

Return to the Homeland: Dilemma of Immigrants from Developing Countries

A paper

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The objective

- This paper demonstrates how immigrants families from developing countries deal with home return dilemma.

Causes of home return

□ Economic factors

- Studies confirmed that the economic situations of the migrants are strong determinant factors on the question of returning home.
- This is because the return is coupled with the period which migrants spend in the country of destination; and with what is the work that they would engage at home.

Causes of home return (cont....)

□ Social factors

- some of the elderly migrants who reached retirement age, who have succeeded or failed in fulfilling many of their objectives from migration.
- Desire to spend the rest of their days with their folks, extended families, childhood and youth time friends.

Causes of home return (cont....)

□ Cultural factor

- when migrants fail to adapt in the host communities.
- When migrants' social networks became weaker and unable to provide services to their members.

Causes of home return (cont....)

□ Other factors

- the success in achieving the goals of the immigration.
- The improved political and economic situations at home.
- the sense of belonging towards homeland.

The Dilemma

- ❑ In general, analysts of returning immigrants found out that some of them returned and stayed at home.
- ❑ Others came back to the migrant countries where they first lived.
- ❑ Some others have never gone back, or had migrated to a second, third, or a fourth country, where they became victims of such a dilemma.

Methodology

Accessible population

- ❑ As an example of immigrants from developing countries, a group of 8 Sudanese migrants families were selected from different countries.
- ❑ For this group home return decision becomes a nightmare.
- ❑ This is because the expelling factors that forced them leave Sudan are still exist.

Data collection

- The selected families had been interviewed by different methods during (2011-2013) in the GCC, Sudan, and a third group in North America.

Participants

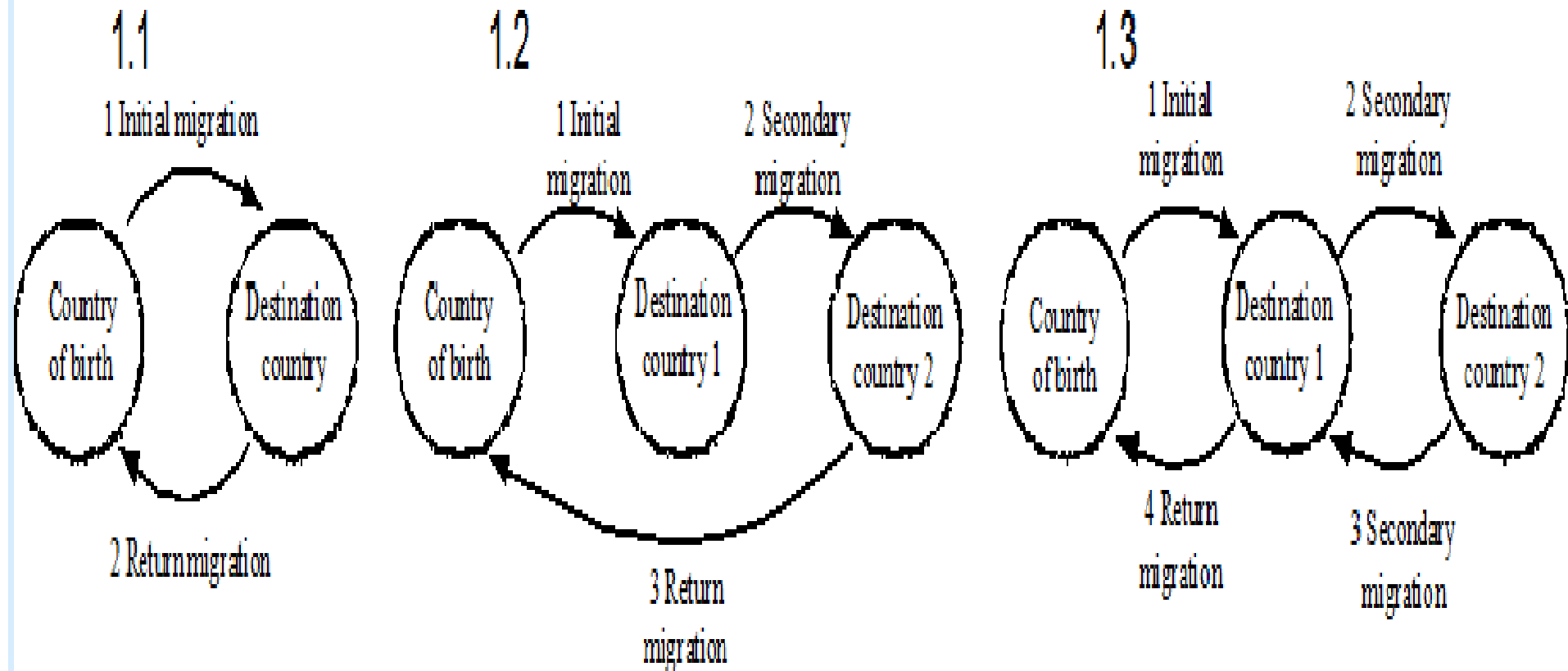
- ❑ Participants are fathers of families. All migrated abroad looking for better opportunities for themselves and for their families; they have been living abroad for ten years or more.

Theory application

- ❑ The Model “Return Migration: A New Perspective” of Dumont and Gilles, from *“International Migration Outlook” 2008* is applied to the participated families.

The model

Various cases of return migration



The findings

- ❑ After applying the Model to the participants from the Gulf region & North America; the findings of this study shows differences between the Gulf groups and North America's.

summary

□ First: families from the Gulf Region

- 1) First: pattern 1.1. where families made one initial migration journey and one return migration journey respectively.
- 2) The results indicate that this Pattern is applied to 25% of the participated families (all from Gulf Region), none from North America.

Summary (cont...)

- 3) Pattern 1.2. where families returned and stayed at home, others came back to the migrant countries where they first lived.
- 4) This applied to 25% of the families from the Gulf Region and no family from North America.

Summary (cont...)

- ❑ **Second: families from North America**
 - 1) None of the model's Patterns apply to this group.
 - 2) None of the families made a permanent return migration Journey (to Sudan).
 - 3) About 12.5% of this group made three migration journeys to three destination countries, in addition to a fourth migration journey and no return migration (**new pattern**).
 - 4) Another 12.5 of this group showed a different pattern from all other families. The families endured three migration journeys to three destinations before finally resettled in the first destination country without making a return migration to the country of birth (Sudan).

Summary (cont...)

- 25% of the families of the American group have shown a **new pattern**, as well. These families have made two migration journeys to two different destination countries; also they have made no return migration to their country of birth (Sudan).

The conclusion

- 1)** In general, the results of the study indicate families in the Gulf States share one common pattern. All cases seemed to have returned to their country of birth (Sudan); in contrast to the North American families.
- 2)** In addition, the North American families appeared to have migrated to more than one destination country.
- 3)** Almost all the families in North America divide their time between Sudan, USA and Canada; and they indicated a final return to Sudan would be likely.
- 4)** Finally, all the families of the two groups showed to be satisfied with their decision to migrate out of Sudan.

Thank you

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