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CHAPTER ONE

-:: I N T R O D U C T I O N ::-

1.1 INTRODUCTION :-

Unfortunately there is no unanimity over the meaning of the term "Migration" as well as "Droughts". Both may be, of course, easy to describe but pore heavy mental or academic loads while defining.

The extreme diversity of migrations in cause, duration, direction, volume, velocity, selectivity etc., prohibits simple definitions. Secondly, we hear of seasonal, periodic, and permanent migrations, of spontaneous, induced, forced, and planned migrations, as well as of internal, external, inter-regional, intra-regional and international migrations.

Migration studies often associate source regions with "Push factors". The destinations of the rural migrants from the study area are mainly to urban centres. The concentration of employment opportunities and socio-economic facilities in urban centers has been stressed in other studies such as Akpan (1985) Mabogunje (1974) Onyemelukwe (1977) and Udo (1978)..... .

As most migrations from the rural habitats are induced or caused by "Drought" resulting into "famines", it is useful to have a clear understanding of the term "Drought". From this point of view, it is very difficult to ases as to when do the decisions to migrate start generating in the individuals and groups of people, as well as, when

does migration as a phenomena is actually to be considered as triggered off.

Migrations are the movements of the people. They form, like fertility and mortality, an important component of population change in specific-areas and at specific-times. In this study author's central focus "Drought induced migration: A Geographic Analysis" has been determined mainly by two reasons, :-

- 1) Migration has been and continues to be a neglected theme in "Population Geography", which study has placed "Man" at a respectable place in geography; and
- 2) Author's prolonged stay in the drought-prone-areas of Akkalkot in particular and in Maharashtra in general. This area has been and continues to suffer from the incidence of droughts varying in intensity and their impacts.

The choice of Akkalkot taluka as the area for this micro-level study came up to author's mind on account of its historical traditions, physical factors, economic setting and its geographical location near the Karnataka border. Moreover late chief justice Meharchandji Mahajan submitted his report on "Karnataka and Maharashtra's Boundary Dispute". My aptitude to take up this theme

was another compelling factor, perhaps it may also contribute much on her uncertain political destiny!

The study is presented under following Five Chapters:-

S No. =====	Title of the Chapter =====
1.	Introduction
2.	The study area
3.	Drought as a Factor
4.	Migration in Action
5.	Conclusion.

Furthermore, this study does not claim to be either complete or exhaustive. The author admits frankly that this is owing to constraints of time alone. However, it may offer a new approach or a fresh theme or a tool for futuristic studies.

1.2 The Data Base :-

The data for study is collected from :-

- 1) District Census Hand book :- Solapur District (1981)
It is the main source of data on most aspects of population. At places it has been supplemented

by "Socio-Economic Abstract of Solapur District" being issued by the District Statistical Officer almost each year (82-83, 83-84, 84-85 -----)

ii) The Secondary sources viz "Facts-Finding Committee' Report by Dr. V. Subaramanyam". This committee was appointed by the Government of Maharashtra in 1987. It is found useful even for checking up and verifying many issues and problems coming across this study, and,

iii) Intensive Field Work :-

This was infact a moral obligation, as well as, an academic honesty to collect the first hand information by field work. Many concepts of the author have become clear and many new ideas and themes have now sprung up in the mind for an exhaustive work either on similar or on slightly modified lines at some later stage.

1.3 Sample-Size and Methodology ::-

i) Akkalkot taluka is one of the 11 talukas of Solapur District in Maharashtra State. It contains 3 urban centers and 128 villages including the 2 uninhabited ones. These villages were grouped into eight categories by stratified sampling method on the basis of

population numbers. (Table No.1). Further it is necessary to state that one village was selected from each category by simple random methods for in-depth study.

- ii) House holds are considered as units for personal interview and Ten percent sample of households was selected for the study.
- iii) In the questionnaires given in Appendix I occupations were classified in accordance with the pattern used in Census book.
- iv) Respondents included two types of migrants namely (a) migrants who had returned to their source of migration, and (b) such relatives of migrants who were more co-operative in this study.
- v) All relevant steps were taken to check-up and varify the validity of the assembled data. Hence this work lasted for a period of 3-4 months.
- iv) As the study area is very compact and small, micro analytic approach is adopted for the present study, Clark has made use of micro analytic approach for "Migration in Milwaukee" by collecting detailed information from individual migrants.

Years?
Ref.

AKKALKOT TALUKA (1981)

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Population - wise classification of Villages.T A B L E N O. 1

<u>S No.</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Villages</u>
1.	Population less than 100	3
2.	" 101 to 500	20
3.	" 501 to 1000	39
4.	" 1001 to 2000	40
5.	" 2001 to 3000	14
6.	" 3001 to 4000	4
7.	" 4001 to 5000	2
8.	" 5001 & above	4

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