

## **Ex Post Impact of Migrants on Native and Destination Areas- A Study of Chitral and Peshawar Districts, Pakistan**

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This paper analyses the impacts of migrants on native and destination areas of Chitral and Peshawar districts, Pakistan. In this study district Chitral is the native area, whereas provincial capital Peshawar is the destination point. Out of total 5,000 migrants, a sample of 500 respondents were randomly selected, consisting of 250 migrants in district Peshawar and 250 respondents of their respective dependent family members in district Chitral. The objective of the study was to assess the impacts of migrants on native and destination areas with reference to dependent variable of migration and independent variable of income. However, the intervening factor was the cost of traveling from Chitral to Peshawar. Primary data was collected using interview schedule as an instrument. Moreover, Chi-square test was used to explore the relationship in dependent and independent variables. The analysis reveals that there is non-significant co-relation between purpose of sending money, the persons who manage the remittances in the family at the native place, migrants' frustration in love and affection for their families, the development of new habits of the migrants at destination point and monthly income. The analysis further reveals that a positive change in respondent's behavior, effective utilization of remittances and adaptive behavior of migrants at destination has been found.

**Key Words:** rural-urban migration, remittances, migrants, native, destination areas

Migration refers to a process of spatial separation of family member(s) or household and or the livelihood activities from a native location (Ellis & Freeman, 2005). It has two important manifestations, i.e. internal and external. Internal migration has four types based on settlement, status of native and destination places namely, rural to urban, rural to rural, urban to rural and urban to urban migration (Khan 2003). Wenbao (1996) stated that rural-urban migration is that when people in countryside start shifting to urban areas for the purpose of gaining better socio-economic opportunities. Migration has a great impact on economy, social composition, politics and geographic organization of cities (Khan & Rahman 2000). Similarly, both immigration and emigration play a significant role in changing economic set-up and social composition of destination area. The social structure of cities can be reshaped by differences in migration status leading to variation in health care, education, employment opportunities and other urban amenities (Rahman 1999).

Historically, migration has affected both regional economies and social face of communities. It leads to better livelihood and enhancing social mobility for example the construction of a house possess economic and well-being and expression of social status. Similarly, both national and international migrants play a key role in socio-economic and political changes in any country (Khan & Rahman 2000; Rahman et al. 2005). According to Breese (1969) argued that intra-community inequality can be accelerated by migration and remittances. The obstacles to earn an external independent income in traditional peasant society have been overcome by migration. The opportunities to earn money enabled the landless people in their native areas to buy lands and get an increasing influence in the local affairs. There is a considerable psycho-social impact on children due to migration from native land to the destination areas. There is a gap of contacts between migrant's children, their families and friends when they leave their community. They gradually lose their customs and traditions in destination area and start adaptation in the new culture (James 1997). As the children become accustomed to the new circumstances more quickly than adults, create conflicts with their relatives in native areas. It has been noted that more the social and cultural differences in native and destination areas, high would be the intensification of socio-cultural factors (James, 1997).

The amount of remittances is determined by two important factors i.e. income of the migrants and household income. The livelihood of majority of poor families depends on remittances; it is therefore the migrants send remittances regularly to help their families (Connell & Brown, 1995). The process of remittances is based on the welfare approach towards the household, community and the economy (Ratha et al. 2011). However, the migrants face certain challenges and remain submissive due to lack of freedom of expression, role in governance, security due to political instability,

absence of democracy and rule of law etc. It is therefore people prefer to migrate to areas with better political consciousness and attractive law and order situation.

In Pakistan, the urban population was mere 5 million (15.4%) during inception in 1947, which increased to 23.8million (28%) in 1981 and further raised to 42.4 million making 32.5% in 1998 (Khan & Rahman 2000). During 1981-1998, the population of Pakistan increased by 55%, out of which the urban population improved by 60% (Rahman et al. 2005). In 2003, the rural and urban population was calculated as 89 million making 61% and 53 million with a percentage share of 39, respectively (GOP 2003). Similarly, 8% of the total population (10 million) consisted of internal or international migrants. The large influx of population from rural to urban area is for employment and to raise the standard of living (Government of Pakistan, 1998). There are push and pull factors responsible for this movement. The push factors for rural-urban migration includes unemployment, lack of infrastructural development, poverty, low wages and small size of land holdings, whereas availability of jobs in shops, factories, public services, offices, better medical facilities, facilities of technical, vocational and higher education, entertainment, less hard work, high wages, expanded infrastructure facilities and other civic amenities are the dominant determining urban pull factors (Clarke, 1966).

In Pakistan, 54.89% of the total rural households were landless during 2001-2002 (Anwar et al. 2004). It is therefore, active labor force of these families migrate to urban areas in search of more rewarding employment opportunities, high wages and getting capabilities to support family back in their homes. In order to meet the growing family needs, rural-urban migration is one of the essential coping mechanisms. In urban economic system, the rural labor force is largely absorbed by the regional urban centers mostly in informal economic sector. Such situation also poses serious threat to the existing city labor force as the migrants work on low wages as compared to local workforce.

Pakistan is a dynamic society with vibrant system is greatly influenced by the rural-urban migration. The tough living conditions in the villages are triggering factors for rural-urban migration to ensure better socio-economic environment (Farooq, 2005). Deshinkar (2006) highlighted that the short term inter regional migration are building new villages and adding population to existing towns and cities. The study further emphasized that internal migration has greater potential for poverty reduction and contribution to economic growth in developing countries. It was found that international remittances reach to poor families through remittances (Deshinkar, 2006). Mendola (2008) argues that rich and extended families are participating in high return economic sectors and utilize latest tools and techniques for achieving high productivity. However, the poor households tend to receive low returns due to non-affordable nature.

In urban and rural areas, the levels of disparities are working as a catalyst in terms of push and pull factors. Therefore, a large scale migration from Chitral to Peshawar has been reported. In district Chitral, due to scarce farmland, 80% farmers possess less than 2 hectares, whereas mere one percent has 2.6 hectares including terrace field. In Chitral, 90 percent of the population directly depends on agriculture mainly due to lack of job opportunities, absolute absence of large scale industries and long cold snow clad winter period have left no choice for the residents but to push the migrants to other parts of the country for better living conditions.

In Chitral, small scale manufacturing and handicrafts industries are famous. Some of the finish products include Chitrali-Patti, Chitrali caps; woolen shawls and long coats are popular throughout the country. Hence, a vivid number of these skilled laborers migrated to Peshawar and started business of Chitral products. Peshawar is a capital city and a hub of economic activities, industrial establishments and big market in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. These days, most of standard quality Chitral products are now manufactured by the native Chitrali population in destination point i.e. Peshawar. The same product is also distributed to rest of the growth poles in the country. The income generated by laborers and businessmen sent as remittances to their families back in Chitral. These remittances are used as a source of fulfilling the needs of daily life. Thus, the vital significance to explore the other cultural and traditional factors behind this classical migration, since long unabated and supposed to continue in future as well is a major objective of this study and unavoidable in terms of its importance. It is expected that this study will contribute to the policy makers, planners and other stakeholders who are responsible for socio-economic and cultural development in rapidly changing pattern of migration especially in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Chitral is the low order city as compared to higher order capital city of Peshawar. In regional connection, Chitral is mostly dependent on Peshawar to fetch the goods, financial and social services (Figure 1). In case of consistent influx of migrants from Chitral, it has positive implications on the local economy by sending remittances to their family and as a consequence social set-up gradually modifies in native areas is one of the central theme of this study. According to Christaller's central place model, the range of market forces for low order cities remains limited as against the higher order (Khan 2003). Similarly, the same concept can also be fit in a growth pole model, which indicates that lower is the distance between two cities maximum would be the dependencies on goods and services of higher order. Keeping in view this scenario, Peshawar is a regional economic centre and it attracts labor force from all around the province including the far furlong Chitral district. Due to rough topography of Chitral and half of the district is bordered by Afghanistan, it has to fulfill the socio-economic demands from the regional higher order city of Peshawar. Keeping in view this consideration, the present paper is designed with the purview to look into the impact of migrants on native and destination areas with reference to Chitral and Peshawar districts.

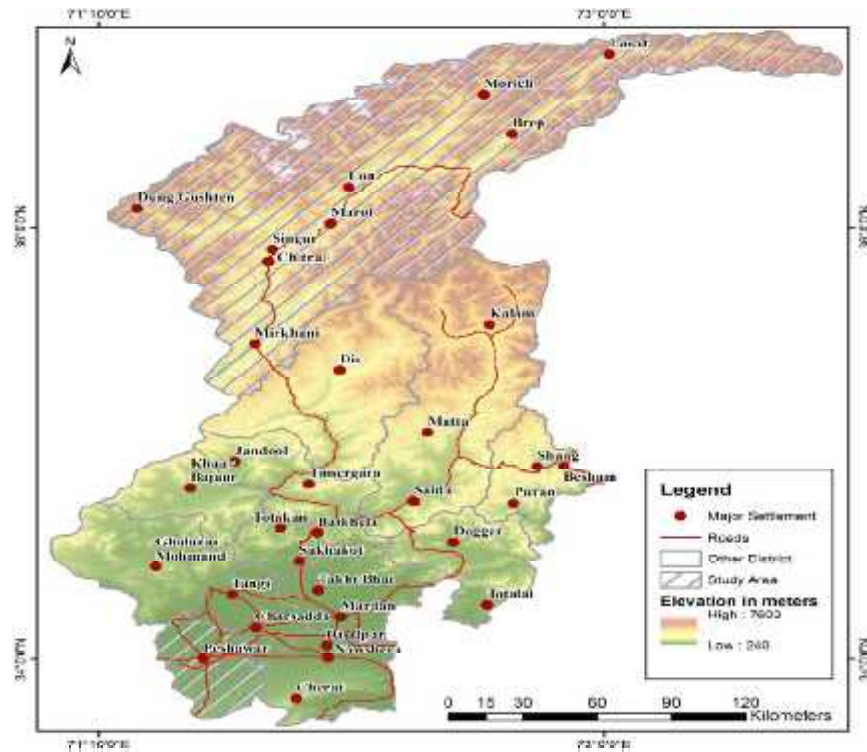


Figure 1, Location of Native (district Chitral) and destination area (district Peshawar)

### Method

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, in district Peshawar (destination area) population comprising migrants (from Chitral) were selected as a target universe, whereas families of the migrants in district Chitral (native area) were surveyed. The two variables i.e. monthly income as independent variable and migration as dependent were tested against socio-economic parameters. Interview schedule was used as a tool for data collection from targeted areas. Two types of questionnaires were designed. One questionnaire was designed for Chitrali population working in Peshawar and sending remittances for their families in Chitral. Another questionnaire was designed for the families of migrants in native areas i.e. district Chitral.

Out of total migrants from Chitral, data were collected using proportionate allocation as 50: 450 for businessmen and workers, respectively. A sample size of 500 respondents was interviewed including 250 migrants in Peshawar, 250 respondents of their dependent family members in Chitral (Table 1). In destination area, a standard questionnaire was filled from 250 Chitrali migrants in ten localities of district Peshawar. The selected localities include Qissa Khwani Bazar, Hashtnagari, Saddar Bazar, Afghan colony, Police colony, Ameen colony, Danish Abad, Hayatabad, Chitrali Bazar and Dabgari. These sample areas were purposefully selected as it hosts large number of Chitrali migrants. Some of the sample communities are predominantly occupied by the skilled Chitrali population such as Chitrali Bazar and Qissa Khwani Bazar.

In each sample community, the respondents were selected by random means and in selected community the sample respondents varies from 10 to 30 depending upon the concentration of migrants. However, a Chitrali Bazar and Qissa Khawni Bazar were occupied by large number of Chitrali migrants. In addition to key information related to remittances, the complete home address and phone number of respondent family in Chitral was also collected. In Peshawar, the respondents were businessmen, skilled labors, unskilled laborer etc. All the respondents willingly helped in filling the questionnaires and provided the required data. None of the respondents refused in filling up the questionnaire.

The migrants families were reported from thirteen villages widely reported from tehsil Mastuj and tehsil Chitral. All the 250 families of migrants were surveyed and all of them were very cooperative in extending support and filling the questionnaires and providing other non-structural information required for the study. The families of the migrants were in village Shongosh, Nichagh, Pakhturi, Barum, Mujhen, Reri, Molkoh of tehsil Mastuj, whereas Chitral town, village Garam Chashma, Mogh, Momi, Arkari and Owirk from tehsil Chitral. Moreover, the collected data was analyzed by presenting % distribution of the information. In order to dig out the correlation between independent variable (monthly income) and

dependent variable (migration) was computed based on significance level. The collected data were finally analysed using statistical and cartographic techniques and presented in the form of tables, maps and statistical diagrams.

**Table 1**  
Showing the distribution of respondents and their characteristics

| Nature of respondents           | Area     | Number |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Businessmen                     | Peshawar | 25     |
| Skilled workers                 | Peshawar | 225    |
| Families of the Skilled workers | Chitral  | 225    |
| Businessmen workers families    | Chitral  | 25     |
| Total                           |          | 500    |

Source: Field Survey, 2011

### Results and Discussion

Under this section major focus has been laid down on the perception based information with relevance to frequencies and percentages. The information upon money spending purposes is provided by Figure 2. Out of the total earned money, the major portion, i.e. (58%) was utilized on construction and household related issues. Furthermore, provision of education utilized (26.8%) of the money. The data showed that due to prevalent poverty the respondents faced problems in fulfilling the basic amenities of life like proper shelter and attainment of education. In the developing world, the major source of income utilized on solving the household related problems are the workers remittances received from outside (Siddiqui, 2005; Piotrowski, 2009). The analysis reveals that most of female has not experienced any radical change in status of their position in family since their family member departed to Peshawar. Furthermore, it was found that head of the family at destination (Peshawar) gives guidelines to run the family affairs via phones, letters while dealing and running the household affairs at Chitral including children education, agriculture activities and strategy for managing the marriage ceremonies.

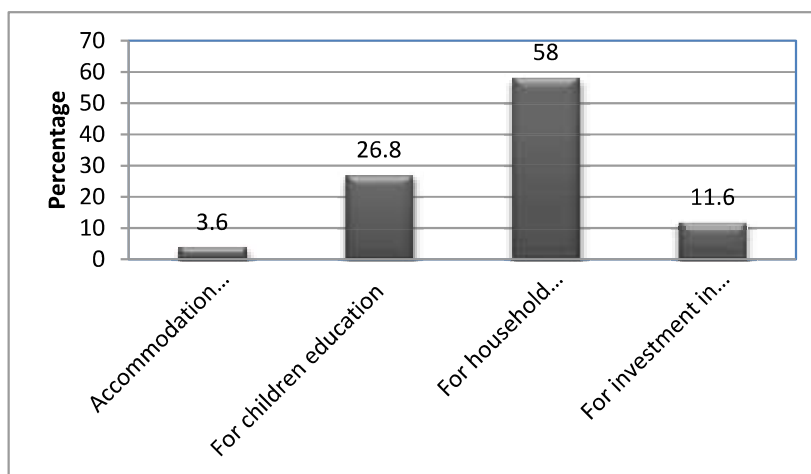


Figure 2, Frequency of Respondents: sending Money for Purpose, Source: Field survey, 2011

Table 2 showed that household head of either gender managed to utilize the remittances received from the migrants. Table 2 provides sound information upon the utilization of received money. According to this data out of the total received money 48% was utilized by a male household head followed through a proportion of 20.8% by female (mother) while a brother in the household had a role of 12.4%. The role of male was not found essential for feeding, distribution of goods and other services. As the situation in other areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are found from the above data. In the study area, a sociological mixed practice of matriarchy and patriarchy was prevalent. Galego & Mendola, (2010) recently pointed while undertaking study at Mozambique suggests that migration also strengthen social networks because the income from remittances improves the standard of living. Similarly, Adepoju (1995) argue that migration in African sending remittances for the family is marked as a major pervasive phenomenon in migration, however, with little trail of gender based intricacies. In a study undertaken by Afsar (1995) stated that migrants were most often benefited as compared to non-migrants mainly due to innovative and dynamic nature.

**Table 2**

Distribution of Respondents in the light of management of remittances in the household

| Category     | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| Brother      | 31        | 12.4    |
| Daughter     | 7         | 2.8     |
| Father       | 120       | 48.0    |
| Grand father | 1         | 0.4     |
| Grand mother | 1         | 0.4     |
| Mother       | 52        | 20.8    |
| Sister       | 11        | 4.4     |
| Son          | 5         | 2.0     |
| Uncle        | 2         | 0.8     |
| Wife         | 20        | 8.0     |
| Total        | 250       | 100.0   |

Source: Field survey, 2011

The Figure 3 is focused on the nature of feeling after migration as were asked and determined through information gathered from face to face contact during data collection. The data showed that migrants had the experience of loneliness (46.8 %), followed by loss of love (24.4%) due to separation from their native areas. It is a natural tendencies, noticed in all biological entities including human beings, that ancestral place is often recalling in the minds, upon migration to place of destination. The results further declare the frustration, as not an influencing factor, determining the mode of migration. Rather, it is being taken as an integral part to it.

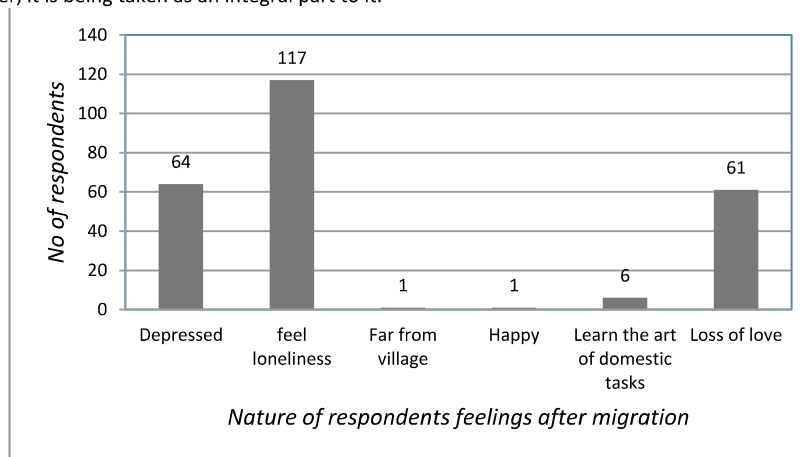


Figure 3, Nature of Respondents feelings after migration

The analysis reveals that after migration, a radical change in respondent's behavior has been noted.. The field survey and analysis reveals that media has played an effective role in molding migrants behavior (Figure 4; Table 3). The Figure 4 further disclosed that electronic media was instrumental in regards to behavior formation as reported by (53.2%) followed by enjoying lunch and dinner (15.2%), while accompanying friends (10.4%). The resultant composition is attributed to friendly and feasible environment prevailing at the destination.

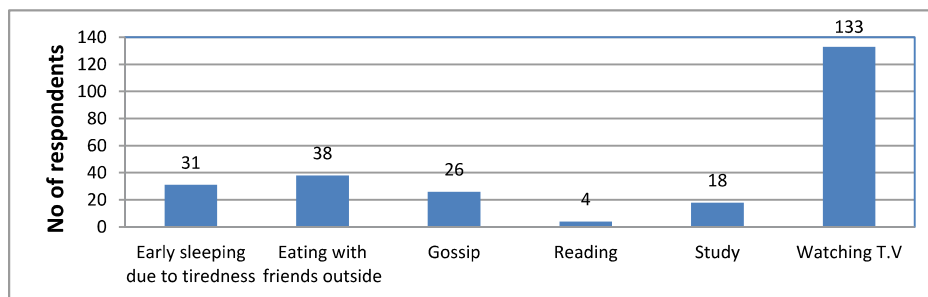


Figure 4, Respondents: Type of change in behavior after migration

Table 3  
Relationship between the effects of migration and income

| Profiling information  | Your monthly income at present time |               |             | Total    | Chi square (p-value) |                |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|----------------------|----------------|
|  | Low Income                          | Middle Income | High Income |          |                      |                |
| For what purpose do you send money?  | Accommodation expenses              | 7 (2.8%)      | 2 (0.8%)    | 0 (0)    | 9 (3.6%)             | 8.093 (0.231)  |
|  | Children education                  | 48 (19.2%)    | 15 (6.0%)   | 4 (1.6%) | 67 (26.8%)           |                |
|  | Household expenditure               | 125 (50.0%)   | 18 (7.2%)   | 2 (0.8%) | 145 (58.0%)          |                |
|  | Investment in Agriculture           | 23 (9.2%)     | 5 (2.0%)    | 1 (0.4%) | 29 (11.6%)           |                |
| Who manages the remittances in the household?  | Brother                             | 26 (10.4%)    | 5 (2.0%)    | 0 (0)    | 31 (12.4%)           | 14.120 (0.721) |
|  | Daughter                            | 4 (1.6%)      | 3 (1.2%)    | 0 (0)    | 7 (2.8%)             |                |
|  | Father                              | 102 (40.8%)   | 15 (6.0%)   | 3 (1.2%) | 120 (48.0%)          |                |
|  | Grand Father                        | 1 (0.4%)      | 0 (0)       | 0 (0)    | 1 (0.4%)             |                |
|  | Grand Mother                        | 1 (0.4%)      | 0 (0)       | 0 (0)    | 1 (0.4%)             |                |
|  | Mother                              | 38 (15.2%)    | 11 (4.4%)   | 3 (1.2%) | 52 (20.8%)           |                |
| Did you feel any frustration/indifference in your love and affection due to migration? | Sister                              | 8 (3.2%)      | 2 (0.8%)    | 1 (0.4%) | 11 (4.4%)            | 2.955 (0.982)  |
|  | Depressed                           | 53 (21.2%)    | 9 (3.6%)    | 2 (0.8%) | 64 (25.6%)           |                |
|  | Feel Loneliness                     | 91 (36.4%)    | 23 (9.2%)   | 3 (1.2%) | 117 (46.8%)          |                |
|  | Far from village                    | 1 (0.4%)      | 0 (0)       | 0 (0)    | 1 (0.4%)             |                |
|  | Happy                               | 1 (0.4%)      | 0 (0)       | 0 (0)    | 1 (0.4%)             |                |
|  | Learn the art of domestic tasks     | 5 (2.0%)      | 1 (0.4%)    | 0 (0)    | 6 (2.4%)             |                |
| Do you develop any new habit at the destination point?                                 | Loss of Love                        | 52 (20.8%)    | 7 (2.8%)    | 2 (0.8%) | 61 (24.4%)           | 9.490 (0.486)  |
|  | Early sleeping due to tiredness     | 22 (8.8%)     | 8 (3.2%)    | 1 (0.4)  | 31 (12.4%)           |                |
|  | Eating with friends out-side        | 32 (12.8%)    | 4 (1.6%)    | 2 (0.8%) | 38 (15.2%)           |                |
|  | Gossip                              | 23 (9.2%)     | 3 (1.2%)    | 0 (0)    | 26 (10.4%)           |                |
|  | Reading                             | 2 (0.8%)      | 2 (0.8%)    | 0 (0)    | 4 (1.6%)             |                |
|  | Study                               | 16 (6.4%)     | 2 (0.8%)    | 0 (0)    | 18 (7.2%)            |                |
|  | Watching T.V                        | 108 (43.2%)   | 21 (8.4%)   | 4 (1.6%) | 133 (53.2%)          |                |

Source: Field survey, 2011

Money as an economic indicator that helps in measuring the living standard of an area as discerned from table 3. A high standard of life is directly related to high income. There was a significant relationship ( $P=0.231$ ) between purpose of sending money and monthly income. When respondents were questioned about money spending as an indicator, it discloses that to fulfill their wishful list the level of earning is too low. Earning and planning with respect to their earning could be the other probable reason associated with the results. In this respect, the multidimensional phenomena at the household level for handling the household affairs could be the reason. It highlights that there is a transitional economic stage through which people in the study area are passing. As compared to the non-migrants, the migrants have a higher level of income and money consumption. Furthermore, the monthly income and the persons who manage the remittances in the family at the native place have a non-significant relationship ( $P=0.721$ ). The household head at destination area predominantly managed the remittances as depicted by the analysis. For proper utilization of money, its manager should be efficient irrespective of gender. However, because of the husband migration, the remittances are received and utilized by female in most of the cases as found by Acosta (2006).

There was a non-significant relationship ( $P=0.982$ ) between migrants frustration and love for their families at native area and monthly income. The data showed that each migrant love his family. However, the migrants have preferred earning money as compared to affection for their native areas. Thus the dominant factor was sacrifice in terms of personal and emotional feeling for survival. The major reason for this could be the prevalent illiteracy and poverty. The same result was found by Singh and Yadava (1981) which showed that educated part of community migrate along with their families while uneducated migrate alone, leaving their families at native area. Furthermore, a non significant ( $P=0.486$ ) relationship was found between the monthly income and new habits development at destination place. Although, the migrants are living at the destination area they hardly change their cultural identities. As argued by Castles and Miller (2009) that migrants usually carry their own culture to the place of destination.

#### Conclusions and Suggestion

It could be concluded from the inferences that migration was instrumental in generating revenue and supporting family in native area. The study found that emigrants succeeded in saving from their earnings at destination

area and its subsequent transfer to their native areas. Major chunk of migrants were involved in making the Chitrali products and selling the same during winters in Peshawar. The analysis disclosed that respondents were remitting money for getting access to high standard of livings. These included household expenditure, children education and investment in agriculture. Moreover, it was found that both male and female were responsible to manage remittances in household at native place on the basis of their relative efficiency, irrespective of conforming it to a particular gender.

Matriarchal trends were discovered to be taking into existence, due to the absence of male (head) of the families as eminent outcome of migration. The analysis revealed that house wives were found highly efficient in managing the household affairs and remittances back in the native areas. However, some of them had problems of social alienation and isolation to alien cultural exposure. Furthermore, the emigrants were found successful in developing new habits such as watching T.V. and gossip with friends at leisure time at the destination point and transition to this effect was found insignificant upon the outcome in purview of efficiency. Based on findings of the study following suggestions have been put forward.

- The remittances received in the aftermath of the completion of this cyclical process of migration could be a major contribution to development of native area. However, any strategy/policy is lacking which could be designed on anticipated analogy for structural and functional growth of native area.
- The study emanated a flow of revenue back to the native area. However, any sound strategy for making (utilization) of this revenue on sustainable basis is missing. A viable strategy with active involvement of community for proper utilization of resource is essential in terms of achieving maximum results.
- However, the study revealed that efficiency for proper utilization of resources was not confined to any particular gender. This sense of truth needs to be acknowledged at all level and extended to other parts of the country as well. It will enshrine a healthy trend of competition and thus a sound leadership in sustainable utilization of resource would emerge.

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