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Roots and Routes

Monthly Newsletter of the
Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism



GRFDT

Global Research Forum on
Diaspora and Transnationalism



Roots and Routes disseminates latest information on
research and policy development in Diaspora and transnationalism

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We are coming to the end of the year 2014, almost completing three successful years of GRFDT. It gives me immense pleasure to be a 'guest editor' of the 29th edition of its newsletter 'Roots and Routes'. At the beginning, I would like to wish a very happy new year to all.

Yes, this issue of our Newsletter discusses about a very important factor that binds Indian diaspora, often called soft power. Indian cinema, particularly popular Hindi cinema, plays a central role in identity formation and reflecting the 'Indian-ness' abroad. Though Indians get integrated into their country of settlement, they always maintain their distinct identity through a number of preferences. And the Hindi cinema, popularly known as bollywood, presents this clearly. In this context, GRFDT organised a talk on "Researching Themes on Assimilation and Return through Portrayal of Indian Diaspora in Indian Cinema" by Dr Anjali Sahay. Based on her research on Indian (read Hindi) cinema, she brilliantly talked about the socio-economic and political causes of migration, the difficulties a migrant faces and the issues of assimilation, re-assimilation and return of migration.

The present edition also carries a comprehensive book review on 'Gender, Generation and the Family in International Migration' by Tasha Agarwal. The Newsletter has features and events organised elsewhere. Recognising the significance of the global presence of diasporas, the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) has organised Global Diaspora Week throughout the world, to highlight their contribution to the global development. Another conference on 'Asianisation of Migrant Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries' which touched upon the issues of trends and future prospect of Indian migrants in Gulf was organised by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library. Detailed reports of the above two conferences have been included in this edition. A report on international conference on 'Global Indian Diaspora: Continuity and Changes' organised by UGC has also reported.

In the New Year, with new opportunities and challenges, GRFDT is looking forward to play a greater role in providing a platform for academic discussions and connecting people. We welcome fresh and innovative ideas to take it forward.

Once again, happy new year!

Enjoy reading.

Smita Tiwari

GRFDT Seminar

Researching Themes on Assimilation and Return through Portrayal of Indian Diaspora in Indian Cinema

GRFDT organised a talk on "Researching Themes on Assimilation and Return through Portrayal of Indian Diaspora in Indian Cinema" by Dr. Anjali Sahay, Associate Professor, Department of Political, Legal, and International Studies, Program Director International Studies, Director Model UN, Gannon University, Erie, PA on 26th December 2014. The paper examined the bollywood movies that are focussing on Indian diaspora over the decades. Two phases were considered most important in a migrant's life: a movement to a new country and a return back to their home country if they choose to do so. Both movements beset with choices and adjustments. While both are choices, mostly related to economic and political reasons, adjustments are usually related to social and economic ones. Return, Assimilation, and Re-Assimilation are the themes which are very important in the study of migration and diaspora. Within this context, her paper was an attempt to tie in these themes as portrayed in mainstream Indian cinema to realities associated with this in a migrant's life. The medium of cinema is significant as no other country in the world churns out as many celluloid productions as the combined movie industries in India. Popularly dubbed as Bollywood, Tollywood, Kollywood, and other Hollywood inspired named it is fairly intriguing to explore its portrayal of its diaspora on the big screen.

This paper touched upon various themes related to Indian Diaspora in the social, economic, and political spheres. Socially, the themes that have been played out are related to 2nd and 3rd generation assimilation problems and cultural adaptation of two cultures and the



ensuing confusions. Economically, some of the themes that have been touched upon are return migration and re-assimilation into home country and society. Within the return context, sub-themes such as reasons for return; development of the home country; and job opportunities are discussed within the economic realm. Politically, there is a serious paucity of research within cinema in bringing out political debates on immigration or difficulties in the visa process.

We invite Students, Researchers and Faculty Members to email Stories, Reviews, Articles, Working papers and other academic notes to the editor@grfdt.org. It will provide the scholars a platform to connect with peer groups working on themes related to Diaspora and Transnationalism. Information related to seminar/conferences/events can be sent to the Editor at:

editor@grfdt.com

Seminar/ Conferences/Events

UGC Centre for the Study of Indian Diaspora, University of Hyderabad, organised an international conference on "Global Indian Diaspora: Continuities and Changes"

The UGC Centre for the Study of Indian Diaspora, University of Hyderabad, Telangana had organised an international conference on "Global Indian Diaspora: Continuities and Changes" during 6-7 November 2014. Dr Ajaya Kumar Sahoo, the Director of the Centre and the conference coordinator, delivered the welcome speech and introduced the two-days international conference to the delegates coming from five different countries. The conference was inaugurated by Professor E. Haribabu, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad who also released the book edited by Dr Ajaya Kumar Sahoo entitled 'Diaspora, Development and Distress: Indians in the Persian Gulf'. Noted diaspora scholar Prof. Brij Maharaj, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa delivered the keynote address titled "Indians in South Africa: A Menace in the Apartheid and Democratic Eras?" He discussed the issues and conditions of the Indians in South Africa. According to him, the conditions of the Indian bonded labourers emigrated to South Africa under the 'Kangani System' were no less than the 'slavery system'. During that time, the Indian emigrants were under economic deprivation, social exclusion, impoverished conditions of living, physical exploitation and lack of legal rights which made their lives pathetic and deadly. He has differentiated the living and working conditions of the first Indian emigrants to South Africa to new Indian emigrants and posed the challenges in identity, rights and acculturation etc. He also discussed the murder, killing and physical torture with the illegal informal workers in South Africa.

The conference has covered seven different themes on Global Indian Diaspora namely: Globalization and Indian Diaspora; Indian Diaspora and Identity; Indian Diaspora and Development; Indian Diaspora - Socio-Cultural Issues; Indian Diaspora - Socio-Political Issues; Indian Di-



aspora and Representation; and Indian Diaspora and Literature. There were 32 research papers presented in the conference. The conference has explored many research areas and unfolded several untouched areas related to the Diaspora studies.

At the end, the closing ceremony was done by Professor Brij Maharaj and Dr Ajaya Kumar Sahoo. Professor Maharaj shared his experiences of the conference by applauding all the research papers presented and discussed in this conference. He also appreciated and motivated the young scholars for future research. He announced the publication of the best papers presented in this conference in a volume. Finally, Dr Ajaya Kumar Sahoo delivered the vote of thanks to all the dignitaries, friends, and colleagues, research scholars, students and other staff members to make this conference a successful.

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A Report by
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Book Review

Gender, Generation and the Family in International Migration, Editor: Albert Kraler, Eleonore Kofman, Martin Kohli & Camille Schmoll, Amsterdam University Press, ISBN 978 90 8964 2851

Migration has been a highly discussed phenomenon in several public gathering. The issues faced by migrants vary according to the socio cultural and economic aspect of both the host and well as destination country. There has been several public debates and discussions which focuses towards the pressing need of migration policy in order to cater the issues of migrants. However the whole discourse on migration policy threads around migrant as an isolated individual where the policy remains silent on the aspect of family migration, filial obligation, minor care, marriage etc which forms the integral part of the migration process. Against such backdrop, the author has tried to bring in the perspective and scenario from around the world in order to emphasize the need to address the issues which have been ignored from several decades.

The author has divided the book into four different sections where each section focuses on different aspect of family migration issues and challenges. The author introduces the book by touching upon all the aspect covered throughout the book in brief. S/he discusses the family migration debate which has existed across different time frame. The ignorance of any specific family migration policy prior to World War and the subsequent change in perspective for the same, post feminist movement has been discussed in detail. The changing role of state in order to address the issue of children, women as well as old parents have been introduced to the reader to provide them with a perspective which is discussed throughout the book. With the optimistic note on the importance and relevance of family and gender, the author concludes the introduction by emphasizing the need of policy making in this direction.

The first section of the book discusses about family being an epitome of moral and social order where the social institution of marriage has been contested. The fine line between arranged, love and forced marriages has been discussed in the context of migrants in the study by Ralph Grillo. The chapter could have provided comprehensive information, had there been case studies for each type which would have helped the readers to draw a fine line of demarcation in between these three forms of marriages which are generally used interchangeably. The section also tries to touch upon the moral values and principles concerning the migrants towards their family members. The study by Schans and Valk, though tried to bring in an important perspective of migrant family, their work hardly brought in any new dimension. The findings on difference

in perception between natives and non natives regarding filial obligation was quiet expected pertaining to the difference in the socio-cultural capital of the nations involved. However where there were differences within non native perception, the possible reason for the same has hardly been addressed. Vidal's work on unaccompanied minor brought in an excellent picture of the issue and discusses the existing laws in details. By making an extensive use of case study s/he further presents how the policy which were meant to provide necessary care to the unaccompanied minor, leads to reinforcement of the distress and make the situation vulnerable for the children.

The section brings in several new aspects of the migrant family's issues which are unaddressed in policy documents of various countries. Henceforth this guides in further avenues for research in the context of different countries so that it might be easier to gain a global perspective. The chapter within the section has been appropriately arranged however several other important social orders could have been placed simultaneously such as religion, education of migrant children in destination country etc. Overall the information provided by the section was enriching and language used was simple which makes it convenient to understand the prevailing issues.

The next section, gender, generation and work, probes into one of the important aspect concerning the restriction imposed on the migrants. Immigrants, particularly immigrant's family, in most part of the world are unwelcomed due to the probability that they may not be joining the labor force and hence may end up being dependent on state provisions. Thus the section tries to explore the aspect of gaining economic independence either by the means of their own venture or by joining the labor force of the country. The whole feminist discourse of unpaid work of women being considered as 'unproductive' has been looked from Bordieu's perspective of capital, situated in the context of migrant workers in the article by Gillian Creese, Isabel Dyck and Arlene Tiger McLaren. Bordieu's concept of three forms of capital namely social, cultural and human; has been extended to include symbolic as well as emotional capital. Placed in the context of Canada, where Canadian law welcomes skilled immigrants, the economic capital is prioritized above other forms of capital, where the latter one is mostly being carried by female members. Hence female becomes instrumental in converting different forms of capital into economic capital. Unfortunately this task of conversion is largely ignored and neglected and is commonly termed as 'unproductive'. Another important issue raised by the article is how the skills and training or the cultural capital is devalued according to the location of the individual. Canada being a multicultural nation is expected to display respect towards other forms of capital possessed by

different nationals. Moreover it also questions towards the system of education and training being imparted in the country which, in present era, is highly globalized and is expected to meet the need of global labor market. However inclusion of a limited number of cases has made the scope too shallow. Had there been different mix of families, a comprehensive issue could have emerged more clearly. In similar lines, the article by Amparo Gonzalez-Ferrer has contested the idea of family reunification, especially that of spouse, to be the burden for the economy where the immigrant spouse, in most case women, does not take up the 'productive' role of joining the labor market. The author has used quantitative techniques of logit model to study the probability of active, employed and unemployed family migration status for both men and women and linear regression model is used to study how various factors such as age, education, citizenship, duration of residence etc determines family reunification. However job analysis with respect to the job description, regularity etc in the post migration period could have added some useful information to compliment the same. The author has made use of Spanish Labor Force Survey data which in itself answers for the reason of excluding the above mentioned aspect of labor market.

The study by Christine Catarino and Laura Oso is an excellent as well as an intense piece of work which covers lots of aspect regarding commitment for family business and various intra & intergenerational factors affecting the same. Using case study method to explore the situation and context of immigrants from different countries, each argument has been justified in an apt way. Use of extensive case studies with inclusion of several names would have led to a chaotic reading. However the presence of a comprehensive table in the appendix of the article was the most appropriate thing as it makes easier for the reader to connect the background of each individual whenever the same has been mentioned in the text. The article also brings forth the issue of female headed household in the immigrant family and hence makes its position justifiable for the book. The conclusion is brief, crisp and brings out the crux of the article.

The section has rich collection of articles suited for the purpose of exploring the interplay of gender, generation and work in migrant family. The section could have possibly had an article explaining the gendered nature of work which is generally available to immigrant women such as domestic help, care worker etc. The special cases for such women where work is assigned of a particular nature, along with being an immigrant as well as an emotional labor; adds to their vulnerability.

All the articles in the third Section primarily discusses about the implication of the migration law which focuses on controlling the immigrants entering into the country. The section describes cases of three developed countries namely Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland and their subsequent laws in place to check migration. However

due to the stringent law which restricts entry into the country for economic reasons or for permanent settlement, the immigrant takes marriage as a last resort to integrate into the developed nation. With the aim of getting permanent residence license, bi national marriages followed by separations are a common phenomenon. This phenomenon is widely prevalent in case of Germany where the Cameroonian men marry German women to obtain the residence license after which they separate their ways and family migration subsequently takes place. The article by Annett Fleischer explores the scenario by interviewing both German women as well as Cameroonian men. However in other cases like marriage of Thai women to Dutch men or the foreign women to Swiss men, the reason for transnational marriages have been diverse and extends much beyond the scope of economic wellbeing. Gender emancipation being one of them where the article by Panitee Suksombaan explores the social taboo concerning marriage of girl above certain age, highly educated women, and divorced women to be inappropriate for marriage in home country. Thus marring a person established in developed country is a means of liberating oneself from the social stigma. The author has also explored the historical stance of Dutch migration to Thailand and the subsequent role of technology, entertainment and sex industry in maintaining a link between Dutch men and Thai women. The article has been beautifully written and well connected with historical facts and current developments. The article by Yvonne Riano has raised a very important concern regarding the role of government agency towards gender equality. Looking through the lenses of migrant women, the article has explored the reality behind achievement of gender equality in the Swiss society. On one side where the society fights for gender equality, on other hand, migrant foreign spouse, by the nature of government law, make the migrant women dependent on their spouse. Thus the condition of migrant women becomes even more vulnerable.

The section was well binded together with a common thread and the similar kind of transnational migration cases being put up in the section which can be used to understand the similar scenario existing in different other countries. This section points towards an important loophole in the government policy which leads to people taking up different path to gain access into developed nation. The whole institution of marriage has turned up into a profit making business devoid of any emotional binding.

The last section of the book discusses about the most important aspect relating to female migration i.e transnational living of theses migrants. It has throughout been discussed in existing literature that female member of the family are majorly inclined towards provisioning of care to children as well as elderly family members. Thus is such scenario where migration for earning livelihood as well as care needs to be managed, female migrants are generally overburdened with the dual responsibility.

The study by Ludovica Banfi and Paolo Boccagni elaborates the aforementioned stance via exploring the case of female migrants from three countries namely Poland, Ukraine and Ecuador into Italy. The author tries to explore the varying experiences of female migrants from these three countries with regards to remittances, familial care, and relationship with spouse etc. By using several secondary sources, it has been successfully cited that the majority of migrant from these countries are female. However the reason for the same was largely missing. The only reason cited for the same was the status of women being married yet single i.e. either divorced, separated or widow. Thus because of their role as sole breadwinner of the family, they migrate to earn their livelihood. It would have been clearer if the author could have provided the descriptive statistics of marital status of their female respondents. At the same time it also needs to be mentioned that towards the end of the study, a paragraph examines the transnational practices of married female migrants with husband living in home country. This section is self explanatory to the fact that the reason cited by the author for female migration is much beyond which needs deeper investigation. The loopholes of study by Ludovica Banfi and Paolo Boccagni, has been answered to some extent in the work by Paola Bonizzoni. The study explores the integration of Latin American families into Italy by examining the interplay of culture, structure as well as agency. With certain literature promoting culturalist approach to be dominant over the structuralist and vice versa; the author has revealed that the cultural as well as structural approaches are interwoven and is drawn on by the national and transnational agencies. The role of culture and structure cannot be looked upon individually to study immigrant's family adaptation into the destination country. The author has clearly placed the context as well as the reason for migrants being female predominantly and has provided an in depth analysis of the range of issues faced by them during the process of integration in the destination country.

The first two studies of the section were almost along the similar line of discussion. Moreover the shortcomings of the first study were covered appropriately in the second study by Paola Bonizzoni. Hence there could have been a possibility to drop the study by Ludovica Banfi and Paolo Boccagni from the last section so that it may not appear to be repetitive.

Last two study of the section by Aurelie Varrel and Venetia Evergeti & Louise Ryan respectively provides a completely new perspective to look at the issues faced by a female migrant in a transnational arena. Where Aurelie Varrel examines the change in cultural setup of developed country and a third world country and the subsequent ordeal faced by female migrant associated with return migration into a third world nation. Placed in the context of Indian IT professional and their return migration to Indian cosmopolitan city Bangalore, primary for the reason of providing care to ageing parents and to provide *Indian* upbringing to their children, the study explores the compromises in the pro-

fessional life which the female migrant has to face due to the patriarchal nature of the society. The stereotypical notion of 'male as breadwinner and female as housewife' in developing country like India have wide implication on the professional career of migrated women where most of them end up being either underpaid or quitting the labor market. The author prompts towards the need to extend research on transnational living beyond professionals, and include diverse family members, nuclear and extended family, for a holistic understanding of the scenario. Venetia Evergeti & Louise Ryan in their study tries to look at this dimension where an attempt to understand care work from the perspective of the migrant and their family left behind in the home country, is undertaken. The author questions the homogeneous notion of care worker migrant and tries to focus on the diversity of experiences with regards to the same. He even questions the methodological framework of understanding 'family' and 'care' in the existing literature. According to the author family is a fluid concept and is constantly being reconstituted and negotiated, adapting across space and time. Similar is the case with 'care work'. Thus diversity of experiences with regards to the notion of family as well as the care work could actually help us understand transnational practices, rather than depending merely on theoretical understanding.

Overall, the book has a rich collection of articles on diverse aspects of family migration. In the existing literature on migration, the hassle free nature of migration within European Union (EU) countries and restrictive migration from non EU to EU countries are generally been discussed. The book provides a baggage of information on all these aspects were migration from diverse countries and culture are covered. The book draws upon the conclusion that there are several severe issues relating to migration of family in general and women in particular, which generally falls in the blind eyes of the policy makers. The policy at both national as well as international level should keep into consideration the major role played by women in any migration process, whether the male or the female member of the family migrates. Thus this calls for the attention for the specific policy in place so that the female may not end up being trapped in a vulnerable situation. The articles are enriching by its content and have been well connected together. The various sections formed in the books are apt as well and provides further research avenues to be undertaken by the researchers. The languages used across the articles are easy to comprehend. For the researchers working in the field of migration, particularly gendered nature of migration, the book will provide lots of insights into the existing issue and at the same time will also make the reader acquaint of the migration laws existing in various countries.

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Review by

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Global Update

Global Diaspora Week presented by International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA)

Washington, DC – From October 12-18, recognising the significance of the global presence of diasporas, the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) presents the 2014 Global Diaspora Week (GDW), with over 65 events hosted throughout the United States and around the world by independent organizations and governments.

This is a unique event where an organisation will dedicate the event to diaspora communities and their contributions to global development. The main objective of this event is creating awareness, enable collaboration, and enhance learning among those working on behalf of and with diaspora communities. With more than 232 million people living outside their country of birth in 2013, and total global remittances expected to top \$414 billion in 2014, the diaspora population worldwide has proven to be a powerful tool to strengthen our global community.

GDW builds on the success of the Global Diaspora Forum, which was held in Washington in 2011, 2012, and 2013. The new structure this year, an entire week of grassroots events, is a response to feedback from previous participants who suggested events outside of Washington that were more tailored to specific subjects, diaspora communities, and their needs and interests. The events registered through GDW are self-organized by diaspora communities and other interested groups, and will highlight the organizations and their work in their own communities.

Events throughout the week are all launched under the umbrella of IdEA, a partnership launched in 2011 between the Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships (S/GP) at the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Calvert Foundation. The partnership's mission is to harness the resources of diaspora communities to promote sustainable development and diplomacy in their countries of heritage, supporting initiatives in areas like investment and entrepreneurship, philanthropy and volunteerism, and innovation. Andrew O'Brien, the Secretary of State's Special Representative for Global Partnerships, has been leading a Diaspora Tour since June at universities around the United States to build support around diaspora engagement for development, the IdEA partnership, and GDW. O'Brien will cap his tour by providing remarks at various universities during GDW, including UCLA, UC San Diego, and Seattle Colleges.

The official launch of GDW will be the Global Diaspora Media Forum, a one-day conference in Washington, DC under the theme of "Engaging the Mobile Diaspora." The event will feature Deputy Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs David Duckenfield, and will be the first of its kind focused uniquely on the interplay between mobile technologies and the growing diaspora communities in the United States. IdEA, The George Washington University School of Business, and AudioNow are co-sponsoring the Global Diaspora Media Forum, and more information with a full list of panelists and speakers for this marquis GDW event can be found [here](#)

Global Diaspora Week presented by International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA)

A conference on 'Asianisation of Migrant Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Emerging trends, future prospects and strategic implications' was held on 9-10 October, 2014, Thursday-Friday at the Seminar Room, Library Building in the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library. The conference was organised by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library in association with Dr. Ginu Zacharia Oommen, NMML and Prof. Irudaya Rajan, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The two-day conference touched upon many important issues, trends and future prospects of the Indian emigrants in Gulf countries. The eminent speakers, experts and the scholars of Diaspora and international migration were the participants of this conference.

The conference was inaugurated with the welcome speech and introductory session by Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan, NMML. Prof. Rangarajan introduced the issues and challenges of the migration to the Gulf countries in current context. Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan has delivered the inaugural speech at the venue. He talked about the issues, trends and future prospects of the Asianisation of migrant workers in the GCC countries. He underlined the instances of the Kerala migration to the Gulf countries and shared the experiences of the problems and situations faced by the poor Kerala migrants in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Kuwait and Dubai etc. He also highlighted the increasing migration to the Gulf countries from the Uttar Pradesh, Northern region, India. Prof. Rajan emphasised that the Saudi Arabia is the emerging state for

Indian migrant workers among all GCC countries. Among total emigrants from India, around 90% are of the Kerala migrants move to the Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates only. Prof. Rajan said that India is the leading country in receiving the highest remittance from abroad. However, the conditions of the Indian emigrants are pathetic, ignoring and under-representing in the GCC countries. He has raised the serious issue of the fixing oil-price in GCC countries but there is no serious step has been taken for fixing the wage-rate of the emigrant workers in GCC countries. This shows that the oil is more important than the human beings for the states. In reference to the home-country, India, he criticised the role of state blaming the ignorant attitude towards the Indian emigrants but the major focus is on money-making from migration.

The first day of the conference was divided into six sessions. Here are some highlights of the papers. The first paper was based on the panel study of internal and international migration by South Indians by Dr. Ganesh Seshan, George Town University, Qatar. The paper dealt with the social impacts of the internal and international migration on the back home i.e.; Kerala. It dealt with the consumption and investment pattern of the back home people of the migrants. The speaker talked about the push and pulls factors of the migration to the Gulf countries. He also highlighted the decision-making in the process of the migration.

Second paper was based on the Bangladeshi Labour Migration to the Gulf countries by Prof. Rita Afsar, University of Western Australia, Australia. She discussed the nature and characteristics of the Bangladeshi migrants in the Gulf countries that they are transient, contractual and disposable foreign workforce. She talked about the 'Bhalo Visa' scheme in Bangladeshi emigrant workers. 'Bhalo Visa' implies that the visa which provide employment and higher opportunities of the income to the Bangladeshi emigrants. It supposed to bring prosperity to the lives of these emigrant workers.

The third paper was focused on the gender, mobility and transnational flows of women domestic workers from Kerala to UAE by Dr Bindhu Lakshmi P., Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. She raised some of the sensitive issue such as the sexual violence of the poor and uneducated Indian female domestic workers in the Gulf countries. She discussed about the lack of human rights and women-safety in these countries under-valued their economic as well as social contribution of these domestic workers in these economies. She criticized the role of home-land in securing the women's rights in their own country as well as host-country.

The fourth paper was basically dealt with the human rights of the Indian migrant workers in the Gulf which was presented by Dr. Bijulal M. V., Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala. He discussed the topic under the two broader framework; first, methodological nationalism and second, human rights issues. He discussed cases of the violence, murder and terror with the emigrants in these countries. The Indian emigrant workers are generally unaware about the legal contracts for the employment under which they were contracted and therefore, due to the helplessness in the host-country, they were not treated equally for wages, social security and rights. They are beaten-up, exploited and ill-treated by the employers and contractors.

The fifth paper was again on the Indian domestic workers in Gulf countries in relevance of the policy-discourse news in Saudi Arabia by Prof. Irudaya Rajan. He discussed the system of "Nitaqat" which is the system of recruitment agency for emigrant workers of different states. He raised the issues of the wages, personal and professional lives and the division of labour within domestic work.

The sixth paper was presented on the subject of the Indian trade diaspora in West Asia by Prof. Prakash C. Jain. He talked about the history of trade communities from Gujarat, Punjab to Gulf countries. He mainly argued that the struggle and situations faced by these traders in becoming the business-empire.

The second-day of the conference was divided by three sessions. The seventh paper was based on the topic 'Memories, Trauma and the changing strategies: Migrant's narratives of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait' by Dr. Ginu Zacharia Oommen, NMML. He discussed about the Iraqi invasion in Kuwait and the dearth conditions of the Indian emigrant workers in Kuwait during 1990s. The mass-expulsion of the Kerala emigrant workers from Kuwait lead to the unemployment, poverty and loss of the property in Kuwait. It was a kind of mental torture for them in the period of the joblessness and expulsion to the back-home. They lost their jobs, money and source of livelihoods in Kuwait. These emigrant workers when returned without money to their homes, they were not welcomed by their families and relatives and considered as the extra-burden on the family. Ironically, some of them were left their home without any home and property behind to Kuwait. It was trauma for them when they returned bare-handed. The situations were so problematic because during that time, there was no media, no technological development and no source of direct contacts to the families back-home. Therefore, these emigrant workers were badly tortured and humiliated in the absence of

rights and protection.

The seventh paper was based on the Philippine emigration to the Gulf countries by Dr. Neil G. Ruiz, The Brookings Institution, United States of America. He discussed the flow of Philippine emigration to the Gulf countries during 1970s to 2011. He discussed the characteristics of the Philippine emigrants that they were educational, technocrats and professionals. Initially, the flow of these emigrants was very large for while coloured jobs in Gulf countries. He highlighted the role of Philippine in strengthening the tertiary education sector and emphasizing on the technical-skills and knowledge for more and more economic development. The higher education has led to the more emigration to the abroad. The Philippines took this as opportunities for better income, employment and career prospects. It does not, however, affected their manufacturing sector as Philippine government never been ignorant for the manufacturing sector. The state has large funding source for the strengthening the knowledge-diaspora and therefore, Philippines are one of the largest emigrant groups in GCC countries. However, they faced the social-discrimination and ban on some religious practices.

This two-day conference came to an end with a valedictory address by Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan. He delivered the valedictory address on the issues, trends and policy of Kerala migration to the Gulf countries. He highlighted the practical problems in policy-formulation in terms of data-sources. He shared his experiences regarding the lack of update in data-sources in terms of total population of Indian emigrants in GCC countries. He talked about the

data-collection by CDS on every five year but critically, the migration is so dynamic and transforming in nature that there is absence of update data on every year. Today, the emigrants faced many problems due to poor VISA-policy and immigration policy in host-land. They are restricted to return to their home-land because of surveillance issues. He also highlighted the numerous Indian emigrants in Gulf countries which are actually under-represented under the data-source of Kerala government. Due of scarce publicly opened data source, the total number of Indian emigrants in these countries are under-represented and under-valued by government. He straightforwardly stated that the government of India is only focusing on money but there is total ignorance on the rights and issues of the rights of the Indian emigrants. He criticized the passive role of the Indian government in protecting the migrant issues.

This conference was very knowledge-enriching, learning and motivating in the context of the research on migration policy. The conference was opened for discussion at the end of the every session with open-discussion and questions. This two-day conference was closed with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ginu Zacharia Oommen, Junior Fellow, NMML. On behalf of the entire team of NMML, Dr. Oommen has conveyed the thanks and regards to every guests, speakers and participants for the participation in this conference. He invited all the papers presented in this conference for the publication under the NMML.

Report by Monika Bisht, M.Phil. Scholar, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, India. Email:monika4bisht@gmail.com

Call for Papers: Indian Diaspora 2015 Conference

The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine presents: "The Indian Diaspora: Identities, Trajectories and Transnationalities" Commemorative Conference. This conference takes place May 12-16 2015.

Between 1845 and 1917, close to 144,000 Indians migrated to Trinidad under the system of Indian indenture, most of whom opted to make Trinidad their permanent home. Today, almost 170 years later, the descendants of those immigrants are intrinsically woven into, and have indelibly coloured Trinidad and Tobago's social, cultural, political and economic landscape. A checkered history has yielded a community rich in its presentation, resolute in its commitment and resounding in its application.

In commemoration of the 170th anniversary of Indian arrival in Trinidad and Tobago, The University of the West Indies is hosting a three day international conference from 12 - 16 May 2015. This conference entitled "The Indian Diaspora: Identities, Trajectories and Transnationalities", aims to engage the many processes, perspectives and themes that have emerged throughout the establishment and constant re-articulation of Indian diaspora communities globally. The conference will go beyond the more tangible and visible aspects and explore Indian diaspora communities as dynamic entities, both generating and evincing transformation rooted in the vagaries of the social, political, geographic, economic and cultural landscapes of their respective locations.

The conference hopes to highlight and explore new perspectives on such issues as conceptualizations, dislocation and relocation, cross cultural exchanges, nationalisms, identity and the changing realities of the Indian Diaspora.

Initial Call for Papers:

We invite papers that pertain to the following themes on the Indian Diaspora:

- * Indentured Labour: Sources, Scholarship and Research
- * The Early Years in Trinidad: Indenture, the Estates and Beyond
- * From Indian to Trinbagonian: Trial, Tribulation and Triumph.
- * Indian Religions in Trinidad and Tobago: Preservation, Conversion and Hybridisation
- * Identities and Ethnicities in the Indian Diaspora
- * Multiculturalism in the Indian Diaspora
- * Sexuality and Gender Perspectives
- * Religion and Spirituality: Ideas and Practice in the Indian Diaspora
- * Imaging and Imagining: Varied Conceptions of the Indian Diaspora
- * Cross Cultural Exchanges
- * Indians in the Caribbean: Colonial and Postcolonial Regimes
- * Politics, Nationalism and The State
- * Economics, Science and Technology

- * Diaspora and Ecological Space
- * Psycho-Sociological Dimensions of Diaspora
- * A Secondary Diaspora: Indo-Trinidadians in North America and Europe

Contributors are requested to submit an abstract of not more than 250 words to the email address below. Participants are also required to submit their name, university/institution of affiliation (if applicable), short bio, mailing address, email address and phone number(s).

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: 31 January 2015.

Deadline for submission of Full Papers: 31 March 2015.

There is a strict "No (full) Paper, No Presentation" policy.

Abstracts and/or enquiries can be sent to ttindiandiasporaconference@sta.uwi.edu

N.B. Proceedings of the conference will be published.

Time and Place:

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Venue: The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
Address: The University of the West Indies, St. August
i n e
City/Town: The University of the West Indies, St. Au
gustine

1st International Symposium: Global Cities and Cosmopolitan Dreams

Part of the Research Program On: Space, Time and New Technologies of the Self

Monday 18th to Wednesday 20th of May, 2015

Venue: Betahaus BCN

Address: (Carrer de Vilafranca 7, Gràcia, 08024)

Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

This trans-disciplinary research project is interested in exploring the changing ideal of the city, exploring its ideological foundations, its physical construction, its social and political significance, its aesthetic value and its metaphorical meaning.

Massive, messy, polluting, alienating, cruel, yet open, experimental, pluri-perspectival, creatively and technologically fertile, this is the ambiguous and fascinating nature of global cities in the 21st century. Like arterial nodes in a network, global cities absorb and pump both destructive and constructive energies, for good and bad they have

become an interconnected web of magnetic poles, galvanizing creativity and experimental reconfigurations; artistic, political and economic forces circulate through these globalised networks that link cities across the world. All presentation and paper proposals that address these questions and issues will be fully considered and evaluated. Evaluation of abstract submissions will be ongoing, from the opening date of Wednesday 29th of October, 2014. All Prospective Delegates can expect a reply time to their submission of three weeks.

Accepted abstracts will require a full draft paper by Monday 4th of May, 2015. Papers are for a 20 minute presentation, 8 to 10 pages long, double spaced, Times New Roman 12. All papers presented at the symposium are eligible for publication as part of a digital or paperback book.

<http://www.alternative-academia.net/ocs-2.3.5/index.php/BCN2015/GCCD-1-1/schedConf/cfp>

Forthcoming Books

Fatih in Society: My Life Journey & Thoughts

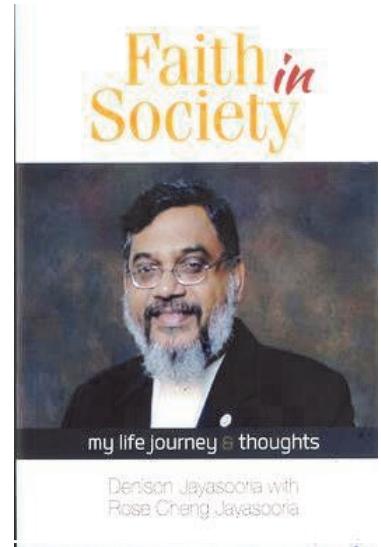
Fatih in Society: My Life Journey & Thoughts is my life story in the context of my family, work and involvement in public policy advocacy. This is a journey, full of real life experiences in faith, practice and action.

Through this journey one is able to capture many lessons. It is my prayer that those who read this book will be encouraged, empowered and motivated to also impact society for the better.

As one reflects back on six decades, one can thank God for the many achievements and the richness of relationship at the family and community levels. The struggles and conflicts also enable us to mature through the years. But most of all, these are the years in which I have sought to do my best, along with many others, to create a better Malaysia for all.

Seventy two people, including family, friends, colleagues

and prominent Malaysians, have written their reflections on me and my role in society and nation. It is my hope and prayer that this book will also inspire others to be good and responsible citizens, who will live in peace and harmony with one other, and who will actively promote equality, justice, democracy, human rights and good governance. May God enable us to undertake this journey together.



Politics of Migration: A Survey

Edited by Barbara Marshall

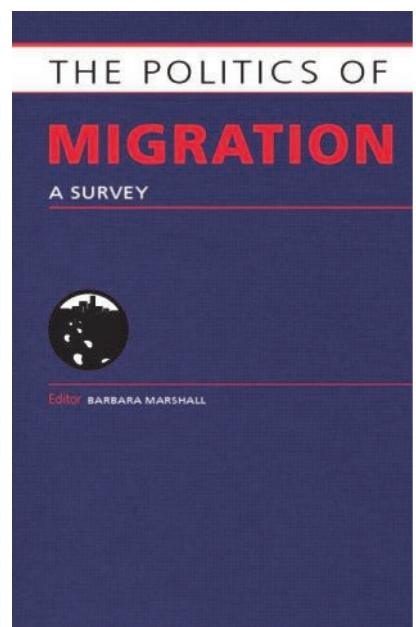
Routledge – 2014 – 320 pages

The Politics of Migration presents key information and analysis of this major topic, currently to be found at the forefront of world affairs. This unbiased survey is of interest to students, academics, business people and general researchers.

The first section consists of essays written by a variety of academic and other experts on migration topics, including analysis of the economics of migration policies, irregular migration, refugees, the internally displaced and asylum seekers. Following the essays are regional overviews, analyzing in depth migration in areas including the Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa, the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

The second section is an A-Z glossary for which contains

explanations of the most important terms used in migration discourse, while also providing information on the major international conventions regarding migration, and on organizations and research institutes in the field. Where appropriate, maps, statistical tables and charts are included, as are lists of further reading suggestions.



We invite Students, Researchers and Faculty Members to submit a small write up of their achievements and awards to the editor. It will provide the scholars a platform to connect with peer groups working on themes related to Diaspora and Transnationalism. Information related to seminar/conferences/events can be sent to the Editor at: editor@grfdt.com