

Chapter 4

Evaluation of the Migration Phenomenon as an Economics Dimension

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ABSTRACT

Migration is a phenomenon that affects individuals and societies multi-dimensionally. Migration, whether voluntary or forced is a troublesome process for immigrants, because everything in their lives changes. Migration affects both immigrants and local people who live in migration areas. In this study, economic and educational effects of migration are discussed. In fact, in many places and in many countries, governments help immigrants with basic vital needs and if immigrants try to continue their efforts to establish new order, many them do succeed. Several precautions have been taken for immigrant children in many places such as language courses, training and financial aid in many countries to improve on the educational performance of immigrants. If we look at the other side of the coin however, social inclusion, discrimination, stigmatization experiences of immigrants should also be searched, because the social dimension of migration is still an open sore in many places of the world.

INTRODUCTION

Migration can be defined as a universal event that involves movement of people from where they live to another place because of economic, social, political and cultural reasons (Koçak & Terzi, 2012). It is possible to explain the migration concept in different ways; migration is a population movement that changes the structure

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of society with economic, cultural, social and political aspects of a geographical location (Özer, 2004, p. 11). Location changing movements induced by education and work purposes for short term and thus returnable at the end of this period can be considered as migration (Sağlam, 2006, p. 34). Migration in general can be considered as a story of people's moving to richer countries compared to their own country (Keeley, 2009). So, we can say that migration is a phenomenon that affects individuals and societies multi-dimensionally. In this study, the migration phenomenon has been discussed in terms of economics and educational dimensions.

Migration phenomenon is a condition that has been ongoing since the oldest history of mankind, will continue in the future and can be seen all over the world (Koçak & Terzi, 2012). Throughout human history, societies have sometimes migrated "enforcedly" because of situations like war, exile, disaster and sometimes "voluntarily" with the hope of finding better living conditions (Yılmaz, 2014). Migration can both be as a result of benefit requests from unevenly distributed economic opportunities and can also occur due to ecological impositions or exiles and wars that are brought about by the social authority like state (Kaygalak, 2009, p. 9).

Some people evaluate changes that are created by migration as essential for being modern, some people see these changes as "disruption of traditional life" "urban culture of corruption stemming from migrants from the countryside" "stay between the two cultures, inability to be neither peasant nor urban" (Koçak & Terzi, 2012). Whatever the reason is, migration creates some effects on the origin, transit and the target country (Yılmaz, 2014). Individuals take into account non-economic factors which will raise their prosperity level in deciding the process of migration, so existence of education and health services in cities also affects individuals in the decision to emigrate (Çelik, 2006).

MIGRATION IN TURKEY

Migration phenomenon has been on the agenda of Turkey with population exchanges, settlement laws or internal and external migration flows with more economic reasons (HÜNEE, 2006). In Turkey, the changes occurring in rural areas after 1950 exposed the major cities to mass migration of the period (Işık, 2009). In these years, migration was intense from rural to urban areas with the effects of industrialization and urbanization (Koçak and Terzi, 2012). Usually, migrations as a result of driving factors arising such as rapid population growth in rural areas, mechanization, low income, inadequate infrastructure and services (Gedik, 1997, p. 171) were also reflected in the geographical dimension of urbanization; migration towards big cities which was limited to Ankara before 1950 has spread to other cities such as İstanbul, İzmir, and Adana (Tümertekin, 1968, pp. 40-41).

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