

Population Migration to Juba City since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement: Impacts and Consequences

Dr. Angelo Okic Yor (PhD)

Email: angelookic3@gmail.com

Department of Geography, Faculty of Education, Upper Nile University

ABSTRACT

The paper tried to analyze the causes of population migration to Juba City since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement: Impacts and Consequences.

The aims of this paper are to discover the background of the migrants with regard to their areas of origin; why they migrated, the causes, the impacts and consequences of their migration to Juba City, to discuss their patterns of settlement in Juba City as well as the issues of adjustment and livelihood support and propose the solutions to the problems facing migrants in Juba City. This study used a personal interview and questionnaire method for the purposes of data collection from three payams selected in Juba City. Also, the study used secondary data sources such as references, public records, organizational records, census data, previous studies and surveys. In analysis of data sets, descriptive statistical method was employed for the purpose of getting the background characteristics of the migrants' households in Juba City using frequencies, and percentages distribution Tables.

However, the findings of the study indicate that almost half of migrants (56%) were generated by war/conflict, also floods, famine/drought displaced many people. In addition, the study found that view migrants are facing problems of job opportunities and inadequate housing in Juba City. The Capital Cities are favorable places for facilities and investments and these accounts for their special attractions to migration, especially from rural to urban migration.

In conclusion, South Sudan mass population migration to Juba City (2005-2015) was due to economic factors such as seeking for job opportunities, social factors such as education and health services beside war and conflict, drought, floods, famine, epidemics, food security and stability and development trend in the country. The study defined the concept of migration and identified the types of migration and the theories; difficulties that face the migrants in Juba City and the problems faced by the migrants in the towns, beside the impacts and the consequences of migration on both source and receiving areas. The study recommended that migrants should be empowered through capacity building programs to ensure that they adopt self-reliant attitudes, integration them with the host communities to reduce the socio-cultural and psychological gaps that exist between them. The root causes of migration must be properly identified recognized, and solutions sought to address them, their opinions should be taken into consideration whether they remain in Juba or return to their respective home towns or areas of origin, government should create job opportunities and establish schools, health care centers and social amenities such as water supply for migrants as well as for the general population. Moreover, the NGOs and governmental organizations should cooperate and contribute toward promotion of human rights and respect migrants from rights violation, the international community and the World Bank should provide helpful hand to South Sudan to make

successful projects for resettlement of migrants. Also, populace of South Sudanese should search and contribute to achieve permanent peace in the country.

Key words

Population migration, Juba City, Comprehensive peace Agreement and impacts and consequences.

1. INTRODUCTION

Trace Migration history to Jews who moved from Egypt to the Promised Land. Thus, Jesus Christ is a migrant. Prophet Mohamed too is a migrant because he moved from Mecca to Medina (Yor, A. O. (2015).

Migration denotes the movement of people from one dwelling to another, especially from one region of a country to another, usually with the intention to settle. Population migration involves internal migration as well as international migration or change of original place of residence (Bouvier, Leon F.1977).

Humans migrate for several reasons. The first reason, humans all appear to be equipped with exploratory instinct. Knowledge gained from exploratory activity usually creates widespread interest and may as well be used to start more permanent movement and settlement. The second reason for migrants' move is that they perceive an opportunity for betterment, which may involve gaining access to land, employment, etc. One of the social reasons for a permanent move is marriage because in most societies either the bride or the bridegroom has to move to establish a new dwelling place. The migratory process usually combines both social and economic factors. People move to opportunities, but from an existing system that may well encourage and support movement. Social in human history included the movement of the first human groups who migrated from their original areas to their current distributions around the entire globe. Most of the movements within early civilizations were related to trade, raw materials, waging war, such as the momentous movement of "barbarians"(Stoddard, 1989).

People migrate due to factors that can either induce people to move to a new location or oblige them to leave their original place of residence. Migration also can be economic, political, and social/cultural and environmental in nature. Push factors are conditions that can drive people to leave their homes, such as lack of job opportunities, under development, desertification, political fear/persecution, poor medical care, loss of wealth and natural disasters such as floods, drought/famine, epidemics, earthquakes, and volcanic eruption. On the other hand, pull factors include availability of job opportunities, better living conditions, political as well as religious freedom, facilities, education, better medical care and security (Closs,wiki,2007).

Internal migration also is on the rise, as people move in response to inequitable distribution of resources, services and opportunities, or to escape violence or natural disasters. Relatively small percentages of migrants, about 10.5 million, in 2011 were refugees fleeing due to armed conflicts, natural disasters, famine or persecution. Between December 2012 and 15, December 2013, more than 525,000 people had fled South Sudan to Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda (World statistical Bureau of population and migration, 2013).

Due to the current economic crisis and conflicts in the country, most of the people of more than of 80,000 people of South Sudanese fled the country to neighbouring countries especially Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia as well as Sudan seeking for food, security, as well as health services and education (OCHA, 2016).

In other development, the fighting took place between government forces and SPLA-IO (SPLA in-Opposition) on 8th/July/2016 in J1, which became heavy in the capital, Juba, for four days. On the same occasion, many hundreds of soldiers and citizens were killed in the fighting. Moreover, a great number of citizens estimated as 40,000 fled to the forests and others escaped to the UN camps seeking for protection. Also, the conflict caused a lot of insecurity, instability and fear among the citizens as well as migrants and affected their settlement in the city (Miraya FM -Radio, 15th July2016).

Also, the fighting resulted in huge loss of lives and suffering including the displacement of the civilian population and destruction of property, as well as sexual violence, including rape and gang- rape of women and young girls. Currently, the fighting affected population in South Sudan estimated at 6.1 million that need humanitarian assistance including displaced persons and 900,000 refugees in the neighboring Countries(report submit of the IGAD Plus for the situation in South Sudan,8thAugust 2016).

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The study focused on the push causes and pull factors of population migration to Juba City and their impacts and consequences on both the source and the receiving areas and the problems facing the migrants in the town. The migration of South Sudanese from their home areas or States to Juba City is largely due to the following factors:

- 2.1.** The war and conflict between communities and between the Government and SPLM/A- in –Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) on 13 December which led to mass displacement or migration of people from their areas of origin to Juba City.
- 2.2.** High demand for social services such as education, health facilities, clean water, electricity, and job opportunities which are largely concentrated in urban centers.
- 2.3.** The population pressure on the resources in rural areas.
- 2.4.** Floods, famine, epidemics, drought and communal conflicts, etc.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

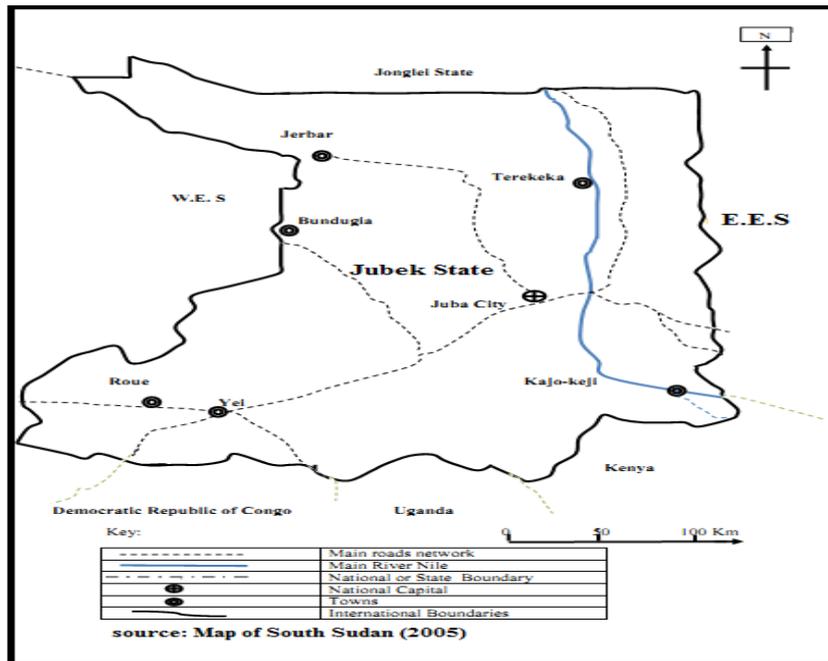
The objectives of this study are to:

- 3.1.** Explore the background of the migrants with regard to their areas of origin; why they migrated, the causes, the impacts and consequences of their migration to Juba City.
- 3.2.** Discuss their patterns of settlement in Juba City as well as the issues of adjustment and livelihood support.
- 3.3.** Propose the solutions to the problems facing migrants in Juba City.

4. MATERIALS

Materials involve the following:

Map showing the location of Juba City



5. Area of the study:

Juba city is located at Latitude 4.51° N and Longitude 31.36° E. Before the 1983-2005 civil wars, Juba was a transportation hub, with highways connecting it to Kenya, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) for the reason that Juba lies in the middle of the Highways that connect the East African Countries. Currently, Juba can hardly be called a transportation hub anymore. As of 2011, the county’s payams or sub counties, included Juba County, Bungu, Dolo, Danji, Gondokoro, Lirya, Lobonok, Mangalla, Northern Bari, Rajaf, Tijor, and Wonduruba, the latter being administered by Jubek State (Central Equatoria State).

6. Physical Features

Physical features include:

6.1. Climate

Juba has a tropical wet and dry climate (Koppen: AW). It is lies close to the Equator, temperatures are hot year-round. Also, the time of the year has the hottest maximum temperatures, feat (100° F) in February. From April to October there are more than 3.9 inches of rain- falls per month. The annual total precipitation is nearly 39 inches (Juba Meteorological Office, 2011).

6.2. Vegetation

Vegetation type is broadleaved woodland with several varieties of trees. It consists of poorly developed scattered perennial and annual grasses in sub-zones whose herbaceous biomass matures very quickly and its quality, especially its digestible protein content, decreases very rapidly. The vegetation also consists of thorny and open mixed woodland savannah with abundant types of perennial and annual grasses including the papyrus species along the river courses. This is to be the arable land for agriculture in South Sudan as a whole and former Central Equatoria in particular. Vegetation in former Central Equatoria also covers the thick

forest of thorn bushes and shrubs. It is mainly broadleaved woodland savannah with several species of grasses with low nutritive values for livestock (Juba Climate Normal, 1961-1990).

6.3. Soil

Soils of Juba city are sandy and permeable in Juba with better drainage on alluvial banks of rivers (Retrieved, 2013).

7. METHODS

Methods of the study involved:

7.1. Primary Data Collection

This study used a personal interview method for the purposes of data collection from two payams selected in Juba City. Data was collected from all eligible migrants who are usually residents in the selected households in the two Payams after giving them a brief description of the purposes and procedures of the study and ensuring that they had properly understood, before beginning of an interview.

7.2. Secondary Data Collection

No specific methods of secondary data collection although sources of secondary data vary and include: information from references, public records, organizational records, census data, previous studies and surveys.

7.3. Ethical Considerations

This study used a primary data analysis of survey. In order to protect the anonymity and confidentiality of the information regarding respondents, names and house numbers were not identified in the Questionnaire and in the data set. Permission to carry out the study was obtained from the local stakeholders of the two Payams.

7.4. Data Analysis Methods

In analysis of data sets, descriptive statistical method was employed for the purpose of getting the background characteristics of the migrants' households in Juba City using frequencies, percentages distribution Tables. Also the data were displayed by using histograms or pie charts.

8. DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Table 1: Challenges Facing Education of migrants Children in Juba City

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Lack of Schools | 184 | 48% |
| Lack of Financial Support | 200 | 52% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

Migrants' families are often confronted by many problems in their new environments, one of which is the education of children. Two factors were cited by the respondents as their main obstacles to the education of their children. First, over half (52%) of them reported the lack of financial resources for the children to go to school. Second, about half (48%) cited the lack of appropriate schools as their problem (Table 1).

Table 2: Sources of Income for the Migrants in Juba City

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Salary | 100 | 26% |
| NGOs Fund | 160 | 42% |
| Business | 124 | 32% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

With regard to the sources income 26% of the migrants receive monthly salary, while 42% of them work with NGOs and 32% obtain their income from various small business activities. Based on the field survey conducted in October 2015, the majority of the migrants depend on the NGOs and other international organizations in Juba city (Table 2).

Table 3: Causes of migration to Juba City

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| War/Conflict | 134 | 35% |
| Famine/ Drought | 50 | 13% |
| Treatment/Health issues | 80 | 21% |
| Education | 65 | 17% |
| Join the Family members | 55 | 14% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

The causes of migration to Juba City were also examined. Table 3: shows that 35% of respondents reported war and conflict as the main cause for them to leave their home areas. Also, 13% of the migrants fled their areas of origin due to famine/drought; failure of agricultural seasons. In addition, 21% of the respondents stated medical treatment/health as the reason for migration from their areas of origin. On the other hand, 17% of the migrants were seeking opportunities for education in Juba City. Whereas 14% stated they migrated to Juba to join the family members.

Table 4: Places of Receiving Treatment

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Camp's Health Center | 180 | 47% |
| Juba Hospital | 120 | 31% |
| Private Clinics | 84 | 22% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

Issues of medical treatment for the migrants were also considered as important in this research. Over three quarters (78) % of the migrants reported that they receive their treatment at the NGOs. This is sponsored by NGOs and Government health facilities because the NGOs provide treatment to the people freely in the camp, whereas people who receive treatment at Government Hospitals pay minimum cost. However, almost one quarter (22%) of the respondents receive their treatment at different private clinics because they can afford to pay the cost of treatment at those locations (Table 4).

Table 5: Places of Settlement in Juba City

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| UN Camp | 72 | 19% |
| Jebel area | 45 | 12% |
| Gudele area | 55 | 14% |
| Munuki 107 | 35 | 9% |
| Kur williang | 25 | 7% |
| Gumbo Sherkat | 50 | 13% |
| Lologo 1&2 | 62 | 16% |
| Rajaf(west &east) | 40 | 10% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

On the pattern of settlement of the migrants they are widely displaced. Table 5: shows that 19% of the migrants preferred to live in the UN Camps because of fear of intimidation, or loss of life and harassment as a result of 2013 December crisis. The rest of the migrants(81%) have settled in different parts of the City such as Jebel,Gudele area, Munuki, Khor Williang area, Gumbo Sherkat, Lologo 1&2, and Rajaf west and east with their relatives and friends. Others have managed to rent accommodations in various parts of the City (Table 5).

Table 6: Places to go to when Peace is signed

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Go back home | 200 | 52% |
| Any other place in South Sudan | 84 | 22% |
| Remain in Juba City | 100 | 26% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

Respondents were asked as to where they would settle once peace is attained. In response over half of them (52%) stated that they would like to go back to their original home areas to participate in agricultural sector to reconstruct their lives which were destroyed by the war. In addition, people like to go back home because the environment of the City is not fit to them in terms of accommodation and job opportunities as well as appropriate treatment in the City. Whereas 22% of them expressed that they would like to go anywhere in South Sudan. These new locations may avail them job opportunities, better education as well as health facilities, security, and clean drinking water. Furthermore, 26% of the migrants stated that they would like to remain in Juba City because some of them are working in government institutions, or with NGOs, others engage in private sectors or have adopted the modern City lifestyle (Table 6).

Table 7: Degree of Relations with Host Community in Juba City

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Excellent | 64 | 17% |
| Very good | 120 | 31% |
| Good | 80 | 21% |
| Fair | 65 | 17% |
| Poor | 55 | 14% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

The relationships of the migrant’s population with the local residents were investigated. As revealed in Table 7. 69% of the respondents stated that their relationships were generally fitting with the host community in Juba in terms of inter-marriage with the local people, beside friendships. Only 31% were not found fitting in the host community due to differences of languages, background and bad behaviors from some of the migrants who were regarded as intolerable as normally expected in an urban set up. Also, local communities looked to the migrants as non-progressive as compared with indigenous City dwellers.

Table 8: Plans to do when Migrants go back to their Areas of Origin

| Respondents | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Cultivation | 84 | 22% |
| Look after cattle | 90 | 23% |
| Work in the government institutions | 110 | 29% |
| Fishing/ Black smith/Carpenter | 100 | 26% |
| Total | 384 | 100% |

The respondents were asked to disclose what they would like to do once peace is attained and people go back to their places of origin or their home areas. The respondents were very close but their interests were different or varied. 29% of them wanted to work in government institutions because they have gained skills such as: medical doctors, nurses, engineers and many other areas of training; 23% wanted to rear livestock being their original economic activity; 22% wanted to engage in agricultural farming to produce food and also to provide job opportunities to a great number of other job seekers. The rest of the respondents (26%) would like to engage in various income generating activities such as blacksmith, Carpentry and fishing (Table 8).

9. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the factors influencing population migration decision making are varied and complex. Migration is a choosy process, affecting individuals with convinced economic, social, educational and demographic characteristics. The relative influence of economic factors may vary, not only between nations and regions, but also within defined geographical areas and population. In South Sudan, the mass population migration to Juba City (2005-2015) was due to economic factors such as seeking for job opportunities, social factors (education and health services) beside war and conflict, drought, floods, famine, epidemics, food security and stability and development trend in the country.

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