Editor’s Message

Dear Readers,

Wishing you a very happy and prosperous 2018!

This issue brings to you a report of the launch of Prof. Ravindra K. Jain’s book ‘Innovative Departures: Anthropology and the Indian Diaspora’ organized by GRFDT in collaboration with Routledge. The book was released by the editor, panel discussion, which included panelists such as Prof. A.C. Sinha, Prof. Vivek Kumar and Shirish Jain. The discussion in this book focuses on the migration of South Asians and its contribution to the overall development of the region. It further examines the migration experiences of South Asians in terms of political, social and economic dimensions. This issue also features the report of the book launch, a commentary, and book review. The book launch was followed by a panel discussion, which included panelists such as Prof. A.C. Sinha, Prof. Vivek Kumar and Shirish Jain. Following sections present extracts of the speeches of the Panellists.

GRFDT Event

Report of the Book Launch: "Innovative Departures: Anthropology and the Indian Diaspora"

Professor Deepak, former VC, Delhi University released the book. This was followed by a panel discussion, which included panelists such as Prof. A.C. Sinha, Prof. Vivek Kumar and Shirish Jain. Following sections present extracts of the speeches of the Panellists.

Prof. Deepak Nayyar, former VC, Delhi University.

Distinguished guests, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

I consider it a privilege to be in your midst this evening. And I would like to thank the publisher for their invitation to release Professor Ravindra Jain’s new book, Innovative Departures: Anthropology and the Indian Diaspora. It is, indeed, an honour to do so. I have known Ravi for more than 45 years. I moved to JNU perhaps a decade after he did, which was to become the intellectual home for both of us.

Professor Jain is one of the India’s most distinguished sociologists and anthropologists. This book builds on his deep understanding of social and cultural anthropology, and a lifetime of research on the Indian diaspora, to focus on globalization in our times, through the lens of what he characterizes as diasporic migrations. The word ‘diaspora’ was first used to describe “Jews in Exile”. Its metaphorical use now extends far beyond its original meaning. Ravindra Jain’s narrative and analysis sketches a picture with bold strokes on a wide canvas. There are comparisons across the world. There is a multidisciplinary method. There are detailed case studies of multicultural societies. Complex issues of ethnicity and identity, or modernity and tradition, are situated in the wider transnational and geopolitical context.

I am an economist with an interest across social science disciplines. Yet, I do not have the knowledge and understanding to provide you with an introduction to, let alone an evaluation of, the rich texture and multiple layers of the discussion in this book. I leave that task to the panelists.

There are, however, three propositions that emerge which I would like to highlight. First, it is simply not possible to separate theory from methodology or from empirical work in the social sciences. This book weaves theory, ethnography and field work together in a seamless manner. Second, international comparisons always require description and analysis as successive logical steps that need integration in the social sciences, just as diagnosis and prescription are part of the same process in medicine.

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There are, however, three propositions that emerge which I would like to highlight. First, it is simply not possible to separate theory from methodology or from empirical work in the social sciences. This book weaves theory, ethnography and field work together in a seamless manner. Second, international comparisons always require description and analysis as successive logical steps that need integration in the social sciences, just as diagnosis and prescription are part of the same process in medicine. Third; it is meaningless to distinguish between anthropology as the study of other societies or cultures and sociology as the study of

GRFDT in collaboration with Routledge organized a launch of Prof. Ravindra K. Jain’s book, ‘Innovative Departures: Anthropology and the Indian Diaspora’ on January 22, 2018. Professor Deepak, former VC, Delhi University released the book. This was followed by a panel discussion, which included panelists such as Prof. A.C. Sinha, Prof. Vivek Kumar and Shirish Jain. Following sections present extracts of the speeches of the Panellists.

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Editorial Information

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of one’s own society or culture. The distinction is essen-
tially a colonial construct that began life in the West to
understand the Rest (much like Indology as a subject). In
my view, sociology and anthropology, even if different, are
one discipline. So are economics and political economy. It
is not possible to study one without the other.

There are two points related to the book that I would like
to mention briefly to this audience. Both arise from my
own work, as an economist, on international migration and
on globalization.

For understanding the link between countries of origin
and destination in international labour migration, it is neces-
sary to think across social science disciplines rather than just
economics, history, geography or even sociology. There are
links between countries in the migration process in each of
these spheres: Post-colonial ties, a common language,
or cultural similarities have often shaped the direction of
cross-border movements of people: from the Indian sub-
continent and the Caribbean islands to the UK, from Alge-
ria to France, or from Indonesia to the Netherlands. Exis-
ting diasporas are often embedded in history: the origins of
the Indian and Chinese diasporas across the world can be
traced to their movement as indentured labour following
the abolition of slavery in the British empire. Geographical
proximity is often another determinant: from Mexico to the
United States, from Eastern Europe to Western Eu-
rope, or from Indonesia to Singapore. There is, of course,
a sociological dimension. Migrants follow trails charted by
pioneers. The existence of an immigrant community, with
which the migrant shares a language, nationality or cul-
ture, in the country-of-destination, becomes a source of
cumulative causation that continues to shape the direc-
tion of labour movements: from Turkey to Germany, from
India to the United States, or from China to Canada. The
same sociological nexus of migrant networks explains why
such migrants come from a particular region (rather than
anywhere else or everywhere) in the country-of-origin and
move to a particular region, sometimes even specific cities
in specific activities (instead of a more uniform geograph-
ical distribution) in the country-of-destination. It is worthy
citing one example of this phenomenon at a macro-level.
A significant proportion of taxi drivers in New Yorks are
migrants from a few district in the state of Punjab in India.

Different disciplines in the social sciences—economics, so-
ciology, history or geography—also ask different analytical
questions, which makes them complements rather than
substitute in any understanding of international labour mi-
gration in any understanding of international labour migra-
tion or diasporas.

In thinking about the globalization during twenty-first cen-
tury, it is interesting to juxtapose the past and the pres-
tent to understand the temporal dimensions, or the age,
of diasporas attributable to migration at different points of
time. There is a connection that is attributable to the
diaspora from the past and to globalization in the present.
The diaspora from India and China, beyond its traditional
meaning of Jews in exile, has its historical origin in inden-
tured labour. There is a significant presence of this dias-
pora from the two Asian giants across the world not only
in industrialized countries but also in developing countries.
This is associated with entrepreneurial capitalism, Indian
and Chinese, across the world. Migrants from other devel-
oping countries are entrepreneurs too but, for historical
reasons, the number of people whose origin lie in India
or China is so much larger. The advent of globalization
has also made it easier to move people across borders,
whether guest workers or illegal immigrants, most of who
come from developing countries and many of them stay on
in industrialized countries often in an incarnation of small
entrepreneurs. On a smaller scale, there is a movement of
professionals from developing countries who can migrate
permanently, live abroad temporarily, or stay at home and
travel frequently for business. Those people are almost
as mobile as capital. This phenomenon is associated with
their rise as managers to the top echelons of the corporate
world in the age of shareholder capitalism. The most strik-
ing example is the substantial presence of professionals
from India in the United States and the United Kingdom.
Of course, these are similar professionals from other de-
veloping countries, such as Brazil, Mexico or South Korea,
in the industrialized world. The juxtaposition of different
vintages of diasporas from the same home-country and in
the same host-country, also raises an interesting set of
questions about the ageing of migration streams shapes
social and cultural aspects of diasporas.

The book by Ravindra Jain is an engaging read. It would
interest not only those interested in social and cultural
anthropology, or diaspora and migration studies, but also
those with an interest in multicultural societies with large
immigrant communities, that are a reality in the contem-
porary world. I commend it to all of you.

Prof Vivek Kumar, CSSS, JNU

Speaking on the occasion of release of R.K. Jain’s book
“Innovative Departures: Anthropology and the Indian Di-
spora,” Prof Vivek Kumar of CSSS, JNU said that the book
was a scholarly work of Dr Jain condensing six decades
of his academic life. The 169-page book has 18 pages of
bibliography and lists 35 publications of Dr Jain, which
speaks about the rich scholarship that has gone in the
making of the book. The book provides analytical insight
from anthropological sense on the methods and method-
ologies on the subject while making comparative analysis
of Diaspora. The book, Prof Vivek said, includes a detailed
analysis of old and new Diaspora. While empirical data
has been borrowed from the old Diaspora, the context of
analysis relates to the New Diaspora. It also offers empip-
rical explanation of multicultural societies of Malaysia and
South Africa.

While taking about who will benefit from this rich scholarly
work, Prof Vivek said that the book highlights 10 disci-
plines including, social sciences, cultural studies, Diaspo-
ra, migration, ethnic, foreign affairs, public policies and
govt think tanks among others who would benefit from the
book which contains rich experience of an academician.

The book is also a rich compendium of definitions and has
conceptual explanation on issues like community, culture
and ethnicity, which have been, defined and analyzed in
contemporary.
It is erroneous to think, Prof Vivek pointed out; that the western scholars are predominantly concerned with theoricising while eastern scholars mainly look into empirical reality. The scholarship lies in cross-breeding of concepts and interdisciplinarity which is not merely an outgrowth, but an integral part of knowledge system and foundational aspect of vocation. Prof Vivek said that interdisciplinarity and reflexivity are the twin pillars of anthropological studies.

Prof Vivek said that he found a very cogent definition of anthropology in Dr Jain’s book where he calls it a “human science” which explains the methodological understanding of the subject and also relates to transformation in the objective of the subject. He said that Diaspora studies now studies ‘the self in the other and the others in the self’. The book engages and problematises the very meaning of diaspora and the transnational settlement of communities. He said that departures are the most prominent features of diasporic community, which is a certainty while their destinations keeps on changing. Also the fact that Indian diaspora is not a monolithic community as its history has seen multiple departure and settlement.

Caste is another distinctive feature of Indian Diaspora, Dr Jain mentions in his book. People do not migrate as merely a biological soul but they also carry cultural baggage with them. Dr Jain provides data from longitudinal anthropological research on caste and the associated cultural baggage. The book also introduces the concept of ‘culturalisation of politics’ while mentioning the hierarchy and inequality among the Indian diaspora.

The book also laments the fact that the Indian Gulf migrants, who include working class, lower class and Muslims, are in the same time, this is the concern of scholars. So, there is a meeting point of ethnography and scholarship. The early Alliance and BN approach was that each of the community leaders who are in the cabinet take care of their local council staff, youth department etc is urgently ned...
negative implications. Prior to elections yes a party can use the democratic system for contest but once elected they are the Federal govt for all or state govt for all. It's not to be then still linked to the political party as the role now is as a public official. Direct association of government to political party draws negative aspects as tax payers money is now used not political party funds. What about all those who did not vote for the political party or the person finally elected. Do these people have no rights to the service.

The line is very thin and in Malaysia politicians continue to act as politicians and not at public officials. In other counties there is a clear separation of party role and that of government. Most heads of state like in the UK or USA are not head of their political parties.

One major problem in addressing Indian poverty issues they have become tools in the political struggle for political power. One major danger here is the hand out which has now killed the self-help and self-reliance now it's for handouts and who will give more of the goodies. For many politicians it’s also self-interest rather than community interest. There must be check and balance so that the poverty especially in this case Indians become a political tool or object.

Addressing urban poverty and inequality requires long term strategy and not just quick fixes. Handouts are quick fixes but it is not sustainable. Education, character development, capability development, neighbourhood building requires long-term social work and community intervention. This is currently lacking as a majority of Indian based NGOs are volunteer base and they are not trained social and community workers.

There are many similar issues being faced by the poor in Sabah and Sarawak or among the poorer Malays especially in urban flats and the orang asli community too. Community empowerment and accountability with strengthening political consciousness on a rights based approach to development will restore the dignity of the community. It can bring lasting change with people’s participation especially of the poor themselves.

Sahay Appointed to Governor’s Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Governor Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania, USA, has appointed Gannon University Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies Anjali Sahay, Ph.D., to the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. Sahay was sworn in during a ceremony on Dec. 13 in Harrisburg. Her appointment runs from 2018 through 2020. Dr. Sahay is a member of Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism and also member of its international advisory and editorial committees.

“I am really honored to be selected for this position and work with other commissioners to advance the issues important to the local Asian Pacific American communities,” Sahay said. As commissioner, Sahay will act as a liaison between the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and legislators and other decision-makers, working to ensure that the government is responsive to the communities’ needs. She will focus particularly on Erie’s Asian American and Pacific Islander population, serving as a goodwill ambassador and a spokesperson for the Commission.

“As commissioner I hope to serve on several sub-committees on the commission such as ‘Schools that Teach’ and promote awareness of the challenges that face the AAPI communities in Pennsylvania, as well as work towards organizing town halls for a better understanding of the incredible diversity within our community and the needs of the AAPI communities as they write to recommend policy to the state government,” Sahay said. She is currently serving on 3 sub-committees on the Commission: (a) Schools that Teach; (b) Arts Collective Mission; and (c) Communications Working Group.

About the Commission:

The Governor’s Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs was created by Executive Order and consists of Commissioners that have been appointed by Governor Tom Wolf. GACAPAA is responsible for advising Governor Wolf on policies, procedures, and legislation that have an impact on the diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities in Pennsylvania. The Commission also serves as a liaison to federal, state and local agencies to ensure that services affecting AAPIs are effectively utilized and promoted. It is a resource for community groups and provides forums for developing strategies and programs that expand and enhance the civic, social, educational, cultural and economic status of the AAPI communities.


Global Events

Transnationalism, Culture and Diaspora in the Era of Globalisation

Centre for Study of Diaspora, Central University of Gujarat has recently organised an International conference on Transnationalism, Culture and Diaspora in the Era of Globalisation’, 21-23 Feb 2018. Dr. Atanu Mohapatra, Chairperson, Centre for Study of Diaspora, Central University of Gujarat and convenor of the conference in his welcome address highlighted the importance of diaspora and the theme of the conference and also gave a brief overview of the centre.

Several eminent scholars have participated in the conference that includes Prof. Makarand R. Paranjape, JNU, Prof. Pankaj L. Jani, Vice-Chancellor, Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Dr. Manoj Mohapatra, Guest of Honour, Joint Secretary, Overseas Indian Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Anirb. Mr. Dave Persad, Chief Guest, High Commissioner, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Prof. M.K. Gautam, Key Note speaker, Former Chancellor, European University of West and East, The Netherlands, Prof Vivek Kumar, JNU, Prof. Irudaya Rajan S, CFS, Prof. E.V. Ramakrishnan, Prof. Chandra Mohan, Prof. Mohammed Badrul Alam, Prof. Sanjeev K. Sharma, Prof. C.S. Bhat, University of Hyderabad, Prof. Panchanan Mohanty, University of Hyderabad.

There are several Round Table and Plenary Sessions such as Diaspora, Politics and Transnational Networks, Diaspora, Globalisation and Transnationalism: Literary and Cultural Representations, Migration and Diaspora: Struggles, Survival and Success Stories, Diaspora Studies: Issues and Research Prospects.

Today’s diasporas are doubly privileged

Prof. Makarand R. Paranjape mentioned that diaspora writers are the leading writers today. What was this phenomenon? He said ‘narratives’ or softpower is more important than the so called hard power. Touching upon the origin, narratives and the spread of diaspora as a concept, Prof. Paranjape said that narratives are very important to understand diaspora. For diaspora, ‘homeland’ is ‘sacred’. Though traditionally diaspora is not a happy conditions, today’s diasporas are doubly privileged. They get the best from both home and host.

Nation Creates diaspora and Diasporas create nation

Prof. Paranjape further said that Nation Creates diaspora and Diasporas create nation. Zionist diaspora is born in Europe.

Prof. Pankaj Jani, Vice-Chancellor, Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University highlighted the demographic size of the diaspora and its support to India. Dr. Mahapatra, MEA highlighted several government initiatives and proactive steps to engage diaspora. Engaging diaspora at the highest level is the main priority of the Government of India.

Diversities in Diaspora is important

Ambassador Devi Prasad emphasised the diversities in the diaspora. He said Hindu, Muslim, Christian all co-exist side by side in Trinidad and Tobago. Caste system that divides people is no more prevalent in Trinidad Tobago. Though people have origin in India the people of Indian origin are equally owe their own country.

Differential treatment of Indian Government towards PIOs

Prof. Mohan K Gautam, who is a noted Cultural Anthropologist emphasised that cultural retention is very important for the existence of diaspora. India need much more proactive engagement with the old diaspora. He laos lamented that there is differential treatment of Government of India towards PIO and NRI. While NRIs are preferred, PIOs are neglected.

Prof. S.A. Bari, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat, gave the presidential address in which he highlighted the importance of diaspora studies in the present time. He mentioned that almost all countries have diaspora as migration affects every country. United State of America is the best example of country made by diasporas.
Migration is now a global phenomenon. No country in this world remains untouched from the effects and consequences of migration. The international migration has become a reality for every country, henceforth, raises research questions over the impact of migration in the emigrant countries. In migration studies, the nexus between migration and development has been meticulously debated over the times. It is evident that the emigration of people has been significant from South Asia to the rest of the world, which is characterized as dynamic and complex in terms of its size, composition and nature from country wise. Subsequently, it is interesting to examine the relationship between migration and development with the change in international migration, theoretical approaches and research methodologies.

The book titled “International Migration and Development in South Asia” is an edited volume by Md. Mizanur Rahman and Tan Tai Yong in the year 2015. This book is the outcome of the South Asia Diaspora Convention in July 2011 which was organized by Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) to understand the role of South Asian contemporary migrants and Diaspora communities in the development of their homeland. The chapters, in this book, presented vivid South Asian experiences, which analyzed the implications of international migration on the social, economic and political dimensions of this broader context. The book employs the term ‘development’ in its title to elaborate the multiplicity of the socio-economic, political and human dimensions of the South Asian states. This ranges from economic growth to demographic changes including the increase in income level, accumulation of non-economic assets (health, education, skills, infrastructural capital etc), institutional building and all other human assets which can help to bring personal to social welfare in the context of South Asia.

The book encompasses thirteen interconnected chapters dealing with the theoretical underpinnings and empirical evidences of migration trend from South Asia and the impact of international migration on domestic region. The first chapter, International Migration and Development in South Asia, by Rahman and Yong has given the theoretical and conceptual approaches to understand the linkages between migration and development in both sending and receiving countries over the decades. Rahman and Yong has articulated in the description of origin communities. It further reported that the diaspora engagement to the homeland. This chapter explored the entrepreneurial activities in health-care sector diaspora engagement in the healthcare sector. It also discussed the role of Diaspora entrepreneurs in the transfer of knowledge and expertise from the homeland.

The second chapter, Novel Incorpooration: Diaspora representation and political rights in India by Constantino Xavier has discussed the institutional innovations created by Indian government to incorporate the Indian diaspora communities in formal public and political life in India. Xavier attempted to address the challenges and the need for the diaspora engagement to the homeland. This chapter outlined the developments in the process of institutional mechanisms for Overseas Indians by Indian government. However, it did not critically scrutinize the act-oriented approach of implementing Diaspora policy as well as functions of Indian government to incorporate Overseas Indians in development area.

The third chapter, The Diaspora meets the development industry: Engaging Pakistani-Indian migration in development back home by Marta Bivand Erdal has focused on the vital role of Diaspora development industry in the development of the homeland with the support from Norway and Pakistan. Erdal explored the experiences of Diaspora development organisations while engaging in co-development funding schemes, particularly through their interactions with the development industry. This co-development funding scheme was launched as part of the Norwegian government’s migration-development efforts which targeted Diaspora development organisations in Norway. However, the chapter could not contemplate the critical role of various actors, agencies and policies involved in the diaspora development context.

The fourth chapter, British-Bangladeshi immigrants and the local political landscape in Bangladesh, by Kazi Numohammad Hossainul Haque and Sanjay Krishna Biswas examined the determinants and dynamics of diaspora engagement in the domestic politics of Bangladesh through empirical case studies. Their chapter also mentioned the semi-strategic qualitative interviews, focused group discussions and key informant interviews, the study was conducted at Janganathpur Upazila, Sylhet region of Bangladesh. The research found that the economic gains made in the United Kingdom are invested upon to make political gains in the origin communities. It further reported that the diaspora engagement has not necessarily brought about qualitative changes in political systems. This chapter has given holistic picture of the diasporic political engagement in the local politics but it could also talk about the instinctive purpose of the involvement in local politics in homeland by British-Bangladeshi immigrants.

The fifth chapter, Indian professional immigrants and home-bound brain drain: The role of Diaspora entrepreneurs in the transfer of knowledge and economic development in India by Shahid Javed Burki has argued that the impact of the international migrants by Indian government. It, further, suggested for the serious need of government intervention and to provide help to poor migrant families facing serious debt issues and suicidal accidents. This chapter shall encompass the severe need of management of the international migrants by Indian government.

The ninth chapter, International migration and economic actions in South Asia: The emergence of the middle class by Shahid Javed Burki has argued that the impact of the international migration in the economic changes in South Asia. The chapter dealt with the discussion on the quantitative and qualitative migration and its implications to the expatriate communities to the countries of origin. It also highlighted the rise of the middle class, its size, structure and pattern of the South Asian countries which is being influenced by the international migration and Diaspora region. This chapter should look at the emerging issues of student-mobility for higher education, transnational marriage and migration of creative issues in transnational spaces due to rise of middle class.

The tenth chapter, Punjabi immigrants and rural development in the Doaba region of India by Jaswinder Singh Brar outlined the various types, structures and dimensions of diasporic engagement in the rural Doaba region in the context of Punjab. The chapter highlighted the role of the immigrants and diaspora community, with about every third household having at least one member settled in Western country. The diaspora engagement occurs with the help of the remittance flows. The chapter mentions that the role of diaspora engagement are: philanthropy, sports, associated infrastructure, public infrastructure, health camps,
cultural events, educational institutions, weddings of girls from poor families, investment in agricultural machinery, religious places, old age homes, incentives to village players, special training programmes for village youth, de-addiction camps etc. There are cases of employment provision of village labour through work permits on NRI farms abroad. The chapter, further, argued for need of policy framework which can cater the facilities and amenities to the rural villages focusing people-centric rural transformations. It should also put forth arguments on women left behind, estranged wives by male migrant etc.

The eleventh chapter, International migration and development: Prospects and challenges for Nepal by Thakur Subedi provided the overview of the prospects and challenges for diaspora-led development practices in Nepal. Due to lack of employability opportunities in home land, the Nepalese migrated abroad for better prospects. The amount of the remittance that they send back is almost a quarter of Nepal's GDP. However, the remittances have been spent on unproductive sector and useless purpose. This resulted that the economy of Nepal did not gain any productive benefits out of the remittance gain, especially in the field of trade, investments, knowledge and technology transfer. Due to these experiences, the nexus between 'migration and development' is very weak in Nepal. This chapter should also discuss the impact of remittances on the household unit with different cases and issues.

The twelfth chapter, Pakistani migration to the Gulf and development in the Miranzai valley in Pakistan by Syed Minhaj Ul Hassan discussed the socio-economic impacts of Gulf migration on the Miranzai valley in Pakistan. The Gulf migration has changed the socio-economic dimensions of this valley which was in very poorest state earlier. The change could be noticed through the reconfiguration of social hierarchy, changes in dress, art, culture, educational sphere, upliftment in their life-style, use of natural gas in cooking, furniture and better houses, involvement in the business activities, changes in the political sphere etc. The chapter further highlighted the drawbacks of the emigration due to the absence of migration policy which can guide uneducated emigrants for careful survival in host land. Also, the chapter discussed the issues and challenges due to lack of proper schemes and programmes for the welfare of emigrants and their families left behind. It also argued for the need of state's policy for the poverty abolition, employment generation and re-employment opportunities back home. The chapter should look at other dimensions of the usage of remittances such as future prospects of the remittances etc.

The thirteenth chapter, The other side of the migration nexus: Human Trafficking in Sri Lanka by Kopalapillai Amirthalingam, Danesh Jayatilaka and Rajith W.D. Lakshman discussed the experiences of the migrants who have been victimized and exploited in the migration process due to the problem of human trafficking. The chapter outlined that there has been a risk factor in the migration process which should be included in the debate of 'diaspora and development nexus'. The uneducated and untrained migrants might got trapped into the chain of human trafficking while seeking the prosper chances abroad. The chapter has given the reasons of human trafficking under which the labour migrants exposed to the human trafficking due to the issues related to poverty, disempowerment, social dislocation, unawareness about state's policies and lack of knowledge about the registered recruitment agencies etc. The chapter should also discuss the brief cases of other major countries of labour migrants to the gulf and how do they tackle the human trafficking practices.

The book is a detailed and useful reading to understand the international migration and its subsequent gains mainly knowledge transfer, skill-formation, social and economic capital formation, investment in education and health sectors etc. With the interdisciplinary approach, the book has provided wide spectrum of the international migration and its implications on South Asia. It also provided the detailed contours and patterns of international migration, timeline of migration and the geographical coverage with country-specific examples including India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and up to the extent of region-wise such as Punjab (India), Jagannathpur (Bangladesh), Delhi/NCR (India), Miranzai Valley (Pakistan). Every chapter of this book not only discussed the issues, problems and impact of international migration on the home-land but also criticized the on-going policies and practices of migration. The chapters further, suggested the serious need of the dynamic development policies and strategies in country-specific cases.

The book, however, restricted the selected case studies which can be more in terms of analyzing the impact of international migration in South Asia. The book did not provide chapter on governance and management of international migration, specifically, in case of South Asia. Secondly, the book is limited with the impact of remittances while discussing the Diaspora engagement with home-land, however, there are several aspects of Diaspora engagement such as philanthropy, investment, diaspora associations and political rights etc. Thirdly, the book did not provide the case specific studies of migrant workers' categories and their issues mainly wages and working conditions of migrant constructions workers, women domestic workers, domestic workers’ condition in Gulf region and the aftermath of return migration after long duration of employment.

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