

The impact of Rural-Urban Population Migration in South Sudan: A Case Study of Juba City, Jubek State

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ABSTRACT:

This study attempted to analyze the main causes of Rural-Urban population migration in South Sudan: A case-Study of Juba City, Jubek State. The research was conducted to address the causes, the impacts and consequences of rural population migration to Juba City, their conditions in the city. It is also aimed at discovering the problems facing migrants in urban areas in general, and particularly in Juba City. Its objectives are to explore the background of the migrants with regard to their areas of origin; discuss the migrant's pattern of settlement in Juba City as well as the issues of adjustment and sources of livelihood support. The problems addressed covered positive factors such as job opportunities (employment), better housing, clean drinking water, education and health services, as well as negative factors caused by natural disaster such as floods, drought, famines, epidemics, earthquakes, volcanic eruption and man-made disaster such as war/conflict, economic crisis, religious discrimination or social imposition. Whereas, the findings of the study indicated that (30%) of migrants were generated by War/conflict as the main cause for them to leave their rural areas, and 70% of them migrated by were famine/drought, Failure of agricultural seasons and high demand for social services such as job opportunities, education, as well as health facilities and other social amenities in the rural areas.

The migrants were mostly relying on funds from NGOs and other Organizations rather than on salaries. On the other hand, the children of migrants faced difficulties in schools because of lack of money to afford them to pay the costs of daily transportation. In addition, the study found that migrants were facing problems of job opportunities and inadequate housing in Juba City. In view of the study, many of the migrants resided in UN Camps and others were distributed in different areas in Juba City. The Capital Cities were favorable places for facilities. Moreover, the study recommended that Government should strive to provide social amenities, jobs opportunities for the citizens and establishment of vocational training centers for training of the productive youths for self-employment in the rural areas.

Key words: Rural, Urban, Migration and Migrants

1. INTRODUCTION

Tracing the history of the migration of population, it was started by the Jews who moved from Egypt to the Promised Land. Thus, Jesus Christ was a migrant because He moved with His parents from Jerusalem to Egypt to escape the evil intention of King Herod. Prophet Mohamed too was a migrant because He moved from Mecca to Medina with his followers, when they entered into the war with Qurayish during the preaching of the message of the Holy Quran (Yor, A.O. 2016).

Rural to urban migration historically has been an important part of the urbanization process and continues to be significant in scale in developing countries. Internal migration accounted for at least half of all urban growth in Africa during the 1960s and 1970s and about 25% of urban growth was in Africa in the 1980s and 1990s (UN,C. 1990).

The earlier model developed by Todaro .M.P (1969) explains rural-urban migration as a response to the expected rather than current income differential between rural and urban areas. In other words, workers will continue to migrate from rural to urban areas until wages they expect to earn in urban areas are equal to the wages they expect to earn in the rural areas. Rural-Urban population migration is the term used to describe the movement of people from one place to another. The reasons for Rural- Urban migration can be push or pull factors. The Push factors are those found in the original place of residence which forces people to move out. For example, civil war in the country, political or religious oppression and climate change. On the other hand, pull factors are forces which attract people to a targeted place or towns in the country. These include aspects of safety, change for better job, better education, social amenities, social security and better standard of living, as well as political and religious freedoms (Johnson.R.J, 1982).

Like many other developing countries, the rate of urban poor people in South Sudan is increasing. This migration has been triggered by Civil Wars in South Sudan and the current post independence in Republic of South Sudan. Migration has long been an important for the people of South Sudan. Every year, thousands of destitute victims of natural disasters pour into the cities/towns from the rural areas. Others come in the hope of a better life, whenever they can no One of the most important aspects of social science is "Human Migration". It has maintained a close relation with mankind from its earliest stage. Inter- disciplinary approach today has attracted the scholars of geography, sociology, demography, economics and other related disciplines.

Because of the complexity of human life and fast changing socio-economic conditions, human migration is gaining importance day by day (Gakmar.J.M, 2006).

(Paul. A. 2009). stated that “excessive urbanization leads to high rate of city congestion, crime and poor infrastructure such as proper sewage system, clean drinking water, electricity and other amenities, chronic unemployment and creation of large slums and Shanty towns”.

(Todaro, 1976). Summed it up by saying: the factors influencing the decision to migrate are varied and complex. Emphasis has variously been placed, for example, on a variety of factors, including:

- a. Social factor: the desire of migrants to break away from traditional constraints of social organizations.
- b. Physical factor: including climate and meteorological disasters like floods and droughts.
- c. Demographic factor: including the reduction in mortality rate and the concomitant high rates of rural population growth.
- d. Cultural factors: including the security of urban 'extended family' relationships and the allurements of the so-called 'bright city lights'.
- e. Communication factor: resulting from improved transportation, urban orientation; educational systems and the 'modernizing' impact of the introduction of radio, television and the cinema.

Population migration from the rural areas to urban locations can be push factors are conditions that can drive people to leave their original homes because of pressures which make them dissatisfied with their present situations. These factors include 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 are those perceived qualities that attract people to new settlement which include availability of job opportunities, better living conditions, political as well as religious freedom, facilities, education, better medical care, security and availability of social amenities such as clean water, electricity and descent housing facilities (Byamugisha, 2010).

Due to the current economic crisis and conflicts in the country, most of South Sudanese who fled the country sought refuge in the neighboring countries, especially Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia as well as Sudan, seeking for food, security, as well as health services and education (Yor.A.O, 2016).

In other developments, the fighting that 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 generated further large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons. On the same occasion, many hundreds of soldiers and citizens were killed in the fighting. Moreover, a great number of citizens, estimated at 40,000 persons 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 (Miraya FM -Radio, 15th July 2016).

Across South Sudan, more than 3 million people have been forced to flee their homes and nearly 7.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection (OCHA, Humanitarian Response Plan 2017) as a result of multiple and deepening crises, including conflict, inter-communal violence, economic decline, disease, and climatic shocks, which have led to displacement, distress, destitution and death. The conflict and insecurity are the main drivers of this acute food insecurity, compounded by the coming lean season and resulting in devastating effects on livelihoods and the nutrition situation. Furthermore, Uganda is now a home to more than a million South Sudanese refugees as a result of an ongoing civil war in the world's youngest nation since the country's crisis began in 2013 (Charlie, 2017).

1.1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study focused on the push causes and pull factors of population migration from the rural areas to Juba City and their impacts and consequences on both the rural and the urban areas as well as the problems facing the migrants in Juba City in comparison with the empirical studies on rural-urban population migration in other parts of the world. This research is conducted to answer the following questions:

- 1.1.1. What is rural -urban migration?
- 1.1.2. Why do people move from rural to urban areas?
- 1.1.3. What are the causes of rural- urban migration?
- 1.1.4. What are the impacts & consequences of rural- urban migration on both the rural and urban communities?
- 1.1.5. Under what conditions do most of the migrants live in Juba City?
- 1.1.6. Why Men and Women including young boys and girls leave their homes every morning to The town?
- 1.1.7. Why many of the migrants' school children had dropped out from schools and got engaged in work in Juba City at a tender age?

1.3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of this study are:

- 1.3.1. To examine the population migration from rural-urban migration in South Sudan, Juba City.
- 1.3.2. To 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 from the rural areas to Juba City, as well as the problems facing them in Juba City.

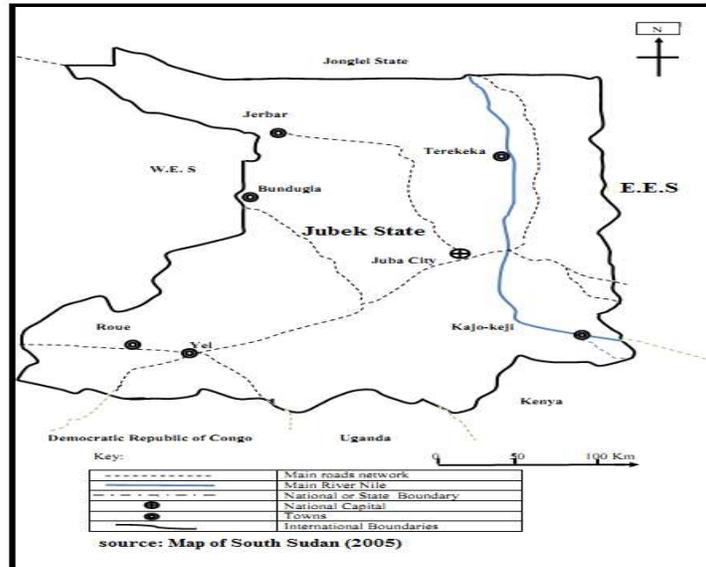
1.3.3. To discuss the migrants' pattern of settlement in Juba City as well as the issues of adjustment and sources of livelihood support.

1.3.4. To suggest the solutions to the problems facing migrants in Juba City.

2. MATERIALS

Materials involve the following:

2.1. Map showing the location of Juba City



Juba City

It 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) because 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 (former Central Equatoria State).

2.2. Physical Features

Physical features include:

a. Climate

Juba has a tropical wet and dry climate (Koppen: AW), and as it lies close to the Equator, temperatures are hot year-round. Little rain falls from November to March, which is also the time of the year with the hottest maximum temperatures, reaching (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).

b. 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).

c. Soil

Soil types in former Central Equatoria consist of Red lateritic soil susceptible to leaching and erosion. These soils occupy the former Western Equatoria and the greater parts of Juba area. Iron Stone Plateau and Central Hills possess similar soil types, red acidic with high content of Iron Oxide which is predominantly lateritic with low fertility due to leaching and erosion. Soils also are sandy and permeable in Juba with better drainage on alluvial banks of rivers (Retrieved, 2013).

3. METHODS

Methods of the study involved:

3.1. Primary Data Collection

This study used a personal interview, discussions and questionnaires method for the purposes of data collection from three payams selected in Juba City. Data was collected from all eligible migrants who are usually residents

in the selected households in four areas 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. Also, the method of observation was used in this research to establish solution to the research problem and meeting inclusive. The internet services were also used to generate data.

This study is a descriptive analytical cross sectional study through the analysis of primary data conducted in Juba City. The selected areas for the study are Gudele, Joppa as well as Jebel and Rajaf area of Juba City. The target population on which this study is based were the migrants from different parts of South Sudan that were selected from Gudele, Joppa, Jebel and Rajaf areas who were present at the time of the survey. Migrants who have experienced urban living during their displacement often do not want to go back to rural life and agricultural work, especially if they are young.

3.2. Secondary Data Collection

The sources of secondary data varied and included: information from references, public records, organizational records, census data, previous studies, friends & colleagues, surveys and competitive websites as well as electronic media/ Government and NGOs reports.

3.3. 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 Payams.

3.4. 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 and distribution Tables.

4. IMPORTANT RESULTS

The discussion of this study include the following:

Table 1: Most of Migrants Live In Absolute Poverty in Juba City

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	20	20%
Strongly agree	45	45%
	35	35%
Total	100	100%

Living conditions of the Migrant Population. Overall, most of the migrants live in absolute poverty in Juba City cannot afford to find their daily needs in the city. Table 1: has affirmed this assertion that 20% of sample population respondents agree that most of migrants were living under absolute poverty in Juba city due to lack of income. Also, 45% of migrants strongly agree that they live under absolute poverty in Juba city because of lack of job opportunities. Whereas, 35% of them disagree due to instability which contributed to lack of development in the city.

Table 2: men, women, and young boys leave home areas to go to town in the morning to search for work

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	60	60%
No	40	40%
Total	100	100%

Men, Women including Young boys and girls are scattered from their home areas every morning to the town to search for work and return home in the evening. 60% of respondents answered positively that Men, Women including Young boys and girls are scattered from their home areas every morning to the town to search for work and return home in the evening. While, 40% of respondents reported negatively that Men, Women including Young boys and girls are not scattered from their home areas every morning to the town to search for work and return home in the evening (Table 2).

Table 3: Young Boys are exposed to Gang Groups, Street Boys and Alcohol Addiction in Juba City

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	70	70%
No	30	30%
Total	100	100%

Young boys in Juba City are exposed to the gang groups, street boys and alcohols addicted were accepted. Table 3: shows that 70% of respondents reported positively that Young boys are exposed to the gang groups, street boys and alcohols addicted in Juba City due to lack of support from the government, inactive laws from the government authorities to avoid un lawful acts in the city. While, others 30% of respondents reported negatively that Young boys are not exposed to the gang groups, street boys and alcohols addicted in Juba City (Table 3).

Table 4: Reasons for migrants school Children Drop out of Schools

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Lack of money to pay the costs of school fees.	35	35%
Insufficient of income to pay the costs of transportation.	25	25%
Miscreants from the schools	30	30%
Other expenses.	10	10%
Total	100	100%

Reasons for migrant’s school children who dropped out from the schools were acknowledged. Table 4: assured that 35% of migrants’ school children dropped out from the schools due to lack of money to pay the costs of school fees. This is because they are lacking job opportunities to support the school of their children in the city. On the other hand, 25% of respondents reported insufficient income to pay the costs of transportation of migrant’s school children. On the other hand, 30% of respondents affirmed that school children of migrants dropped out from schools because of miscreants from the schools, while, 10% of them said school children of migrants dropped out from schools based on other expenses such as transportation costs (Table 4).

Table 5: Women and Girls Get Exposed to Sexual Violence in the City

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	35	35%
Strongly agree	40	40%
Disagree	25	25%
Total	100	100%

Women and girls were exposed to risks of sexual violence in the city. In this regard, 35% of respondents agreed that Women and Girls were exposed to risks of sexual violence in the city due to their incapability to find job opportunities to earn incomes to support their families as well as other expenses in the city. Whereas, 40% them strongly agree that Women and Girls were exposed to sexual violence as part of daily activities. 25% of

respondents disagreed that Women and girls were exposed to risks of sexual violence due to the protection which they got from Human Rights Organizations in the city (Table 5).

Table 6: Causes of Rural-Urban Migration

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Unreliable Rainfall	25	25%
Poverty	30	30%
Lack of social amenities	10	10%
Lack of Education	35	35%
Total	100	100%

The causes of rural-urban migration to the city were also examined. Table 6: shows that (25%) of respondents reported unreliable of rainfall as the main cause for them to leave their homes or rural areas. Also, 30% of the migrants fled their areas of origin due to poverty which occurred through failure of agricultural seasons. In addition, (10%) of the respondents stated that lack of social amenities as the reason for migration from their areas of origin. On the other hand, (35%) of the migrants were lacking education opportunities in the rural area compared to the town or urban.

Table 7: Movement of Young Boys from Rural Areas to the towns has great Impacts on agriculture

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	34	34%
Strongly agree	30	30%
Disagree	26	26%
Does not agree all	10	10%
Total	100	100%

Movement of Young boys from rural areas to the town has impacts on agricultural products were examined. Table 9: shows 34% of respondents agree that movement of young boys from rural has great impacts on agriculture products in the rural areas. In addition, 30% of migrants strongly agree that movement of young boys from rural to the town affect agricultural products in the rural areas. While, 26% of respondents disagree that the movement of young boys has no impacts on agricultural products. 10% of them affirmed that movement of young boys from rural to the town does not all have impacts on agricultural products.

5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the factors influencing population migration decision making from the rural to urban areas are varied and complex. In South Sudan, the mass population migration from the rural areas to Juba Town was due to factors such as seeking for job opportunities, education and health services beside war and conflict, drought, floods, famine, epidemics, food security and stability and development trend in the country.

In finding the study affirmed that, 45% of migrants strongly agree that they live under absolute poverty in Juba city because of lack of job opportunities. On the other hand, the study found 60% of respondents answered positively that Men, Women including Young boys and girls are scattered from their home areas every morning to the town to search for work and return home in the evening. Nevertheless, the study in table 9 shows 34% of respondents agree that movement of young boys from rural has great impacts on agriculture products in the rural areas. The study recommended that Government should strive to provide social amenities and facilities as well as jobs for the citizens in the rural areas. Establishment of Vocational training centers in the rural centers for training of the productive youths for self-employment. It is the research assumption that Democracy policy must be put into practice for the benefit and progress of the country and the coming generations. The international community and the World Bank should provide helpful hand to South Sudan to make successful projects for resettlement of migrants.

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