



**Absentee Husband and Their Wives: A Sociological
Study on Problems of Migrants' Wife in Chandpur,
Bangladesh**

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Examination Roll No: 4575

Registration No: Ha-4206

MSS, 2nd Semester

Session: 2011-2012

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January 2014

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Acknowledgement

I would like to express my special thanks of gratitude to my thesis supervisor who gave me the opportunity to do this thesis under her full cooperation and observation.

I would like to be grateful to my parents (Md. Morshed Alam & Quazi Nazma Sreen), my sister and brothers, and all well wishers who helped me mentally a lot to complete this thesis within the limited time frame. I am thankful to Muhammad Mahmudur Rashid to his inspiration and intellectual cooperation to write the thesis patiently.

I would like to thank to the staff of the RMMRU library, Public Library and Seminar Library of Sociology Department.

I would like to thank Anika Hossain for her guidance and help me to entry the data successfully in this thesis. I am grateful to my cousin Sulakha Akhtar for her help in collecting of data.

Finally, all the praise goes to my almighty, ALLAH.

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Abstract

Migration is a global phenomenon, deeply affecting the lives of the 200 million migrants around the globe but also the lives of those connected to them, in particular those left behind in the countries of origin especially the wives of migrants. Migration is a multi-faceted experiences that encompasses opportunities for personal, social and economic development but also include risks of violence, abuse and exploitation for the wives who are left behind in the home country. To investigate the violence of wives in absence of their husband sample has been collected from Chandpur district. It has found that 69 percent wives have faced violence in in-laws house, in which 50 percent have been suffering from psychological violence and 16 percent suffering from physical violence in in-laws house. In this research it has also explored that 70 percent remittances are sent in wives name and for this remittance wives also faced violence in in-laws house. All the respondents in this research reported that after their husband migration their workload has increased. Sometime wives faced social violence like they experienced restriction on their movement after husband migration. It has also found that in absence of husband wives engaged in extra marital relationship with their male friends. 19 percent wives engaged in this type of relationship. In absence of husband 62 percent wives need permission from their in-laws to spent the money which her husband sent from abroad. Most of the wives can not share their pain with others only 8 percent share their pain. This research study analyze the vulnerable condition of the wives after their husband migration in in-laws house and personal problem also recommended some steps for the welfare of the migrants' wives.

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Acknowledgement

I am thanking the Department of Sociology to assign me to work with my supervisor and also grateful to the chairman of Department of Sociology for approving my research proposal.

I would like to be grateful to my parents (Md. Morshed Alam & Quazi Nazma Sereen), my sister and brothers, and all well wishers who helped me mentally a lot to complete this thesis within the limited time frame. I am thankful to Muhammad Mahmudur Rashid to his inspiration and intellectual co-operation to write the thesis patiently.

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CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Migration is not a new phenomenon. International migration is one of the most wide spread and influential feature, since in human civilization. “Men to leave their family and migrate long distances in order to earn money is a wide spread pattern in many countries in third world”, according to Judy H. Brink (1991, p.201-211). Usually, migration occurred because man want to improve the livelihood and status of his and his families, want to learn new knowledge, acquire new experiences, and want to get a comfortable job which can give him a better livelihood. Characteristic of international migration is basically the movement of people from their home country to host countries and staying the host country for a long period of time to improve their livelihood. According to International Organization for Migration (1997), “International Migration is the movement of people from one country to another to get an employment or establish residence or to seek refuge from persecution.” Reyes argued, “Migration is basically an economic, political and social process that affects those who move, those who stay behind in the home country.” We live in an age of globalization; as a result migration has become a global phenomenon. Because of globalization a person can easily go abroad for searching suitable job and want to give a better livelihood for his family.

Moreover, migration refers to the cross-border movement. People are increasing rapidly in the world and the growing numbers of people around the world want better employment opportunities, better life style and successful

career for themselves. Because of migration both home and host countries face challenges in socio-economic sectors (Siddiqui, 2004). Migration is a process; however, it is a transnational phenomenon that has enormous effects on the lives of migrants' family who are left behind in the home country. The types of families are called transnational family. Both the migrants' and the family members can easily connected with one another with the help of communication and information technology (Brink, 1991). Usually, people migrate and send remittance to the family which improves the livelihood condition of the migrants' family; this remittance can contribute to local economy and national development (Ratha, 2005). At the same time, migration has several negative impacts on the members of the family, especially, the wives of migrants' who are left behind in the home country. They bear physical and mental stress in the absence of their husbands. Besides, they also suffer some problems which they cannot share with anyone in the family. Wife of a migrants' do not find anyone in the family with whom she can share her feeling.

Recently, migrants' from third world countries are become a structural phenomenon. In many African, Latin American and Asian countries male migrate and leaving his family behind in the home country, that is considered as a wide spread and predominant form of migration pattern (Population Report, 1998). Men usually migrate because they expect higher income in the host countries than their home country. The cause of migration which has widely observed is the survival strategy of poor people. Migrants' from third world countries are mainly poor; as a result they mainly used for labor purpose at the advance industrial countries. The number of migrants' are

increasing because of poverty, economic instability, unstable source of income, lack of resources, political unrest and social problems- nowadays all these problems is increasing, as a result, there exist no safety for the people in the third world countries which encouraged people for migration. There are some non-economic reasons which also encouraged the decision of migration those are- war, ethnical discrimination and political persecution at home. Migrants' people often choose to migrant in those countries, where they have good network of families and friends who had migrated before. Those migrants' sent remittance to their families for better housing and to raise standard of living of the migrant households. (Connell et.al., 1976; Rempel and Lobdell, 1978; Oberai and Singh, 1983; Population Reports, 1983; Yadava, 1989; Mehta, 1990; Ghosh and Sharma, 1995; Singh, 2000). Especially, migration is occupying an important role for the improvement of state budget. Thousands of households are very much dependent for their economic improvements on the remittance which migrants' people sent from abroad.

International Labor Organization (ILO) reports that, approximately 120 million people work as migrants around the world (ILO, 2006). Today the number of people living outside their home country is all time high about 175 million, more than double of number a generation ago. Bangladesh is top of labor sending countries in the world (0.250 million per year). Migrants' sending remittances is the highest source of foreign exchange earnings in her annual budget (around 3.86 billion US dollar in recent year) (Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, BMET, 2004). With the help of available data it is found that more than 600,000 Bangladeshi nationals have

migrated to the Middle East and North African countries for employment purpose and better earning. Usually, these huge numbers of people are mainly migrated to 13 countries and eight countries are identified which has more than 95 percent of the migration occurs; these include Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, and The United Arab Emirates (UAE). These huge numbers of migrants' are mainly semi-skilled or unskilled. Overtime, it is observed that Bangladeshi migrants' workers have faced significant changes in working condition of those regions. With the present socio-economic condition in the Middle East, less workers are migrating to the Middle East. However, some specific countries such as Libya and Qatar have been receiving less migrants from Bangladesh. Saudi Arabia is a country where more than half of the migrants' are from the region of Bangladesh. Every year a large number of men left home for better living keeping his family behind in the home country. The members of the family in the home country struggle hard for their survival in absence of male members in the family. They suffer physical, mental, financial and management problem in the absence of their husbands (Gunatilleke, 1995).

However, it has been observed that migration of husbands has many effects on the family members in rural areas (Gonzales, 1961). Effects of migration are usually studied of a macro approach, which include- how migration affects the wages, labor supplies and governmental policies on the national level. Very few numbers of researches of migration is study using a micro approach, which include- the effect of migration of the wives and on the relationships between husband and wife, and wife and in-laws (Brink, 1991). In absence of husband the suffering of the wife in the family are

usually seen beyond study of a research. Besides, the relationship of wife with her in-laws family members sometimes becomes hostile after husband migration. The wife of a migrant faced many kinds of problems while her husband away, which are not identified specifically.

Usually, men migrant and left his family behind in the home country. After husband migration wives have to maintain everything around home. When a man leaves his family behind in the home country, he maintains his own survival first in host country than when he become settle in host country he starting to send money for his family. Remittances which migrants' husbands send are sometimes uncertain and it takes so long time of reaching the money to his family members. The money which her husband send usually received by wives and rarely used the money in wives own desires. Most of the time, she has to take permission from the in-laws members. Because of husbands absence wives enjoyed freedom and control particularly in the areas of agricultural work and the social lives (Bridget O'Laughlin, 1998). Wives actively involved in farming, wage labor, government agencies in absence of her husband because of migration and sometimes they take family decisions which particularly take her husband. In absence of husband wives become play the disciplinarian role of the family. Besides, women may also maintain household budgets. These new roles increased authoritl power of women in spending money and freedom of movement. These authoritl power increased women's autonomy and creates new identity for her which is defined as women empowerment (Jejeebhoy and Sathar, 2001; Bloom, Wypij and Das Gupta, 2001).

A man migrants' leaving his family behind when he become sure that there remain someone at home who will take proper care of his children, household, his parents, fields, garden, livestock and so on. Besides, to maintain social network and wait for him when he returns from abroad, he needs someone at home. In additionally, he thinks her wife is the reliable only person who could do all of this for him (Kaspar, 2005). However, many researches in rural areas have suggested that women status within the family increases when their husbands went abroad to find work and send remittance. Men are usually migrating because they think that migration is the only solution for improving his and his family's livelihood. Migrants' husband sends remittance to his family who are left behind in the home country. As a result, this remittance can help to improve the family status, develop the areas of origin, particularly the status of the family members who are left behind. Furthermore, this remittance has played a significant role for the economic development of the home country. After sending sufficient money from abroad, the family can build new house, purchase domestic animals or buy land for cultivation. The family members can also enrich the status of their life style with the help of remittance. For this reasons, the family members and relatives are encouraged young people to go abroad and change their fate. In our country, men are even encouraged by their wives to go abroad for employment and the wives help them by their own resources. Family member often believes that going abroad is the only way to improve their economic conditions of the household (Sattar, 2009).

However, increasing number of international migration creates a significant change in the family pattern both in the less developed and more

developed world. Based on the duration of time there are two types of male migration (Davis, 1984). The first one is, a men leaving work and returning home each day, the other one is went abroad for work and left his wives, children, extended families behind in the home country for an extended periods of time. Wives who are left behind have fulfilled many responsibilities and upload many burdens. Besides, she has to play various roles in absence of her husband. Because of migration male dominating roles has reduced while wives dominating role over family maintenance and child rearing has increased (Nutting, 2010). This role not only gives the migrants' wife freedom and autonomy but also gives an extra burden on them (Yabiku, Agadjanian and Sevoyan, 2010). They faced stress for doing extra responsibilities in the absence of their husbands.

Wives status in the family has increased because of husband migration. At the same time, wives faced some difficulties in the absence of a husband. However, her work level has increased because she has to maintain not only household work but also outside work which particularly has done by her husband. She has to manage outside job besides caring of every household member. Even in absence of husband wives has to work in the agricultural fields, look after the livestock, and manage the outdoor work (Roy and Nangia, 2005). However, about half of the migrants' wives said that it would be good for them if their migrants' husband sent huge money and come back with good amount of money which lesser their burdens and various responsibilities (Khalaf, 2009).

When male migrant leaves his family behind in the home country for better livelihood and improves condition of living, women have to hold

various responsibilities which are particularly done by husband. At the same time husband sent money from abroad for his family in the name of his wives. Control over money gives them power to make decision. Some studies show that because of husband migration the overall status of women are improved, not only they have money from remittance which they can spend as their wish but also they are the independent decision makers about many important issues, such as- education, health, basic needs etc. It is observed that social attitudes toward women also become changed because of this power over money which her husband sends in the name of her (Khanam, 2004). In our patriarchal society, where the cultural practices in society gives the males power and control over females, and this types of money empowerment give women a new identity into the society and family. Besides, she can raise her own voice and overcome many obstacles which are very common for rural women with the help of financial power. However, when women started to control over money there raised family conflict within the family. Everybody in the family member especially the male member of the family wanted to control the money which has been sent from abroad, wife received the money which her husband sent to her and she raised her voice, as a result, family members became hostile toward the migrant's wife. Her voice and autonomy is considered as a desperate behavior and for these behaviors sometime she faces torture.

Migration of husbands creates several negative impacts on wives. It is unusual for husband and wife to live separately. Because of migration the husband is away from home and not available in time of need which may easily put his wife in depression. This situation is particularly true for those

women who are newly married and have little time spend with husband. Because of husband absence wives feel very isolated. She has always very tense about her husband. Several studies found that migrants' wives feel extra stress than the non-migrants' wives. Migration of close family members, especially spouses significantly increases higher level of depression and loneliness, which is observed in family members who remain in rural areas of Bangladesh. Even this separation results psychological and emotional stress for all family member especially for the wives of migrants'. Unless there are people with whom she can share her feeling, she suffers from tension and anxiety. As a result, the separation from husband leads wives and their children a serious stressor situation that affect the emotional wellbeing of them. However, in Bangladesh there are several folk songs in which the isolation and unhappiness of spouse of migrants' who are left behind are reflecting very nicely (Roy and Nangia , 2001).

Men migrants' leaving his family behind in the home country and the wife feels serious stress condition. Most of the time, she has disagreed with the migration decision of her husband. But the power structure within the family in the third world countries may allow one member having more control over family decision than the others. However, in patriarchal societies which exist in the third world countries, observed that male member are the household heads and impose their decisions to migration to the male member in the family without considering the feelings of wives (Hondagneu-Sotelo, 1992). Normally, family members do not necessarily act as a consensus body and that there may be remain different opinions between men and women within the household (Hondagneu-Sotelo, 1992).

In absence of husband wives always feel lonely which brings tension and sadness. Because of husband absence wives have to manage both household and outside work as a result she suffers depression, sadness, anger, anxiety and sexual difficulties, these problems are highly present among migrants' wives than the non-migrants' wives (Hubinger, Parker, Clavarino, 1984). However, familial separation may change the roles, support structures, and responsibilities of migrants' family members which are the cause of increase psychological and emotional stress for all family members. The distance from family life because of migration affects the emotional well-being of both migrants and their family members. When migration has occurred marital relations between husbands and wives are hampered. Some migrants' couples experience conflict and emotional distance, divorce, and consequently they sometime engaged in extra-marital affairs in the absence of their partner (Chee, 2003).

However, when man migrants' leaving his wives alone in the home country, his wife faces so many problems. Generally, the wives have to manage all the households work alone. She has to hold the responsibilities of decision making in the absence of husband. Primarily, the money which her husband sends from abroad is uncertain. Wife of migrants' should manage all the expenses for survival. Migrants' wife has to play 'double role' in the absence of husband both home and outside. Thus the extra responsibilities of managing family, children and financial matter, anxiety about the safety of husband and her, create a condition of psychological stress among the wives who were left behind. Her problem can be divided into five categories, those areas- personal, psychological, managerial, and social and children related.

Personal and psychological problems are - feeling tension, irregular communication between husband and wives, depression, loneliness, etc. Managerial problems are- the feeling of problems in time management for doing work and proper distribution of money which her husband sent. Children related problems are- face difficulties to learn discipline of the children, guide properly, taking care of their education. However, most of the migrants' wives are busy with the household chores and fulfill other responsibilities they do not have time to take proper care of their children (Thakur and Kishtwaria, 1988).

In rural Bangladesh, most of the time migrants' wives are not behaved well. Primarily when their husband went abroad and cannot send money, the position of wives in the family is very low. Moreover, she has to accept many physical and verbal abuses from her in-laws. Everybody in the rural areas think that the wives are responsible for this situation. Even the wife of migrants' husband hears many unwanted word from the rural people. In the absence of husband, the relative of in-laws treat wives as their enemy. It is observed that the money which migrants' men send in the name of her wives is not allowed to receive the wife. Usually this money is received by the in-laws, especially the male in-laws. Frequently, they think all money which their son sends from abroad, captured by his wives alone if she receives money. This becomes a serious cause of conflict in family and sometimes wife become tortured for this reason (Roy and Nangia, 2001).

In the absence of husband during migration, the wives stay with in-laws and sometimes it is forbidden for her to keep in touch with her parents. Without the permission of male member, the wives do not allow to go outside.

If it is necessary for her to go outside, the male members go with her and look after all the movement and attitude of her. Moreover, migrants' wives who can not communicate with her husband from an extended period of time often scared that her husband may divorce her or have second marriage in abroad. Under this circumstance, the village people or sometimes her own husband tease or threat her to divorce or second marriage. This situation is very common for those who have not been married for a long time or who have not any children. They are often tortured by her in-laws both verbally and physically. Consequently, the wives of migrants' husband feel depressed, frustrated and anxiety. Sometimes they attempt to suicide for thinking her future or cannot tolerate the tortured which she suffers in her in-laws family (Brink, 1991).

However, people are usually migrating thinking that migration is a common solution for better livelihood which opens opportunities or resources for them and a way to improve the condition of their livelihood. There conduct less research on the non-economic side of migration process which is- the family members of migrants' and the effects of migration on wives and children who remain at home country. Most of the research have been conducted to determined the economic impact on migration but the socio-psychological impact of migrants' wives who are left behind in the home country have overlooked. Although, there are huge economic benefit of migration but there also prevails difficulties for those who stay at home or left behind in home country especially migrants' people wives (Shrestha and Conway, 2001).

1.2. Objectives of the Study

This research tries to focus on the difficulties faced the migrants' wives who are living in the home country in absence of their husband. The research objectives are:

1. Find out the problem they face, especially- a. problem faced in in-laws house and b. faced personal problem.
2. To explore the different dimension of problem they face.

To analysis the objectives it is clear that this research tries to explore the problems of migrants' wife and find out the socio-psychological problem of them, which sometimes very hidden in our country. However, a very little research has conducted on the social side of migration, most of the researches are conducted their research to analysis the economic side of migration and women autonomy, but they didn't analysis the problem which migrants' wife faced in absence of their husband for migration. So this research tries to give much emphasis on the social side especially the problems of migrants' wife in the family in absence of their husband which has not yet been done.

CHAPTER TWO

Literature Review

Traditionally migration refers to the movement of people across the border leaving his familiar environment behind in the home country. Migrants' people went abroad to provide better livelihood for his family (Pedraza 1991; Pessar& Mahler 2003). As Pedraza (1991:303) expresses it, "The pervasive assumption that the international migrant is a young, economically motivated male has overshadowed the reality of migration steams that were dominated by women". Migration from Bangladesh has a long historical matter. According to Gardner and Ahmed (2006:7), "From pre-colonial times, migrants' from the west settled the highly fertile but often waterlogged lands of the east, whilst other historical evidence points to movement in the other direction, a continual flow of people, regardless of national border."

As Gardner and Ahmed (2005:34) analyzed, "These constant, cross-cutting migrations are both a result of the region's turbulent history and its turbulent environment, in which floods and cyclone mean that, belonging can never be guaranteed". While because of various reasons every years a large number of Bangladeshi people become migrants'. In those reasons poverty is one of the main reasons for migration.

As Siddiqui (2005:2) pointed out, "Given the size of its population, the ration of population to arable land, the overall level of economic development and increased number of unemployment , there are many reasons why the various forms of migration both forced and voluntary, internal and international migration occurs in Bangladesh."

Recently, the top ten host countries where the Bangladeshi people are usually migrants' are- India, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, United States, Oman, Italy, Canada, Singapore, The Republic of Korea, and Malaysia (World Bank Migration and Remittances Fact Book, 2010). Migration which occurs from Bangladesh can be divided into two distinct types: settled migration to the industrialized West and labor migration to the Middle East or South-East Asia for a short period of time.

As Siddiqui (2004:2) explains, "migration to the West is connected to Bangladesh's colonial past. During the 18th and early 19th century, sailors originating from the southeastern part of East Bengal (Chittagong and Noakhali) found jobs in the British merchant navy, which carried goods from Kolkata port to all parts of the world." In recent time the pattern of migration to the industrialized West often takes places with the help of family ties; relatives and friends who already live in the West help their Bangladeshi family with necessary paperwork and funds (Gardner and Ahmed, 2006).

However, reviewing the available literature it has found that male migration has two types of effects on families. First, it has focused on women's autonomy and freedom during her husbands' absence. Second, the negative impact on wives because she has to take on extra roles that they would not normally undertake consequently her stress level has increased and also faced many difficulties which usually they do not face in the presence of their husband (Hugo, 2000).

In a traditional society like Bangladesh, the decision to migrate is taken after the male members in the family reached a consensus. Women barely possess decision making power and their decision is less valued and they

accept the decision which male member in the family has taken, no matter whether they agreed or disagreed with the decision and most of the time wives do not agree with the migration decision of their husbands. In this context Spitze (1984:56) argued, “Couples pool information on their joint utilities and weight both in the final decision”. Since total family utilities is assumed to be measured best by total monetary income, the male members in the family who can contribute the most, have the power to contribute heavily on the decision making. Women’s decision in the family is not accepted willingly. Sometimes they are not allowed to participate in the matter of decision making.

Willmott and Young (1973:595-604) argued, “ in industrial society the family structure is symmetrical, where both spouses playing two roles: a domestic one within the family and an occupational work outside the family” While this types of family structure is common in migrant’s family where husband went abroad leaving his family behind in the home country. In this situation migrants’ wives have to play double role, she has to maintain both the household and outside work and maintaining those work become very stressful for her. The wives of migrants’ sometimes do outside work which is usually done by husband. As a result, the level of responsibilities and tension has increased which causes great mental stress on migrants’ wives.

Usually, because of migration the family members especially the wives of migrants become separated from her husband for a long period of time which is very painful feeling for her. Nobody in the family can realize her pain and she faces very difficult situation because of husband absence. Silver (2006) argued that naturally family refers to the place in which the member of the families gets psychological and emotional support, nurturing environment,

and social integration. Some studies found that after husband's migration, the environment of family has changed for the migrants' wives and there exist hostile relationship within the family in some cases. Domestic violence or verbal abuse is common in the family when a husband left behind his wife. Sometimes the wives of migrants' cannot tolerate the torture; occasionally they commit suicide to escape from violent torture of in-laws.

In absence of husband, wives have to put extra burden and responsibilities. Women responsibilities outside the home may increase the stress level of women. Paris et al. (2005:337-355) argued, "In rice-producing villages of eastern UP, if remittances are not large enough, women work load is likely to increase as they have to compensate for the absence of their husband's farm labor". This situation is also common in the rural areas of Bangladesh, in absence of husband women have to put the work load and responsibilities of their husbands. Other research also notes that remittance which her husband send from abroad are not enough or even uncertain and women who left behind in the home country have to play the double role. She has become the earning member of the family along with the extra burden of families come of household activities (Jatley, 1987).

Seccombe (1985) states the main trends of international migration and he divided migration into three broad categories in which the migration was characterized as descriptive and judgmental. First- the view of migration pattern according to international and national trends, flow of remittance and their import of micro-economic, second- discuss the organize and regulation of migration according to government policies and the third is- analyzing in the micro scale that is community and household scale, which include- the

effect of migration on the wives, relationship between wives and in-laws, wives psychological behavior and well-being.

Roy and Nangia (2001) attempted to compare the social well-being, mental stress and physical health of left behind wives of migrants' with the wives of non-migrants'. They conducted a study in 2001 which was based on a survey of 354 left behind wives and 192 wives of non-migrants'. The result of multivariate analyze which shows that migrants' wives were faced greater stress than the non-migrants' wives and they suffer the symptoms of mental stress. Thus for small economic benefits, the left behind wives of migrants' had to play a large amount of strain in terms of both mentally and physically. Moreover, they are often violated by their in-laws. They accept it as their fate and accept all stress silently, they staying alive for their families. They work both home and outside for the survival of herself, her children, and the family members of her home. The level of work has increased; this creates mental stress for the migrants' wives whose husbands are left behind for migration.

A recent study investigates migrants' wives problems those are left behind in rural areas (Farooq and Javed, 2009). Women felt lonely and burdened in absence of their husband as they play the new duties and responsibilities. Consequently, when their husband left behind them at the home country they faced psychological stress. It was further explored that, in absence of father children also feel lonely and guideless. The family members of migrants' sometimes do not cooperate with the wives of migrants' and they tease her for this vulnerable condition.

The wives who remind in the home country suffers various syndrome, like- feeling of depression, loneliness, sadness, anger, sexual frustration and

recrimination in absence of their husband (Morrice and Taylor, 1978). This suffering called as an 'Intermittent Husband Syndrome' (IHS). Because of this syndrome the wives of migrants' cannot concentrate on her work and they often complained about their ill health. They are tense about their husband situation, in turn, they suffer from various tension related disease, which affect not only herself but also the children of her own.

Long distance communication or irregular communication has been creates some psychical and mental stress which brings suffering in migrants' wife life, such as- sleeping disorder, stress related hair loses, increase in minor illness such as colds, headaches, flu and mood swings. While, the departure of the husband cause tension and sadness for the migrants' wife, they always feel lonely in absence of their husband so in various research it is find that migrants' wife affected various mental and physical sickness in absence of their husband (La Forte, 1991).

The traditional gender ideology portrays women as dependent on their men partner and many households have recognized this practice as their cultural tradition (Hoodfar, 1996). Brothers or other male relatives moved in to take care of the women who are left behind because of their husband migration. Besides, studies in India, it is found that migrants' people often hold up their migration process until they do not find some male relative who can take care of his families who are being left behind in the home country (De Haan, 2006).

However, migrants' wives movement is very restricted. The movements of migrants' wife outside home are strictly observed by male members of the in-laws house and mother in-laws. The wife of migrant

husband cannot go outside without the permission from in-laws. Even they need to get permission from the male members or mother in-laws for going to market or mothers' house (Brink, 1985). In many rural areas migrants' wife are not allowed to go outside the home, everything which are necessary for her brought by male members of the family.

Most of the migrants' wives are illiterate or less educated and unemployed in rural areas; as a result they were unable to give decision on important matter of the family or buying some expensive items (Brink, 1985; Khattab and El Daeif, 1982). Besides, women's decision making power in the family is often neglected because of additional gender ideology where women are always dominated by man. Usually, a husband sends a sum of money to his wife and gives an instruction to his wife that how the money should be spend; wives only follow the instruction of his husband as she wants to use the money in different way. There belong no rights of wives in the use of remittance which her husband sent from abroad. Sometimes it is observed that wives become disagree with husband decision on spending money for family purpose. The major financial decisions such as the wedding arrangement and the buying of land or an expensive appliance were taken by the male members especially the husband or male members in the family.

Murray (1981) found that women are often managing the household but they have very little control over the resources. She has to follow the instruction what her husband said about the money distribution, if she does not follow the instruction of her husband and spent the money in her own desire the family conflict occurs within the family. As their husband thinks that they cannot manage the money effectively. However, imbalance between

power and responsibilities become the major source of conflict and marital disharmony in the family.

Sending money from abroad are sometimes very uncertain so the migrant families does not know when they receive money which their migrant husband send, so in this mean time migrants' wives had faced problem about budgeting household expenses (Brink, 1991). Women are financially dependent on their husband, and it is very difficult for the women to manage the family without the male members. Besides, absence of husband in the family increases poverty level because additionally male members in our society are seen as a wage earner so after their departure the family falls into great hardship; they hardly manage their survival at that time so the irregularity of remittance creates great pressure on women.

Some of their study it is found that women who married an unsuccessful migrant husband may experience the great economic strain because of the increasing financial responsibilities of migrants' wives (Sadiqi and Ennaji, 2004). Even when migration of husband become successful, strain of women has not reduced because they dependent on remittance that sometimes may be irregular, uncertain and limited (Kothari, 2003).

Higher probability of divorce (Sidiqi and Ennaji , 2004), family disintegration and lower ability to caring children (Snyder, 1993), more physical labor of women (Engel, 1986), wives of migrants' feel loneliness and depression (Zachariah, Mathew and Rajan, 2001), decrease social support and network of migrant husband wife((Roy and Nangia 2005; Kothari, 2003) are some of the negative impact on wives. However, migrants' wives cannot

connect with her near and dear ones in the absence of their husband; this connection is very much restricted by the in-laws house members.

Further, Brink (1991), Sidiqi and Ennaji (2004) found another types of anxiety feel migrant wife when their husband are abroad, which is particularly occurs because of insufficient internet or phone call service in the village, sometimes it is also seen that many migrants' wife do not have any personal cell phone not even the whole family in this situation it makes difficult for migrant men to communicate with his families. The wives of migrants' who can not communicate her husband's from a extended period of time feel scared that her husband may have divorced her or have second marriage in abroad. However, when migrants' man become settles in abroad, he earns huge money and there have the possibility to invest the money for second marriage. Even in rural areas it is often noticed that migrants' man threat his wife for divorce or second marriage. This situation is very much common for those wives- who are newly married or who have not had any children, because of these threat the wives become mentally disturb and sometimes they become scared that their husband will do this in abroad. In this situation migrant wives feel mental and psychological stress upon them even sometimes they become mentally disorder patient.

The migrants' wives who are left behind in the home country faced many unwanted situation (Roy and Nangia, 2005; Gordon 1981). Women play huge responsibilities in absence of their husband, she has to manage both inside and outside work, which is say "double burden". Besides, in absence of husbands', women are fulfilling both task such as their own task and husbands' tasks, duties and roles (Khaled 1995; Boehm 2008; Grawert 1992).

In some researcher report it is found that in absence of husband, women feel higher strain and stress because of the increased level of household activities and other responsibilities (Gordon 1981).

However, when husband had been migrants' for long period of time wives feel great stress. In some situation, this stress has greatly felt that Gordon (p.72) writes, "It is difficult, therefore, to see the assumption of increased responsibility as being a positive force in these women's lives". This stress are very much painful for those wives who are newly married and get very little time to spent with husband and it is also seen in many research study that almost all of migrants' wives passed stressful situation after their husband migration. Nobody in the family can realize their internal pain even they can not share their pain with anyone. As a result they suffer psychological problems and sometimes they become the patient of that psychological disease.

Along with, Zaalouk (1988: 323-339) research study he argued that, "migration causes a greater marginalization and exclusion of women or that it creates a gulf between the migrant and his wife" (Abdel Muaty 1984, Abbazal 1987, Kamiar and Ismail 1991). Besides it is observed that migration creates many problems for those who remain at home especially the wives of migrants', and because of migration women suffer social and psychological problems. They also face problem in socialization process of their children and education (Abdel Muaty, 1984).

Besides, Zaalouk (1988) argued that women participation into economic activities has decrease when their husband becomes migrants and as a result women freedom becomes hampered. In shorts, the longer the husband

is away the less freedom the wife enjoyed (Moheddine, 1988). It has been found that, because of husband migration wives situation in the patriarchal society has not changed- in patriarchal society wives hold the submissive position and in absence of husband the family member practice the culture (El Singaby, 1985).

In other words, we can say that, gender discrimination always exist in patriarchal society no women autonomy and freedom is possible unless the society's attitude is changed toward women. Moreover, wives autonomy and freedom is not achieved in absence of their husband for migration but it creates submissive position of women in the family. The wife of migrants' husband suffers mentally and physically in absence of their husband. Even the wives of migrants' are sometimes tortured by the in-laws family members (Baduel, 1980).

Besides, Garcia (2005) also attempted to explore that society differentiated the role of male and female as head of household and sender-recipients of remittance. Women are always dominated by male which is culturally accepted by the society. Male members in the family hold the household head position and women become the submissive position in the family. Society creates this situation for dominating women. However, all the decision which male takes are accepted for the family whether the female decision about family matters are neglected by the male members in the family. Even the migration decision of the husband wife sometimes does not agree with the decision but her decision is not hear anyone in the family.

D' Emilio et al. (2007) focused to understand the impact of migration on children and families which are left behind in the home country. In his

study he focused on the mental stress of the family members who are left behind in the home country, especially the wives and children who are very much affected in this situation. The wives of migrants' can not share her feeling after her husband departure. She always feels very lonely and sad but the in-laws think that she always acting for escaping her regular work. As a result the wives of migrant hear many unwanted word and tortured by in-laws.

CHAPTER THREE

Theoretical Framework

Migration is a process, which can be explained by many theories. Migration is influenced by various reasons including inspiration, country's situation and household strategies. However, it is observed that individual's migration decision has mainly taken on the basis of social networks. Many migration theories and policy is mainly based on a neo-classical model of cost-benefit analysis. The neo-classical model of migration mainly point out that migration is occurred analyzing the possibility of risks and costs of border crossing, achieve economic benefit, variation of wage between the home and host countries, the employment possibilities in the host countries and the psychological costs of migration (Todaro and Maruzko 1987, Massey et. al. 1993, Espinshade 1995). However, neo-classical model of migration focus on the individual level of motivating from which the individual take rational decision to migration.

Moreover, there emerged several theories on migration in 1970 and 1980s; the most prominent theories of migration are neo-classical model, the New Economics of Migration theory (NEM), push and pull demographic model, human capital theory of migration. The neo-classical model examines the trends of migration and analyzes the conditions of economy in the home country and compared it with the host countries which influenced families' decision making about the male migration (Lauby and Stark 1988, Massey et al. 1993, Espinshade 1995, Durand et al.1996, Taylor 1999).

3.1. New Economic of Migration Theory

According to NEM theory, when a country or society unable to give employment to their male members, because of lack of economic resources or natural disasters, one or more family members become migrate to different country or region. In those countries they do not face the similar hazards or difficulties and feel more secured against economic hazards compared with their home country. As a result, the male members in those countries went abroad and left behind their family in the home country to ensure better livelihood. Usually, economic difficulties or market failures in the home country has become the main cause of migration. High wage facilities in host countries allow individual to earn more and save money and then devote the money in their home country to develop the home country's economy. Finally, NEM studies families of migrants' which are left behind in the home country and discuss relative dispossession which the family members felt when the male members went abroad leaving them behind especially the wife of migrants'. It also focuses on economic factor such as- income differentiation which is considered as one of the main motivating factors that increased the chance of migration of the male members in the family (Silver, 2006).

According to NEM theory, migration is mainly occurred because of income differentiation between home country and host country (Stark and Taylor 1989, 1991; Massey et. al.1993). The NEM theory argued that migration is increasing because observing the situation of those families whose husband or relatives are not migrants' and compare with the better livelihood of those migrant families which occurred because of the sending

remittances from abroad. Besides, it is observed in rural areas a family which does not send a male member abroad cannot change its economic condition, sometimes non-migrant sending households economic condition is compared with migrant sending households. Consequently, the economic conditions of non-migrant families are not well and seeing this conditions the male member in the household attempt to go abroad for better livelihood for his family. Moreover, NEM theory argued that the migrants' wives suffer various problems in absence of their husband and most of the time they can not express their problem because of their socialization process.

However, NEM theory focused on 'the family member's psychological condition after their male member migrant especially the wives of migrants'. This theory named these wives as a "gulf wife" who is mainly isolated from other members of their family. Their pain and sufferings are different from other members of the family which are not similar with the members who remain at home. They suffer various social, physical, and psychological stresses which they could not express to other members in the family (Silver, 2006).

However, there are some criticisms of NEM theory. Critiques of NEM theory point out that family decision about migration are not always taken homogeneously and do not agree all family members in the household. In some society power structure within families granted one member especially the male member to exercise and impose more control and power over family decision making than the other members. Additionally, patriarchal societies usually exercise that male member become the household head and impose their decision to migrate without considering the feelings of migrants' wives

who are left behind in the home country (Hondagneu and Sotelo, 1992). Sometimes wives of migrants do not agree with the migration decision of their husband but nobody in the family does not listen her word. Again, the critique of feminist of NEM argued that in patriarchal society the family member are not remain as the consistent body, as a result there may be exist different view between men and women within the family (Hondagneu and Sotelo 1992). NEM theory does not consider the different opinion of the family members which can not give any equal decision and there remain gender discrimination within the family.

Discussion of migrants' family in the social environment there emerged other migration theories (Massey, 1990; Palloni et al, 2001; Singer and Massey, 1998). Contrast with neo-classical and feminist household models of migration, there are some theories of migration which does not focus on the psychological costs of migration but those theories focus more on cultural norms of migration such as- cumulative causation and network theory of migration model. These theories of migration are not concern about the rational choice or economic satisfaction, but these theories mainly focused on that migration is mainly occurred within some specific host countries where they have a strong network of relatives and friends (Massey 1999). According to cumulative causation and network theories argued that migration has increased dramatically because it has observed that migrants people basically get facilities by their family and friends about the migration process and for settled successfully in host country. Again, cumulative causation theory argued that, migration network help new migrants until they settled in a new country. Furthermore, the effects of migration upon families are felt after the

migrant leaves his family in the home country, especially the wives of migrants' (Silver, 2006).

However, the family members expected economic benefits from the migrants' members in exchange of psychological cost both the migrants' and his family members; mainly they faced social, physical, and mental problems in the absence of the male members in the family. Migration is occurred because the income in the home country may not increase his or his family's chance of existence or cannot significantly change the quality of their lives. As a result, many migrants' people think that sacrificing of family intimacy will increase their and their families' life fulfillment and as a result they become migrants' leaving their family behind in home country (Silver, 2006).

In developing countries most of the migrant person thinks that, economic contentment in exchange of family bonding and personal intimacy is the final goal of their life. Besides, sometimes there exist critical situation where increased income is not their magnificence but their requirement, considering those views it is clear that economic satisfaction will play even more important role in migration decision process (Silver, 2006).

The push-pull theory of migration finds out the economic factors which encourage the migration in the home country as well as in the host country. The push factors of migration are- increasing population, increasing unemployment rate and low standard of living in the home country, etc. The pull factor of migration in the host country are- the increasing demand for labor, better economic facilities, political freedom, etc. Push and pull factor of migration can explain any type of migration process, like-documented or undocumented, forced or voluntary. In shorts, push factors mainly include the

negative characteristics which encourage people to migrate in the host country (Datta, 2002). Basically, migration theories do not explain the problems of migrants' wives after their husband migration. Very few theories analyze the problems of migrant wives in absence of their husband.

3.2. Human Capital Theory

The human capital theory of migration argued that migration is basically occurred to the rational thinking. Before going abroad people are rationally think up about the relative costs and benefits of moving versus staying in home country to host country. However, the human capital theory of migration is seen as gender-impartial. However, in 1970s, a large number of migrants' labor went abroad and they became succeed and economically benefited. Then the family members also the wives of migrants' think up the cost and benefit to send male members abroad when they get a job opportunity (Pedraza, 1991; Zlotnik, 1995; Pessar and Mahler, 2003). Human capital theory is the broader pattern of the human capital model of family migration. However, in our society family decision is given by that person who contribute the most in family income, the husband who contribute the most may influence on the decision and hold the decision making power in the family (Spitz, 1984). However, this theory also has some limitations which has being recognized. This theory does not identify how gender function enters into decision-making process of migration. While the gender role in the society is mainly determine on how man and woman are socialized and because of this socialization the society determined how much contribution can women play in the decision of migration. (Shihadeh, 1991). Also, this theory argued that women are engaged in the decision making process of

migration but argues that wives are most of the time does not agreed to their husband migration decision. In this point of view, the gender impartiality of the human capital model is not realistic (Pedraza, 1991; Zlotnik, 1995; Pessar and Mahler, 2003).

Moreover, there exist many migration theories but only a few theories focus on the problems of migrants' wives after their husband migrated to a foreign country. Many gulf wives faced unwanted problems which particularly they did not faced when their husbands present. They suffer physical, mental and social problem in absence of their husband. Sometimes this suffering cause serious psychological depression and the migrants' wife becomes patient of this (Pessar &Mahler, 2003).

CHAPTER FOUR

Conceptual Framework

Migration is widespread phenomena in the world. Basically, everybody observe the positive side of migration but there exist many negative sides in migration process. The first negative side of migration is- it is a process of “skill-drain” and the other negative side of migration which is faced by migrants’ family, especially the wives of migrants. In absence of husband, wives are fall into vulnerable conditions. They suffer both physical and mental stress. They cannot share their pain with anyone; even nobody can realize their hidden sorrow.

4.1. Cause of migration

Migration of husband is generally happen when the country fail to give job opportunity, income disparities, poverty, lack of economic satisfaction, lack of security , better job opportunity in host country etc. Sometimes strong network in host country can help migration process. In modern globalized world, everybody wants better career, better income, and better live-style. Usually, people do not want to become migrant leaving their family, familiar environment, family intimacy and more important their family members behind but sometime they fall into some critical situation when migration is not a luxury but become a necessity for them. Again, the family members encouraged the male member to become migrates considering the economic wellbeing of migrants’ family and they compare it to non-migrants’ family. Migration is basically occurs when the people calculate the cost and benefit

for leaving and staying in home and host country and then they take rational decision to migrate.

4.2. Consent of Wives

When husband decided to go to abroad, he does not take opinion from his wife as taking opinion from wives seems unnecessary in our society. Additionally, in third world patriarchal society the cultural practice allow that male members are the household head and their decision is considered as final decision in the family. And because of socialization process wives opinion is ignored by the family members. Nowadays, wives can present their decision but none evaluates their decision seriously. Most of the time, it has observed that wives oppose with their husbands' migration decision but nobody pays little attention on her not even her husband.

4.3. Wives Play Double Role

After husbands' migration, the levels of wives responsibilities have increased. They have to maintain both household and outside work which culturally done by husband. In shorts, they have to play 'double role'. In absence of husband wives have to maintain all the household activities besides they have to do agricultural work, look after children education, guiding children, maintaining relationship with in-laws members, budget for household etc.

4.4. Intermittent Husband Syndrome

Maintaining all those activities, most of the time wives do not get any support from their in-laws family. Because of these huge responsibilities migrants' wives suffer from stress related disorder which is identified as 'Intermittent Husband Syndrome' (IHS). This type of syndrome is very much present in

migrants' wives than the non-migrants' wives. In absence of husband, wives feel gloominess, loneliness, sadness, sexual frustration, hair and weight loss, appetite, anger and recrimination, etc. Again, Migrants wives cannot concentrate their mind in work; as they always feel tensed about their husband. They cannot share their sufferings with anyone in the family. Nobody can realize their sorrow and stress which migrants' wives faced in absence of their husband. Migrants' wives who are left behind in the home country alone are largely suffered by the whole surroundings which can decrease their quality of live.

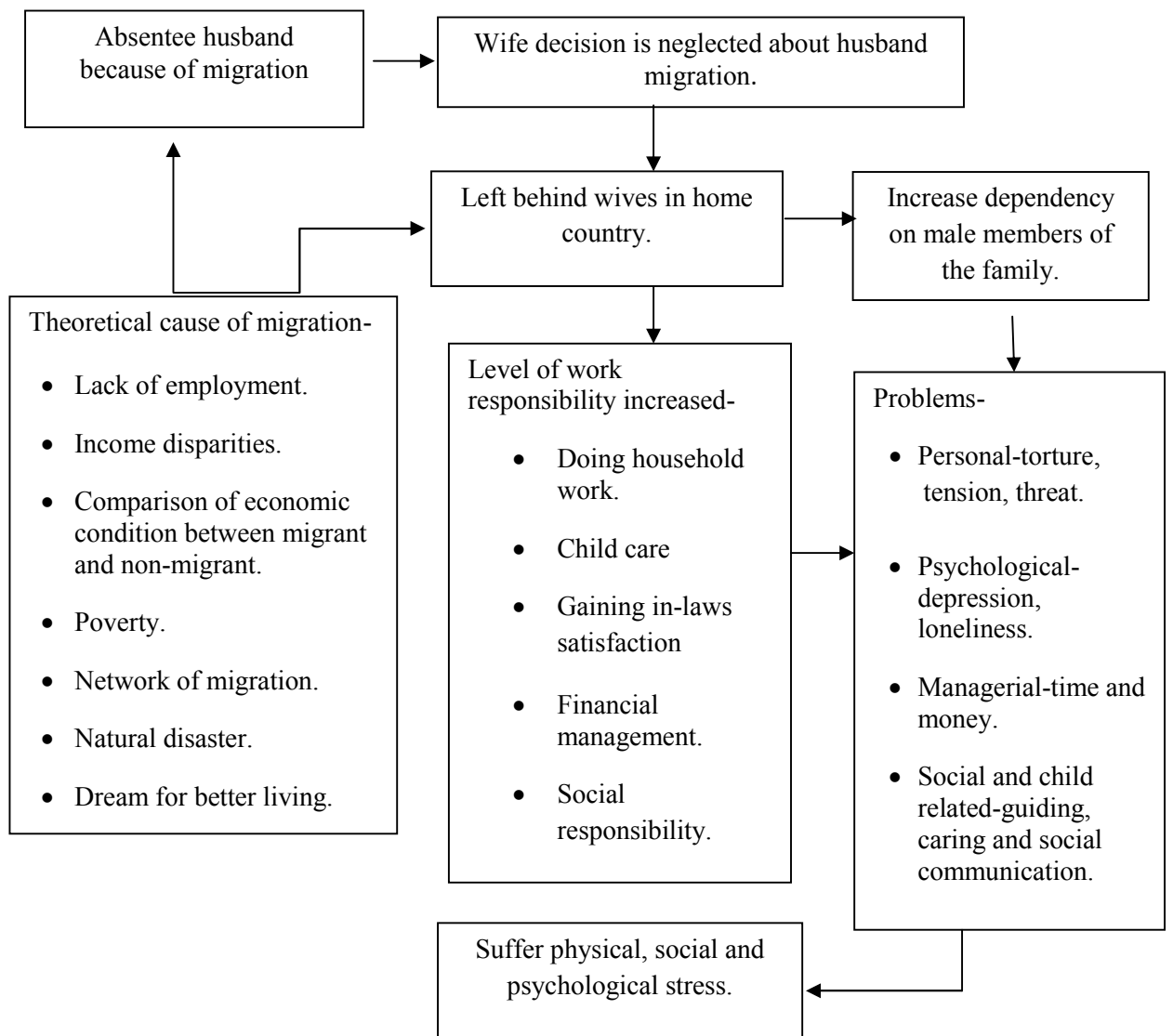


Figure-1: Husband Migration and Condition of left behind wife

4.5. Problems of Migrants wives

In absence of husband wives have to play double role as a result they have faced various problems. Their problem can be divided into four fields, that are- personal, psychological, managerial and social and child related problems. Because managing all of those problems, their stress level is always high and they suffer various complicated diseases. Most of the time migrants' wives suffer minor disease like-flu, cough etc. If the migrants' wives become sick, sometimes they found nobody to carry her to the hospital, and then she has to suffer silently. Most of the time she does not expressed her disease with others. Migrants' wives of our country are very much dependent on the male members; so, they lost their freedom after husbands' migration. Sometime she cannot maintain relationship with her parental house.

4.6. Deprivation of Migrants' wives

Wives in absence of husband are deprived from many things which are necessary for maintaining healthy life-style and mental wellbeing. Wives are very much deprived in absence of their husband. Because of husband migration wives lost their freedom of movement and independent speech. She also deprived from the main thing that is husbands' love and affection. She does not get her husband near when she needs him. As a result, many migrants' wives maintain extra-marital relationship to get mental and physical satisfaction.

4.7. Violence of Left behind Wives

The in-laws family tortures the migrants' wives sometimes verbally and sometimes physically. Usually, most of the migrants' wives have suffered

verbal abuse from their in-laws family. Again, she has tortured by the in-laws when her husband sends money in her name. The wives faced verbal than physical torture for money in their in-laws house which is not common in presence of her husband. The in-laws members think that all money which send from abroad are spent in wives own desire. The in-laws member always try to find fault in her work and when they find fault they verbally tortured her. So the relationship between in-laws member and migrants' wives become hostile.

CHAPTER FIVE

Methodology

Migration is a wide spread pattern in the world especially in the third world countries. Every year a large number of people went abroad leaving their family behind in the home country. This research has focused on the problems of the wives after their husband migration. This research also investigates the problems which wives faced after their husband left, the problems of their internal life and the different dimension of problems which they faced after husband's migration. To investigate these problems for the research purpose correct methodology is very important. Quantitative research method has been used in this research. In order to find out the problems of migrants wives certain steps have been taken in this research.

5.1. Selection of the research area

The research has conducted in Ekhlaspur village under Motlab upazila of Chandpur district. Ekhlaspur has purposively selected because it is one of the migrants' prone areas in Bangladesh. And also it is easy for me to collect information in this area because my home district is Chandpur so people in this district are very much helpful to me and cooperate with me by giving information. The research has conducted in one village under two wards- 2 no. and 3 no ward.

5.2. Study Population

Before starting the research researcher starts from the top (population) and then narrow down the work (sample). In this research the researcher aim is to

identify the problems of migrant' wives so the populations are women. First, all population in these two village are gathered through voter list. Then the migrants' wives in these two villages are randomly selected with the help of voter list and the list of account holder of migrant wives.

5.3. Sample Size

In this research the respondent are the wives of migrants. The sample had collected from one village, that is- Ekhlaspur (2 no. and 3 no. ward). Respondent are selected through random sampling because random sampling are most likely the perfect way that truly represents the population. In addition, random sampling helps to statistically calculate the relationship between the sample and population. The sample size in this research is 120 and 5 respondent are selected for in- depth case study which had conducted in natural setting. Thus 125 respondents are selected for the research. First, migrant wives list of these villages had prepared with help of voter list and bank account list which helped to identify the respondents. After completing the list, the migrants' wives have randomly selected for sampling. A systematic random sampling technique has used to select household for interviewing.

5.4. Data collection technique

In this research used interviewer schedule to find out the information. Goode and Hatt (1952) described questionnaire is a device for knowing the answers of the questions, by using a form that is asked to or filled in by the respondents themselves. Structural questionnaire has used for collecting

information from the respondents. Close- ended and open-ended questions have been included in this questionnaire. The questions had asked in Bangla.

The questioner has six parts that are-

1. Socio-economic condition.
2. Family information.
3. Information of migrants' husband.
4. Problems in in-laws house.
5. Personal problem.
6. Own view.

There were fifty four questions in the questionnaire in which both open ended and close ended questions were combined. In the questionnaire, close ended questions were used to save time and open ended questions were used to get in-depth knowledge and information.

Case study method has also used in this research. Case study aims is to understand the case in depth in its natural setting, recognizing its complexity and its context. In this research five case study have been done because with the help of case study the problems of the respondent can analyze in-depth and can find out their hidden sorrow and many unknown pain.

The main data collection techniques used in this research is:

1. Structured and open ended interview.
2. Case study.

5.5. Pretest

Pretest is a small trail run of a researcher in which researcher check out whether the procedures and methods that have been used will actually work

(Neuman, 1997). The aim of this research is to use a research instrument which would collect information as much as possible without overburdening respondents. To know whether the questionnaire is appropriate or there are any weaknesses. It is the final stage of a questionnaire construction. The pretest should be conducted in the same manner as the final study. After this pretest some questions have been reviewed and edited and a final draft of questionnaire made to conduct the final survey.

5.6. Data process and Analyzing

After data collection has completed, all data has been analyzed using ‘Statistical Program for Social Science’ (SPSS). All the data has coded and entered in this program. After input all the data into the SPSS working sheet, analyzing of data become very easier. In the SPSS program various data interpretation techniques such as-cross bar, frequency distribution, correlation etc are exist.

5.7. Interpretation of Collected Data

In these research two types of interpretation techniques has been used. Those are- detailed interpretation and Graphical interpretation. Detailed interpretation has been used when describe the open ended questions. It means that some data does not fall into any fixed category in that case detailed interpretation has been used. It includes the cause of problems which respondents suffer from. Close ended questions has been presented into graphical data. Bar chart, pie chart, line chart has been used for describing graphical data presentation of close-ended question.

5.8. Reliability and Validity

Reliability and validity are central issues in all scientific measurement. Both concern how concrete measure or indicators are developed for constructs. Perfect reliability and validity are virtually impossible to achieve in social science research (Tashakkori and Teddlie, 2003). In this research, some ideas have followed to assure the reliability and validity of measurement.

1. The researcher has provided a clear operational definition of different important term needed for this research.
2. The questionnaire of the study consisted of selected question which limits the responses to those necessary for the purpose of this study.
3. The researcher asked question to the respondents personally by visiting fields. Researcher conducted the interview administered questionnaire in a value free manner or by remaining neutral and does not influence the respondents to give any specific answers. Researcher tried to seek out the correct data for the research.
4. A pretest was carried out to examine the weakness of the questionnaire or to further assess that whether there ant point that in missing. Another reason for carrying out the pretest is to examine whether questions are relevant to the research objective or not.
5. A fixed measurement tool or questionnaire has been selected to examine the research objective.

To avoid possible error the researcher has cross-checked the collected data that whether there is any missing responses or not. By following the above

procedure the researcher has tried to keep the measurement of this research as much as valid and reliable.

5.9. Ethical Consideration

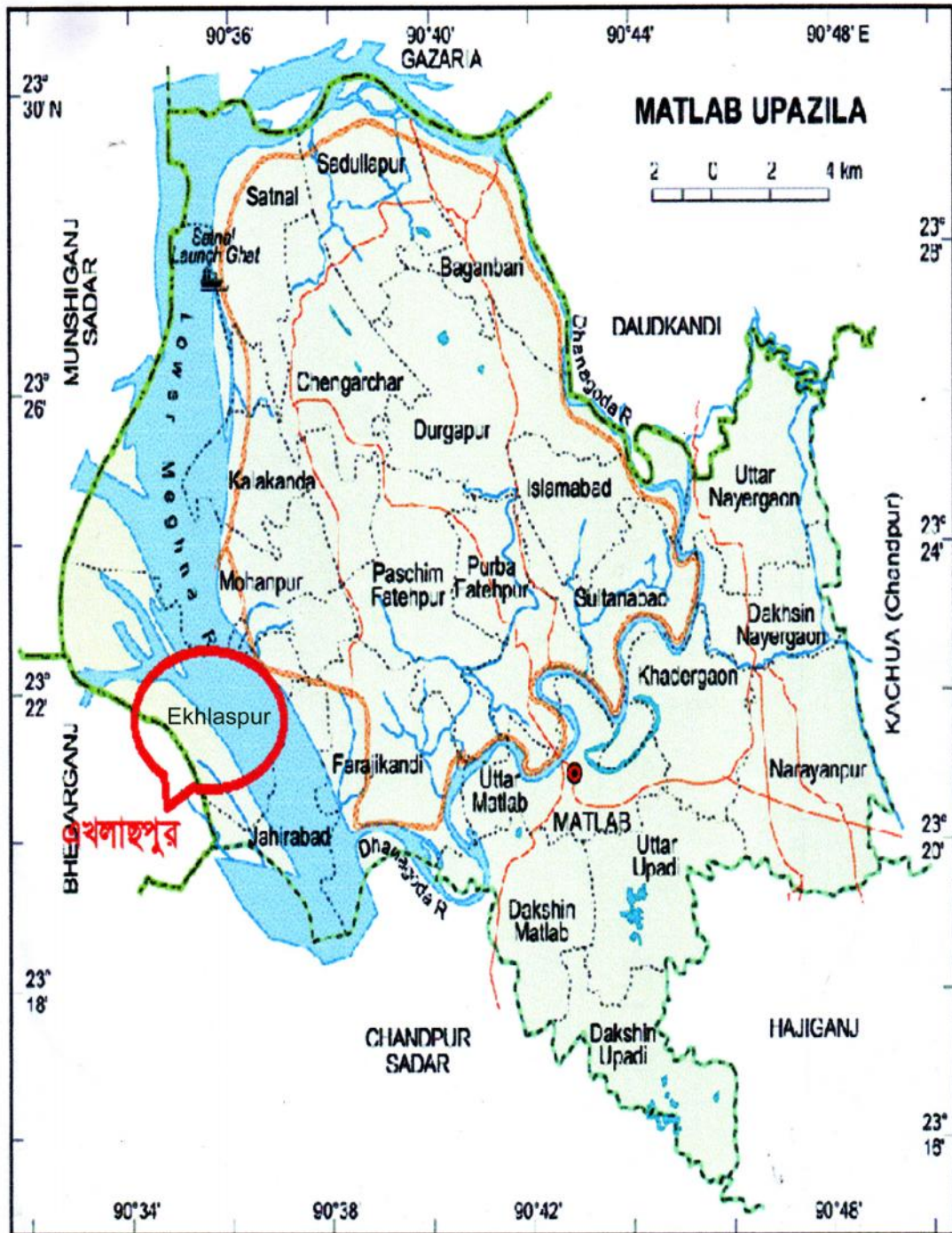
Ethics is very important in social research. In this research ethical values are sincerely maintained. In this research respondent participation must be intended. Consent of the respondent must gather so that when they involved in the research work they must fully know the risk and benefit of the research. Confidentiality must be maintained in the research. In doing this research there remain no hierarchal differentiation between the respondent and me. No data has been edited and manipulated.

5.10. Limitation of the study

Limitations of the study are:

1. Respondents did not give proper time for the data collection.
2. Sometimes respondents became irritate to give answers.
3. In some cases, the respondents did not cooperate with the interviewer and gave incomplete information.
4. They were not ready to answer some of the questions.
5. The research work had to be completed within a very short period of time, and it was not possible to collect more in depth information.
6. Sometimes respondent become hesitate to express their personal information.

Map of Research Area



CHAPTER SIX

Data Analysis and Presentation

Migration is basically occurring for overseas employment which is an important livelihood option for the people in developing countries. Bangladesh is not out of this. People are usually migrating to give better livelihood opportunities for his family. Most of the time migrants' people went abroad for a limited time period such as contract work. It is observed that this temporary economic migration has significant impacts on the migrant origin countries. These impacts affect the countries of destination and origin in both the macro and micro levels. At an individual level, migration profoundly impacts both the migrant and the family that is left behind. However, to completely understand the influence of migration on the economy of Bangladesh, one should acknowledge the importance of exploring at the micro level (individual level), the impact of absence of these migrant workers on the families while they leave behind especially the wives of migrants. It is also reported that the problems of migrants' wives in absence of their husband remain largely unexplored and almost never addressed.

Result

The information which has utilized in this research collected from Ekhlaspur village under Chandpur districts. The total female populations of this village under two wards are 853. From this female population 120 respondents are selected through random sampling. The selected respondents have a common characteristic that is all the respondent's husbands are migrants. These 120 migrants' wives have interviewed by using structural question and case study.

All the respondents are women and married, whose husband live in abroad. Most of the wives have been experiencing from various problems in in-laws house. In this study, forty one (34 percent) wives have found who behave well in in-laws house and they are not interested to answer deeply. On the other hand, seventy-nine (66 percent) wives who have faced violence in in-laws house are personally interviewed beside the structural question. With the help of case study it become easy to find out the reasons why they have being suffering from various problems in in-laws house.

6.1: Back ground information of the respondents

During this study, I have collected some background information of the wives whose husbands are migrants. The information includes - age, number of children, educational level, family types and living place of respondents. Table 6.1.1 shows that wives who have participated in this interview belong to the age of 17-42 years. The highest proportion of the respondents belongs to the age group in 25-29 years (35 percent). The lowest proportion of the respondents belongs to the age group in 15-19 years (9 percent). While seventy-one percent wives live in extended family and twenty nine percent live in neutral family. But after husband's migration sixty-six percent live with their in-laws and rest of 34 percent either live in parental house (22 percent) or their own house (12 percent). Because the wives reported that the violence level has increased after husband departure and sometimes husband think that living wives in parental house will help to protect the wives from sexual harassment or unwanted behavior from other male members who may be the members of in-laws family. Almost forty-five percent wives have one

child, 31 percent have two children and 24 percent wives have three or more children.

Table 6.1.1: Basic characteristics of migrants' wives.

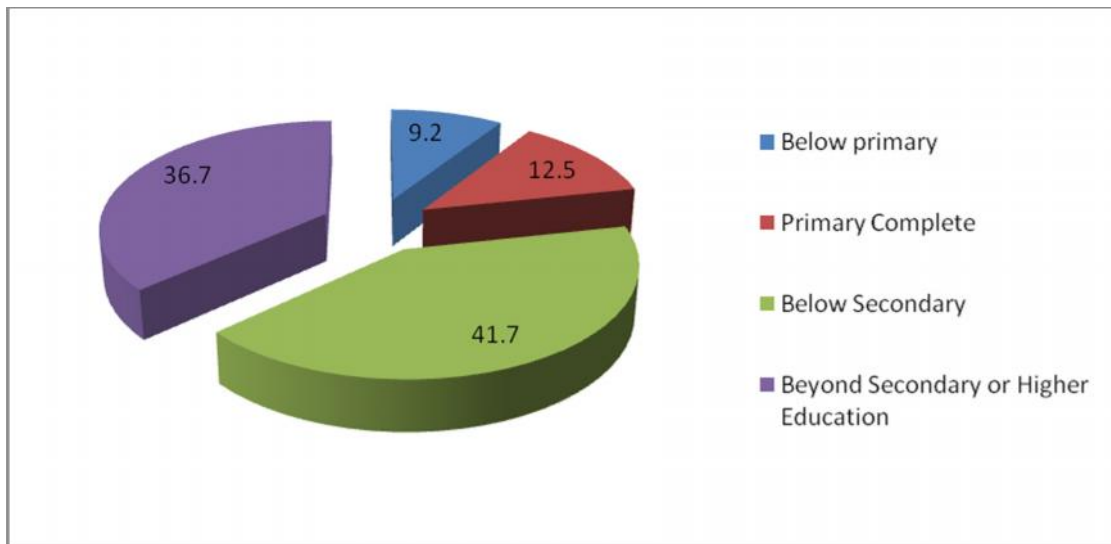
Basic characteristics of migrants' wives who have faced violence by the in-laws members.

Age	Percentage (%)	No. of respondents
15-19	9.2	11
20-24	17.5	21
25-29	29.2	35
30-34	24.2	29
35-39 above	20.0	18
Total	100.0	120
Number of children		
1	45.0	54
2	30.8	37
3+	24.2	29
Total	100.0	120
Education level		
Incomplete primary	9.2	11
Primary complete	12.5	15
Incomplete secondary	41.7	50
Complete secondary or Higher education	36.7	44
Total	100.0	120
Types of family		
Neutral family	29.2	35
Extended family	70.8	85
Total	100.0	120
Living place		
Fathers' home	22.5	27
In-laws home	65.8	79
Own home	11.7	14
Total	100.0	120

It is noted that all the respondents having minimum level of education but most of them can not complete their secondary education because of husband

migration. It is observed that 22 percent wives either incomplete or complete their primary education and 78 percent wives either incomplete their secondary or complete higher education.

Figure 2: Respondents level of Education



6.2. Information about Migrants Husband:

Usually, people do not want to go abroad leaving their family behind, there exist various reasons for the migration process. They went abroad to give better livelihood for their family. After migration they send money from abroad for their family. It has found that most of the husband went to Middle-East countries for employment. In this research it has found that most of the respondents' husband has been staying abroad for a long period of time. Some went abroad before their marriage and some went abroad after their marriage. They basically come home country in a vacation after a long interval.

Table 6.2.1 shows some information about migrant husband who left behind their family in home country.

6.2.1: Information about migrant husband.		
Cause of migration	Percent (%)	No. of Respondents
Economic reason	67.5	82
Family network	3.3	4
Good job	28.3	34
Total	100.0	120
Destination country		
Middle East countries	85.8	103
South-East Asian countries	10.8	13
Other countries	3.3	4
Total	100.0	120
Duration of Migration		
1-3 years	13.3	16
4-6 years	23.3	28
7-9 years	24.2	29
10-12 years	17.5	21
13-15 years	15.8	19
16-18 years	5.8	7
Total	100.0	120
Interval of coming home		
1-2 years	46.7	56
3-4 years	28.3	34
5-6 years	22.5	27
7-8 years	2.5	3
Total	100.0	120

It is observed that most of the respondents husband want abroad for economic reasons that is poverty , 68 percent went abroad because the home country can not satisfied their demand and fulfill their need so they went abroad to give better livelihood for their family and for themselves. Some people went abroad for searching good job and for better career because nowadays everybody want better career to march with globalized world. Network of family also play an influential role for migration. Sometimes respondents husband went abroad with the help of their relatives who are already settle in

these countries (Massey, 1999). In this view most of the respondents' husband (86 percent) went to Middle East countries (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Qatar) because their friends or relatives live in those countries. Some respondents' husband went to South-East Asian countries like Malaysia, Dubai, Singapore, and Maldives for better livelihood also few respondents husband have been staying in Mauritius, Italy. It has observed that most of the husband living abroad for long period of time. 24 percent husbands have been staying abroad in 7-8 years long. They usually return home country during their vacation. 47 percent husband usually come home country after 1-2 years interval

6.3. Communication of the wives left behind with their husband living abroad

Most wives interviewed said that they can able to talk with their husband quite regularly and frequently through their personal cell phone and sometime they use internet for communicating with their husband. They usually communicate with their husband twice or more time daily. Daily communication has helped to remove the distance between wives and husband. With the help of communication wives easily know the situation of their husband same as husband knows about wives condition and also other family members situation who are lives in the home country.

Table 6.3.1: Present the communication of the wives left behind with their husband.

Table 6.3.1: Communication of the wives left behind.		
Percentage of migrants wives age 17-42 years communicate with their husband.		
Regular communication with husband	Percent (%)	No. of Respondents
Yes	89.2	107
No	10.8	13
Total	100.0	120
Duration of Communication		
Daily	64.2	77
Between 1-2 Day	16.7	20
1 week	19.2	23
Total	100.0	120
Medium of Communication		
Mobile	85.8	103
Land phone	5.8	7
Both internet and mobile	8.3	10
Total	100.0	120

After husband migration they try to maintain communication with their left behind wives and most of the wives communicate with their husband daily (64 percentage) and a few can not maintain communication with husband regularly because their husband remain very busy all time and they usually call them in a week. Most of the wives have able to keep in touch through their cell phone (86 percentage) and unlike previously when it was difficult to trace their husband's where about, now they are better linked. This has been beneficial for them as now with regular contact they think their husband has less chance of forgetting them. The respondents also alluded to the fact that with better communication they also have a clearer picture of their husband's life abroad and the kind of struggles he has to face in abroad. Furthermore, this has raised awareness about the working condition and living standards in

the destination countries, which in turn have helped other men planning to migrate and be more aware of the situation of a migrant worker. However, some respondents stated that the cell phone also meant increased communication with the extended family which sometimes had a negative impact on their marital relationship especially where the mother-in-laws and the respondent did not have a good relationship. In general, having regular communication with the husband meant that both sides have able to communicate their concerns and feelings to each other. This helped reduced loneliness, depression and anxiety among the left behind wives.

6.4. Problems of wives left behind

The bar graph represents the percentage of migrants' wives facing psychological and physical violence in in-laws house. Fifty percent wives have been suffering from psychological violence, like verbal abuse by the in-laws members and sixteen percent encounter physical violence like slapping. It is also stated by the wives that physical violence has hardly happened.

Figure 3: Problem of Wives Left Behind

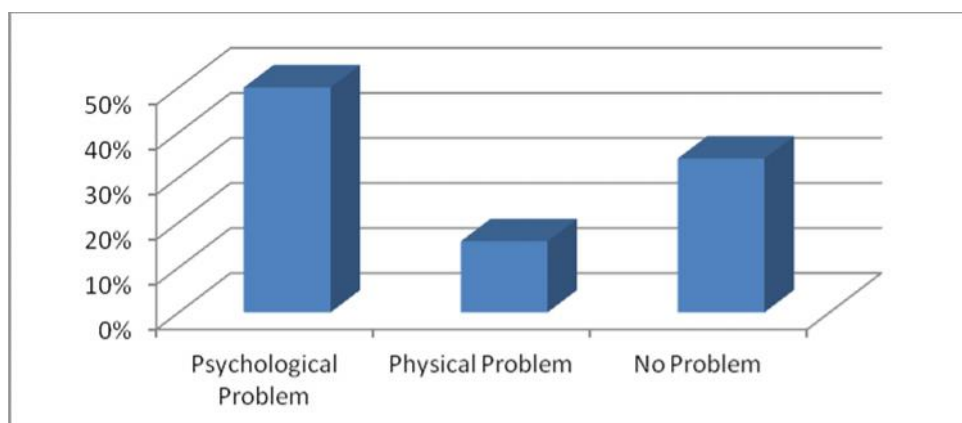


Table 6.4.1 presents the wives who said they have been suffering from psychological and physical violence according to their background information.

Table 6.4.1: Problem of wives in in-laws house.			
Percentage of migrants wives age 17-42 years who experience psychological and physical violence by their in-laws members, according to their background information, 2013.			
Background Information	Psychological violence	Physical violence	No. of respondents
Age			
15-19	5.0	2.5	9
20-24	10.0	4.2	17
25-29	16.7	3.3	24
30-34	13.3	1.7	18
35-39 above	5.0	4.2	10
Number of children			
1	25.0	10.0	42
2	15.8	3.3	23
3+	9.1	2.5	14
Education level			
Incomplete primary	3.3	-	4
Primary complete	6.7	1.7	10
Below secondary	20.8	9.2	36
Beyond secondary or higher education	19.2	5.0	29
Family types			
Neutral family	11.7	6.7	22
Extended family	38.3	9.2	57
Total	50.0	15.8	79

It has observed from the migrants' wives basic information (table 6.4.1) that length of marriage also plays a vital role for violence. Younger wives have

been facing much psychological and physical violence in the in-laws house than the middle aged wives. Normally, older wives suffer from fewer problems in the in-laws house as they achieve dignity as a mother rather than wives and their status in the household and community also increased. Almost fifty percent of wives, within the age group of 20-34 years have been facing problems in the in-laws house where only 4.2 percent wives have been torturing at the age group of 35-44 years above.

Wives who have three or more children suffered from lesser problems than the wives who have one or two children. So it can be hypothesized that, large number of children result in lowest violence on the wives. Moreover, it has also observed that, wives who have three or more children are mainly belonging to the middle age and most of them live in neutral family. Generally, the middle aged wives hold the household power replacing their mother in-laws but the wives who have one or two children live with the in-laws members keeping always under close observation by their in-laws. 25 percent wives have been suffering from more psychological violence and 10 percent wives suffering from physical violence who have one child compared with the wives who have three or more children these wives have been suffering from 9 percent psychological problem and 2 percent suffering from physical violence.

A positive relationship between level of education and problems of migrants' wives is also demonstrated. More educated wives are countered much psychological and physical violence in the in-laws house than less educated wives. As the in-laws members think, it might be hard to control the highly educated wives, they create pressure on them to stop their study. Again

some husband and in-laws think that when the wives become more educated they may be started misbehave with elderly. Another strong reason of violence to the educated wives is some wives got married while studying so they have passionate to continue their study after their marriage. In this circumstance, most of the cases is exhibited that either the in-laws or their husbands feel unsecured about their wives study which create a conflict between the in-laws members and the wives (Brick, 1985). Moreover, in-laws member and husband think that their wives do not work outside for earning money so it seems unnecessary to spend money for wives education purpose. As a result, they insist them to stop their study by torturing (Brick, 1985). Again, educated wives raised their voice and suffered much violence compared with less educated wives. Wives who have completed their primary education (about 7%) suffered from more psychological and physical violence by their in-laws than the wives who have not able to complete their primary education (about 3%). Furthermore, almost forty percent wives have been suffering from psychological violence and fourteen percent wives have been suffering from physical violence by the in-laws who had studied in secondary level or more.

Violence of migrants' wives is also related with the types of family where they live. In an extended family wives have to face lots of psychological and physical violence compared to neutral family. In extended family wives are strictly controlled by their in-laws and they cannot do whatever they like. Every single task has kept under closed observation. Accordingly, thirty-eight percent wives have been facing psychological violence and nine percent wives have been facing physical violence by in-

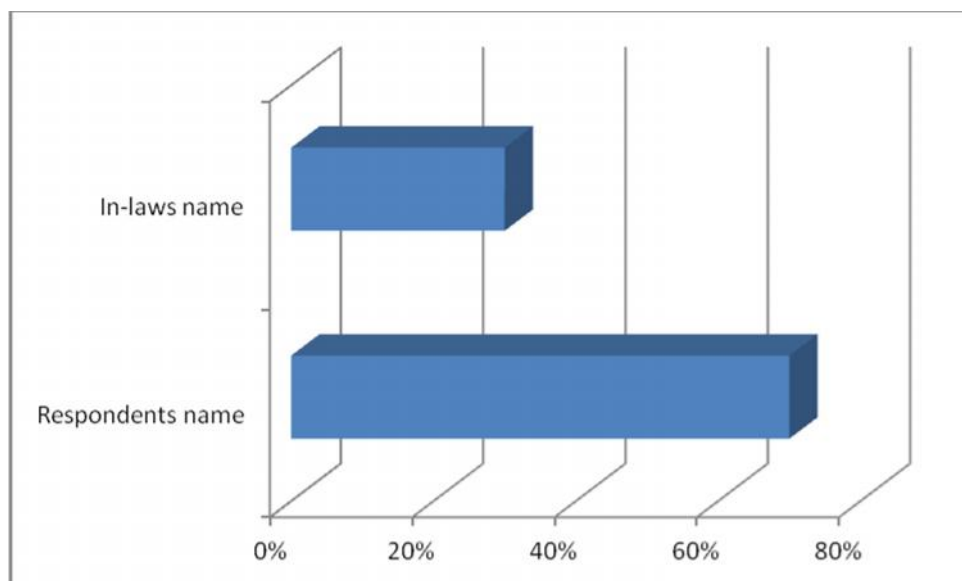


laws in extended family. However, it is interesting that even in neutral family wives suffer from psychological and physical violence by in-laws. Wives in neutral family are reported that they have been facing these problems when the in-laws members occasionally visit to their home.

6.5. Economic Vulnerabilities of the wives left behind

The wives have been facing violence when the remittances are sent in their name. In this study, it has found that seventy percent remittances are sent in wives name and thirty percent remittances are sent in in-laws name. As remittance is sent in wives name, 19 percent wives suffer from psychological violence and three percent wives suffer from physical violence by their in-laws.

Figure 4: Money Receiving Person



Young wives are suffered ten percent more violence than middle age wives by their in-laws when remittances are sent in their name. In laws members think that young wives influenced their husband to send remittance in their name which seems much dishonored for in-laws members.

Sometimes, they think that the wives misused the sending money rather than collective utilization. So the in-laws pressure on wives by creating violence for giving them the money (Silver, 2006).

Migrants' wives who have one or two children facing eight percent psychological and two percent physical violence by in-laws. It is reported that in-laws members think that as she has small number of children, wives do not need the total amount of remittance compared with the wives who have three or more children. So they force the wives to share the money with them and if the wives disagreed with this view of in-laws they are being tortured (Brick, 1985).

Again, Wives educational qualification is revealed positively related with the violence. Wives who have completed secondary education or more faced much violence both psychologically and physically compared with the wives who have completed their primary or below primary education. There are almost three percent secondary or higher educated wives suffering from psychological and two percent suffering from physical violence by their in-laws for money. It happened because the higher educated wives want to spend their husbands' money as their own wish or they want to invest their money in any small business which is not wanted by their in-laws members. (Brick, 1985).

Usually, the wives who live in neutral family have received money in their name. So they have faced less violence than the wives who live in extended family. In extended family fourteen percent wives have been facing psychological and three percent wives have been facing physical violence

only for money. However, it is observed that in neutral family five percent wives suffer psychological violence when they visit in their in-laws house or the in-laws members' visit in their house.

It has also found in this research that thirty percent remittances have been sending in in-laws name, because those wives are newly married and it takes time to build trust to hand over the remittance from in-laws to respondents. The in-laws members even do not disclose the amount of money which her husband send with these wives, the wives do not know when and how much remittance their husband sent. In this situation the in-laws buy necessary things what wives need as oppose to give her cash in hand.

One important phenomenon that has been observed in this research is all the respondents are 'housewifization', this term used by Maria Mies. Most of the respondents have been remaining at home without having engaged in economic activities because the household income which is mainly send from abroad is enough for them and also for their family. All the respondents in this research stated that they are not engaged in any economic activities. Their main or in other word single source of income is remittance which is send from abroad. The money which they receive is often enough for their subsistence and it is not necessary for them to engage in income generating activities. Most of these wives have younger children and thus they pass their time taking care of them and doing household chores. Again those wives who live in extended family often engaged in nursing elder in-laws, so that they need to stay at home.

6.6. Social vulnerability faced by the wives left behind: Restriction to Mobility

With the concern of physical security as well as social security, all the respondents argued that because of the absence of their husband they are very scared and are more susceptible to losing their honor. Because the bad people in our society think that migrants' wives are easily available sometimes they throw bad comments to the wives. Moreover, in this sense of security migrants wives had got high security when their husbands were present in home country and now they feel low security because their husbands are abroad. Most of the wives said that they would normally go outside after sunset with their husband but now they can not go outside after sunset thinking about their personal security. Because they think that someone might make indecent comments seeing her alone at night. Those wives who live in extended family are forbidden to go outside alone after sunset. The wives stated that in presence of their husband they experience less restriction on their movement. Most of the time wives went outside taking someone with her. Those who live in extended family have always accompanied by male members of the in-laws or older female relatives. It has observed that wives live in extended family have considerable less mobile than the wives who live in neutral family. Again, the wives who live in their parental or own house have much more freedom to movement than extended family. Wives in extended family should not go outside without the expressed permission of the husband or mother-in-law. Wives in neutral family need the permission of the husband for going outside the home. 53 percent wives need permission for

going outside home and 47 percent wives have free to go outside if they went only in market or mothers' house or other emergency work.

6.7. Increase the work load of the wives left behind

All the respondents in this research reported that after their husband migration their level of workload has increased, especially for those who live in extended family. Usually, after husband migration they have to do the activities that would normally do their husband when he is present in the home country. These include- going to market place, taking children to the school, taking care of household, taking the sick person to the hospital, etc.



However, those wives who live in extended family with their in-laws members are usually have restricted mobility and do not necessarily experience the same level of increase in their workload. It is because during the absence of their husband it is often their father-in-law or brother-in-laws

or other male members in the family who takes care of these activities. It is also observed that wives by nature become the primary care giver not only for her children but the whole family. Moreover, in neutral family during the absence of the migrants' husband, wives perform the role of both mother and father to the children. Some women also reported that it is very difficult for them to control their younger children especially the boy children, who become easily involve into anti-social activities.

6.8. Migrants wives personal problem

Most of the time, the personal problems of migrant's wives are beyond discussion. Sometimes, migrants' wives are being engaged with a male friend and built extra-marital relation for their physical and mental satisfaction. Here, table 6.8.1 presents that all of the wives having friends while 40 percent have male friend and those who have male friend maintain different types of relationship.

Table 6.8.1: Present migrants wives relationship with friends.

Table 6.8.1: Migrants wives relationship with friends. Percentage of migrants wives age 17-42 years maintain different types of relationship with their male friend.				
Sex	Just friend	More than friend	Extramarital relationship	No. of respondents
Male	15.8	8.3	15.8	48
Female	60.0	-	-	72
Total	75.8	8.3	15.8	120

Most of the cases, the wives feel very lonely after their husbands' migration, they want to share their pain with someone. Again, they become sexually frustrated in absence of their husband. In this study, it has observed that all migrant wives having friends in which forty percent respondents have male

friends. 60 percent wives maintain only friendship relation with their female friend and 16 percent respondents maintain friendship with their male friend. Moreover, 8 percent wives often communicate with their male friend over phone, they share their pain with them and get mental support from them and it has reported by the wives that they have deep feelings for their friends. Even, 19 percent wives have engaged in extra-marital relationship as they said that they feel sexually frustrated in absence of their husband for long time so they build this type of relationship which is usually found in neutral families where wives living with her one child (Chee, 2003). Most of the time, their husbands are not conscious about their relationship with male friends.

6.9 Restriction to spent money as their wish

It is quite common that the migrants' wives cannot spend their money as their own wish because they need permission from their in-laws members although their husbands give permission and decision to use the money. Here table 6.9.1 shows that most of the migrants' wives need permission for spending the remittance and from whom she gets the permission.

Table 6.9.1: Presents permission given person of migrants wife.

Table 6.9.1: Permission given person. Percentage of migrants wives age 17-42 years need permission from whom to spent their money.		
Permission given person	Percent (%)	Total
Husband	37.5	45
In-laws	20.0	24
Brother in-laws	4.2	5
Total	61.7	74

Similar results are seen in this study, 70 percent wives get money in their account from their husband in which 62 percent need to take permission for spending their money. Usually, husbands are main permission given person about money spending (Brick, 1991). Thirty-eight percent decisions about money allocation come from their husband. In-laws also play influential role about money spending, 20 percent decision comes from in-laws and 4 percent decisions are given by brother-in-laws.

6.10: Migrants' wives share their pain

After husband migration wives feel mentally depressed which has identified as 'Intermittent Husband Syndrome' (Morrice and Taylor, 1978). They always feel depression, loneliness, anger, sadness and most of the time they cannot share their pain with anyone. No one can realize their inner pain in true sense.

Table: 6.10.1. Migrants' wives share their pain with whom.

Table 6.10.1. Migrants' wives share pain with whom. Percentage of migrants wives age 17-42 years share their internal pain with whom		
	Percent (%)	No. of Respondents
In-laws members	3.3	4
Neighbors	4.2	5
Members of Parental house	.8	1
Total	8.3	10

Most of the migrants' wives cannot share their pain with others. Only 8 percent share their pain with other after husbands' migration. From time to time, wives try to hide their pain which may bring changes in their life both psychologically and physically (Forte, 1991). Only 4 percent share their pain with their neighbors and 3 percent share pain with in-laws members but 92 percent wives do not share their pain with anyone. So, they often suffer from many mental and physical disorders.

CHAPTER SEVEN

CASE STUDY

Case Study 1

Sujona; age 23, she has 1 child. Her husband went to Saudi Arabia before her marriage. Her husband is 12 years older than her. First, she was not agreed for this marriage, because she loved with someone else but her parents insisted her to do the marriage. Her husband has been stayed home only 4 month and in this mean time she became pregnant. Before going to abroad her husband did not take any permission from her. She said that, it is a great pain for her that she enjoyed only 4 month married life. After husband migration the real face of her in-laws came out. They tortured her in several ways. They slapped and bite her. Sometimes they kicked her which seemed they forget that she is pregnant. One night her brother- in- law knock her door but she did not open the door and next morning her brother- in- law bitten her making a false blame. Every member of her in-laws house only saw the incidence but nobody came forward to rescue her. After that incidence she came to her parental home. She told her husband about all the incidence which happened that night and morning but her husband did not believed her and said that, 'she is an unlucky woman and still continues her relationship with that man'. She has a boy child now and the sorrowful matter is that the child is mentally disabled.

Now her husband refused to take her and her son. There exist no connection between them and her husband does not send her any money for the maintenance of her and her son. Every cost has beard by her parental house but they are not rich. She said that, everybody in the society only

blames her because of her past relationship but they do not blame her husband not even her in-laws family. She said that, she fall into the sea of sorrow with this disable baby. She only blames her fate and the society because everyone in the society only support the stronger not the weaker.

Case Study 2

Nipa, age 22. She has one daughter. She has physically tortured both from her husband and her in-laws. Her husband tortured her for money in the name of dowry which was used for his migration purpose. She had brought the money from her parental house and her husband went Dubai. After her husband migration the in-laws families tortured has increased. She said that, in winter she did not get any warm cloth at night, they said that lower class people do not need any warm cloth. They verbally abused her. Even when her husband present he also abused her verbally. She can not go outside and gossiped with other. She always has been staying in home and doing all the household work in single hand, nobody in the family help her for doing those work and they only searching fault in her work. The in-laws house does not give proper meal to her; they always said she eats too much than necessary. So most of the time she can not eats properly. Her husband called in her mother in-laws phone because she has no phone in her own. Her husband communicates with her irregularly and over phone he threats her for second marriage.

Nipa has not get any money from her husband and all the money which her husband sent is in the name of her mother in-law. She can not go outside alone, always the male member in her in-laws are with her. She can only go to her parental house, the only place where she is allowed to go. She has no

freedom to choice and movement. She said that, she only maintains the relationship because of her daughter and she is the most unlucky woman who has no peace in her life.

Case Study 3

Shopna, age- 24. She has one Daughter. Her husband went to Dubai four years before. She lives in her in-laws house. She does every household chore in her in-laws house. Nobody helped her for doing those. Her in-laws house tortured her in several ways. Her mother in-law keep all her gold ornaments, she does not get those ornaments even when she went to participate in any programme. The in-laws family thinks that she will give small piece of those ornaments to her loving sister. Shopna faced many physical tortures before her child born but after her daughter born the physical torture had reduced but the verbal torture is still continuing. She can not go outside alone and shopping in her own choice, all time the in-laws member such as mother or sister in-law are with her. When she falls in sick there remain nobody in home to bring her doctor. Most of the time, she has suffered silently. She can not maintain any connection with her parental house. Her parent visits her but she has not allowed visiting her parents' house. Her husband gives her mental support. Sometimes hearing from her in-laws member first he blamed her wife for all fault but after realized his misbehavior he apologized to Shopna. Shopna said that, her only hope is her daughter. She silently accepts all the torture seeing her daughter face.

Case Study 4

Kajol Lekha, age-32. She has two sons. Her husband lives in Saudi Arabia around five year. Her husband went abroad after her marriage. She lives her parental house and her husband gives her permission to live there. Because her brother in-law had been disturbed her in several time. She shared that with her husband and in-laws members. Her husband believed her but her in-laws member did not believed her. They blamed her. They said that, her brother in-law disturbed her because of her indecent behavior. But her husband believed on her. So after that incident she went to her parental house.

She said that, now she is saved from all those cheap people. It is possible because of her husband support. But not all women get husband support. Our society hears majorities' voice not the minority one. So, most of the migrants' wives are blamed in false excuse. Kajol also said that, she is happy now, she always thanks to her husband. After leaving her in-laws house, there exist no misunderstandings between them. But now her main pain is her husband absence, if her husband is with her, she will get extra strength.

Case study 5

Amena, age -37. She has three sons. Her husband lives in Malaysia. Her husband went abroad after her marriage. At first, when her husband went abroad he could not send money regularly. In that time, she worked other people home. When her husband sends money regularly in her name, her in-laws family tortured her physically for money. They think that all the money which her husband sends was used for only Amenas' purpose. After faced those torture Amena told her husband to send money in two account name, one is her name and the other one is her in-laws name. Her husband did that

and the physical tortured stopped. But they started mental torture on her. They still think that her husband send large amount of money in her name and she hidden the amount of money from them. Then Amena started saving from her husband sending money and after some years later she brought a piece of land and builds a house there with the permission of her husband. Now she lives in her house with her three sons. At first, she heard so many bad words from her in-laws and neighbor. Now everybody especially her neighbor realized that she is a good lady and also a good decision maker. Amena said that, now she is happy with her three sons. She visits her in-laws house in a week and now they behave her very well. She thanked Allah and her husband because without the support of them she can not overcome those miserable conditions.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Conclusion

This research paper has made an attempt to explore the problem of migrant wives in absence of their husband. This paper analyzes the socio-economic problems of migrants' wives, their personal problems which are most of the time beyond discussion. Specifically, this research has tried to find out the problems of migrants wives in in-laws house and their internal pain and problems.

Migration refers to a mixed blessing for the wives who are left behind in the home country. This study result shows that apart from some wives get well behavior from their in-laws, most of the wives faced problems in in-laws house. However, the level of problems varies significantly from one wives to another wives influenced by some factors. Those who live in extended family and having small number of children suffered from much violence than the wives who live in neutral family and having more children. Also the wives who have higher educational qualification and younger age faced much violence than the wives who have less educational qualification and middle age. After husband departure some wives have been started to live in parental house, they feel insecure in in-laws house because of male in-laws members and sometimes level of violence has increased in in-laws house.

Wives can not continue their study when they married a migrant man. Both the husband and in-laws feel insecure and think that it is unnecessary to spent money for wives education because these wives do not engage any economic activities. Sometimes wives think that the remittances which her husband sends from abroad are enough for her subsistence and it has found

that after few days of marriage they become mother so they can not continue their study anymore.

It has also found that remittances are send in wives name and because of this remittance wives experience physical and psychological violence in in-laws house. In-laws members always want the money which wives have been received by creating pressure on her. They think that the remittance which send from abroad has been misused and do not utilized in correct way. Sometimes, sending money in wives name appeared as dishonored for in-laws members.

Another important feature has explored in this research the social change that these wives undergo when their husband has been living in abroad. In the case of mobility, most of the respondents stated that the reduction in their mobility when their husband is not present in home country. This restriction also varied by wives who live with their parental house and wives who live with their in-laws house. Those who live with their in-laws experienced much restriction on their movement while who live in their parental house or own house do not faced this types of restriction.

However, in absence of husband wives workload has become increased, as she has to play double role to maintain both home and outside activities also play mother and father role. Another issues reported by the wives that in absence of husband the personal security level has hampered. These migrants' wives are become much vulnerable for harassment by men who believe that in absence of their husband these wives do not have any protection.

From the study it has also found that wives feel sexually frustrated for their husband's long absence. During migration marital relations between couples are hampered for separation by distance. So sometimes they engaged in extra-marital relationships with their male friends in the absence of husband, which is most of the time beyond addressed. This relation is more common when wives live in nuclear family and few children. Again in this study it has explored that most of wives need permission for spending money which are sent in their name from abroad. Usually husband sends remittance from abroad with the instruction to how the money should be spent. Sometimes wives need to take permission from in-laws for spending the money. This situation has usually been seen in extended family than the nuclear family. Another important matter has been found in this research that all the wives are housewives and they do not engage in any economic activities. Because the remittance which is sent from abroad is enough for their subsistence and sometimes the in-laws and husband discourage them to do outside economic activities. Usually it has been found in this research that wives do not share their pain with others. Migration of close family members especially husband significantly increased the depression symptoms and feeling of loneliness. They always remain frustrated thinking about their husband. But they cannot share their pain with others because nobody can truly realize their pain. Very few wives share their pain with their in-laws or neighbors. It has been found that wives living in extended family act as a buffer against increased depression levels than nuclear family.

However, it has been found that wives' violence is reduced when they move to nuclear family since then they become the female head of a household replacing their mother-in-laws and allocating everything. They are also free

from their mother-in-laws supervision and can organize their household as their own desire.

8.1. Recommendation

Usually there has been lot of focused on the protection of migrants but not the family members who are left behind in the home country. It is necessary to ensure their safety and well being, especially the wives of migrants. After conducting the survey and in-depth case study with the wives of migrants, the following policy recommendation have been highlights-

1. Specific household earning programmes should be undertaken for the wives. This programmes include- poultry, fisheries, plantation, and cattle rearing which can be maintained in home so that wives do not need to go outside for employment and earn money. Because all the respondents are financially dependent on remittance and do not allow to go outside for employment. This programme helps them to financially independent. This programme can be started with the help of government union level work unit also NGOs (Non-Government organization) who work in grass roots level.
2. All the migrants' wives in a locality can play as a bounding source. Thus these entire wives group can raise their voice collectively against violence in in-laws house and help them both socially and psychologically to deal with personal problems and any illegal communities' behavior that is occurred because of husband abroad.
3. Mass media could be used to design effective programme for the migrants' wives and in-laws behavior. Like-drama and talk show about

how migrants' wives cope with their loneliness and what should be the behavior of in-laws in absence of husband toward the wives.

4. In the community where respondents live they have to fight certain myth and misconception that migrants wives are often engaged in extra-marital relation. Some wives may engage in extra-marital relationship but this view is not true for all migrants' wives.
5. Counseling programme in the locality should be undertaken for the wives who are affected by stress related disorder. The local government hospitals could provide service toward the migrants' wives.
6. Especial programme should be run for the in-laws members of the migrants' wives. In this programme the in-laws could learn the mental situation of the wives and how to behave with wives in this situation. Government and NGO (Non-Government Organization) can easily run the programme in community based.
7. Government should take initiative to send migrants in proper channel and provide skill development training before going abroad so that wives tension about husband condition has been reduced.
8. Rise employment opportunities in the country. Under graduate and lower educated people should be encouraged to participate in vocational training.
9. Wives should try to complete their education so that they become conscious about their rights. Also the communities' people should

stand together against any violence on left behind wives in in-laws house.

10. When the research work conducted it has found that very few research works has done in this field. So further research should be conducted to present the real picture of migrants wives.

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