the inevitable consequences is the development of mobility and dynamism. Immigration to abroad reduces only in a long-term process, after decades of growth and convergence of income with the destination countries, and immigration to inside of country increases and changes the country from the sender of the workforce to the worker’s acceptance. (Dehass, 2005)

Dehass believes that the relationship between migration and development is neither linear nor inverted. Growth and development of societies and the reduction of their developmental distance with destination countries are more effective through the J-curve and the inverse U-curve on immigration. The curve increases at the beginning of the development process and then decreases. Such a phenomenon is called as “bump of migration” in the theoretical domain. Many people will be able to emigrate with a relatively small increase of the development. Movement of this curve upward continues until the saturation point as development increases. The majority of people in the society have found the ability to emigrate at this point. Development increasing will decrease immigration after this stage. The relation between development and immigration to inside is positive and linear. Accordingly, as the development increases in a region or country, the migration process to that land will also increase.

In the first stage, immigrants will find the social, economic and political worries of their hometowns through progresses and ultimately transfer their acquired skills to their hometown. Along with that, the motherland should also accept the changes that immigrants import them. The second step involves increasing the exchange between different areas of immigration. When the relation between

the origin and destination countries is strengthened, collective investment will be significant for the origin countries. Finally, we will see a lot of economic projects by the immigrants in the third stage.

Immigration has a negative impact on the five dimensions of security, including military, political, economic, and environmental and social security.

Immigration Consequences on the Security

Immigrants threaten military security in four ways:

1. When they use the territory of the host country for military and armed activities against their country.
2. Homeless persons and political refugees may persuade the host country to take the lead such activities against their country.
3. The host country may be interested in these activities.
4. The existence of a different political ideology between the immigrants and the host country can lead to military and terrorist operations by immigrants in order to the political purposes of the group or country.

Social identities such as religion and nationality often are mentioned in social and cultural security fields. Immigrants can change the indexes and characteristics of the society by creating cultural, linguistic, religious and, in particular, ethnic minorities. On the other hand, immigrants arouse the anger of the citizens of the host country by abusing to the values and norms of the cultural society. The severe cultural collision and social conflicts caused by this are not only a threat to national security, which can easily affect the political relations between the host country and the sending country that is also effective on the regional and international security.

Burkel Alam divides the effective factors on the immigration into two categories. First, the tension or encouragement factors following the substitution strategies of import, export development, and industrial concentration-service. Second pressure factors that rural poverty especially low or non-terrestrial is the most important factor. This factor, along with the lack of employment opportunities in rural areas, is pushing for those who are capable of migrating. It has sometimes been caused that pressure factors are more important than attracting factors in explaining the migration of developing countries (Todaro's model). The fact that it becomes more apparent with the study of urban poverty and its growth, As Gorovich mentions the origins of immigration in the Third World, due to the peak of the rural population in the nineteenth century, the collapse of the balance and lack of village needs, the rural inability to compete with the production of industrial goods of factories, and the breakdown of the self-sufficiency tradition.

Conducted studies in Iran have highlighted the reasons for leaving residence place mostly due to poverty, unemployment and insufficient earnings, and secondarily, lack of amenities such as health, school, etc. Considering that the phenomenon of migration has a direct effect on different dimensions of development, so it is necessary to deal with the phenomenon of migration.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

What can be deduced from the relatively successful of Third World experience in dealing with the phenomenon of unmanageable immigration is that firstly, that immigration cannot be treated individually and separately from other social, economic and political phenomena; therefore, it is expected that its control is possible in a comprehensive approach. Secondly, it should be considered in its formation and continuity in a process of time. Thirdly, it is not expected to be controlled until a specified and proportional development pattern is prepared to the needs of countries.

Fordley mentions four key strategies in relation with effective policies on internal migration. Rural and agriculture development, scattered urbanization, decentralized urban and regional development. The first strategy will create more employment and thus reduce long-term migration. He emphasizes the training of villagers, mentions to the sound theory and excursion in Hiroshman, according to which unhappy people of rural life, if they believe in the feasibility of change, their voice comes out to change the situation and not to leave. Therefore, the education and participation of villagers in plans and programs consider important to reduce immigration.

Expansion and improvement of education in rural areas is necessary in relation to agricultural programs and beneficial exchange reforms. It should be emphasized on understanding and identifying the basic issues of rural life and the correction of structural barriers in addition to formal education.

Foster considers training in rural development field in connecting with a powerful and efficient policy for the advancement of agriculture, rural names and the domestic industry, and knows the relevant ministries dependent on the education way for the success of their development programs.

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