

Social, Educational, and Cultural Consequences of Migration for the People of Afghanistan

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Abstract

Under current conditions, migration has emerged as one of the most pressing issues facing Afghanistan. This phenomenon is both a consequence of existing social problems and a factor that contributes to the creation of new ones. Understanding the specific impacts of migration on the Afghan population and the challenges it generates requires systematic research and analysis.

Accordingly, the present study was conducted with the aim of identifying and analyzing the consequences of migration through a sociological lens. In terms of research objectives, the study qualifies as both fundamental and applied; and in terms of methodology, it is mixed-methods research combining both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The study population consisted of two key groups: migrants and subject-matter experts.

From the first group, 193 migrants were selected using non-probability (convenience) sampling, and data were collected through a structured questionnaire. From the second group, 23 experts from various academic disciplines—holding qualifications ranging from bachelor's to doctoral degrees—were selected through qualitative purposive sampling, following the principle of theoretical saturation. Data from this group were gathered using semi-structured interviews.

The field findings indicate that migration has led to numerous negative consequences, including: demographic shifts and population decline, increased unemployment and poverty, loss of social status and respect, exploitation, incidents of murder and violence, humiliation and verbal abuse, substance addiction, violation of civil rights, rising hopelessness, cultural disruption and diffusion, brain drain, and increased illiteracy.

In conclusion, the study finds that migration from Afghanistan—particularly to neighboring countries—has resulted in significant negative social, cultural, and educational impacts on Afghan society.

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