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NEW VERSIONS IN ADPOTING A NEW CULTURE

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY In Sociology by Seema Gupta

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Abstract:

This study examined the common challenges and opportunities of Indian migrants' effects on societies and new versions in adopting the new culture. In the times of globalization there is a quick emergence of multicultural societies. More and more individuals experience two or more cultures due the unprecedented increase in international migration. This section of my thesis revolves around the entire agenda.

There are geographical and cultural differences experienced as we move out to one country to other. Culture is a strong tie among the individuals in India. India is a subcontinent and spreads over diverse geographical conditions. Respondents live in the variety of ethnic groups and intermingle with each other. That gives the way to Indian immigrants to adapt successfully with various ethnic groups with a very few challenges. The study was conducted on the Indian migrants of UAE. A survey method was used, and in-depth interviews were conducted. The findings revealed that how the ever-changing global scenario of diverse societies merging as one. The purpose of this paper is to bring the newer version of adaptation scale of Indian migration.

Key words – dynamic society, globalization, Geographical conditions, ethnic

Culture consist of language, norms, values, beliefs and the people's way of life living together. There are elements that affect human life and the way they think, act and what they accept. If we talk about the culture of any country, it includes its history, architecture, accepted behavior and so much more. Culture is an integral part of human life. Everyone is the part of it. In fact, an individual can be the part of cultures and subcultures. For example, an Indian living in other country will share two types of cultures.

“Culture...is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society” (Tylor 1920) The author presents the nature of the culture as complex includes a lot of characteristics revolves around the human beings (Kim Ann Zimmermann 2017) In the same line another author states that a group of people have common language , religion ,food habits ,art and music and follow same social norms , is characterized as culture .As per Center for Advance Research on Language Acquisition the culture is defined as the people's behaviors shared in a similar way , the common way of thinking and understanding each other by living in a society , Thus there is a creation of a group identity . This represents that how from simple food habits to fine arts are inculcated as the part of culture.

Cross -Cultural concepts

Many numbers of migrants leave their surroundings in which there are comfortable for years and relocate in new cultural environment. All people do not stay there for the same duration so live for couple of years and other may be more than 10 years. All individuals experience unique circumstances, all migrants need to settle and maintain a comfortable relationship in the host environment. The process of adapting the culture which is not familiar to them “unfolds the stress -adaptation growth dynamic” it is a deep-rooted process and a natural human I tendency to be stable and balanced in new situations which they are not used to. The process of adaptation involves both physiological and psychological experiences in the host environment.

(Curr Anthropol 2016) The author in his research has debated on the strategy of human adaptations and the role of culture. The theory of cultural adaptation is explained as the behavioral adaptations with successive additions and transferred by social learning. (Henrich and McElreath 2003) The researcher has expressed that all humans inherit the basic nature from their ancestors. The degree of adaptation to human societies is dependent on the diversity of locally adapted behaviors. (Richerson and Boyd 2005) The gradual and successive knowledge of people has allowed the people to adapt different environments. (Castro and Toro 2004) The basis of human achievements is cultural rather than inherited adaptations.

The process of Cultural adaptations

(Ecol Soc 2016) On the basis of past 30 years of study the theory has highlighted on the importance of multilevel interplay in social ecological systems adaptation divides it into Cultural Evolution theory and

resilience theory. (Gunderson and Holling 2002) He has defined Cultural evolutionary, shapes human behavior theory as a biological which involves the systems of inheritance, genes and culture. (Boyd and Richerson 1985) The cultural traits are inherited from the population we belong to. This theory has led the individual linked to the society. It has led to the understanding of the consequences between the individual and the population he is living in. Each one within the society also experience different cultural and genetic evolutionary process. Cultural adaptation process is always not similar to the genetic ones. Resilience theory has given the understanding of the complex dynamics of multilevel process of cultural adaptations. (Holdschlag and Ratter 2013) The author describes the multiple elements which are interconnected with the capacity to change and learn from experience. He considers the psychological understanding of people with the various elements and checking their stability and change within society. The theory of observing the adaptive behaviors at a given scale is considered the most important insights of resilience. We draw on insights from both intellectual traditions to discuss the importance of multilevel interplay in cultural adaptation.

There are sociological, psychological and even scientific theories developed to study the concept of cultural adaptation. The concepts to bring into lights are the level of adaptations, policies and process of adaptation. The most important is accommodation and assimilation of the host culture. The findings reveal that if the adaptive change occurs it is at minimum level. It is the basic human nature that they try change with the minimum requirements

The process of cross-cultural adaptation is dynamic. The literary research in the matter varies from time to time. past many years of research on the same topic does not give the same conclusions. Each individual on this earth is unique, they act and reach differently in each unique circumstance they experience .it has been discussed widely that there are multiple factors to determine the scale of cultural adjustment of each individual. so, a very deep study was made during the interview. The findings and the problems were much newer than ever. The changing global scenario, technologies, education, ambitions etc. has transformed humans into a completely different individual than ever before. The scope of this research was extensive and never ending. Human life is so complex that it will take the whole life to research on.

An inquisitive nature and the love for sociological factors always I was willing to observe humanity from the close. There emotions emerged more stronger as I myself grew older. It coincided with the understanding of myself and the people around me. The major objective of my research was to reach to the heart and the mind of people and how they feel and make effort to mingle with a new ethnic group and a new society. One of the major aims also to bring all those collective though of migrants, into forefront. Believing it might assist humanity across the globe. As said before there is always new meaning to life emerging, so it must be update constantly. We cannot confine any research to one or two years, it can go on and on till the eternal life. There is never a fixed solution to any issue and no one time remedies, no one size fits to all. My reach to everyone in my research was to understand them and try resolving by sharing each other's optimistic attitude, sharing

experiences of those who adopted easy way to cope up with new place or new people. As said, there is no one size fits to all in this matter, but still scope of widening understanding.

The location or the area of study is vital for the findings of the research, The impact of profile of the area is inevitable . History of Arabia, history of the region from prehistoric times to the present Sometime after the rise of Islam in the first quarter of the 7th century CE and the emergence of the Arabian Muslims as the founders of one of the great empires of history,

The whole peninsula of Arabian region is known as Jazirat al Arab. It is not agreed upon unanimously the Islamic sources. As per Greek and Latin resources Syrian, Jordanian, and Iraqi deserts were included in term Arabia. Arabia was the cradle of Islam, Every Muslim person as influenced by this. It is outstanding contribution of Arabia to the world civilization.

In the Eastern part of Arabian Peninsula United Arab Emirates is located. There is Persian Gulf to its Northeast. And Gulf of Oman to the East. UAE consist of seven emirates Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain and Fujairah. On 2nd December 1971 the emirates came as a federation as 6 Emirates Ras Al Khaimah joined in 1972. The treaty relations established with the British in the 19th Century and they were called the Trucial States.

The history of UAE human habitation and transmigration spanning back 125 000 years back It is said that the Sumerians and Magan are the previous people living in this area. There are evidences of the rich history of trade with Harappan culture

Geographical location

To the Eastern side of Arabian Peninsula lies the seven emirates of United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi comprises of more than three fourths of the entire federations area and makes it the largest Emirate. It is also the oil production area. At the base of mountains Musandam Peninsula is the location of Dubai. It is the hub of commercial activities with multinational corporations in cluster of high-rise buildings. The other Emirates are smaller in size and even in progress.

The environment in UAE is the mixture of rocky desert, coastal plains, wetlands and mountains with no water. Every year's migratory birds are attracted to the seashore of UAE. The high standards of resorts with highly maintained beaches draw attention of the international travelers. UAE has maintained the striking balance of ancient customs and modern technology to the world. The influx of migrants from the different parts of the world is evident that is UAE is made up of diverse nationalities and ethnic groups.

Demographic mix

Past years there has been tremendous growth in various economic sectors, this has led to the influx of many migrants from different countries who belonged to diverse cultural and religious background. The population of UAE has grown manifold and the figures has turned into millions in a few years.

As per the statistics provided by the World Bank and United Nations, the population of UAE has reached around 9 million in 2014. There are expatriates are more in numbers than their own nationals. The UAE society has proven to be the perfect example of tolerance and coexistence as the residents and citizens live in harmony.

statistics as per the UAE government portal (2018)

Population of UAE (by multiple resources)	9.54 million (2018)	
	9.12 million (2016)	
	4.8 million (2008)	
	4.1 million (2004)	
Male and Female population ration	72% men 28% women	
Age wise population	Age group	%
	0-14	14.20
	15-24	12.70
	25-54	85.90
	55-64	5.70
	65 +	1.50

Source -Secondary data uaegov.ae

<https://www.globalmediainsight.com/blog/uae-population-statistics/>

Definition of research problem

United Arab Emirates is a fast-developing country and in a decade its progress is seen manifold. This economic growth has acted as a gravitational force for migrants. As the influx of many migrants brought in forefront the issues of adjustments with one society to another. Despite a lot of efforts being implemented by the UAE government and societies there are some grey areas in which migrants need to feel their host country as home.

This research has touched those few areas and gone into deeper studies that what were the elements that assisted Indian migrants to adjust well in this Arabian society.

Significance of the problem

Since we talk nowadays in the global terms. The problem rises in one country influence many parts of the world. As stated above and it is witnessed with the ground research the comfort level of migrants from India is of higher level. It was observed that different people with different age group, their socio-economic factors are varied and influences their level of adjustments. Even the religion played a vital role in the process and the speed of the adjustments of the individuals. This research intends to analyze the facts of different pattern and behaviors of adjustments.

Scope of research

This research aims to provide relevant literature regarding to Indian migrants to UAE' cross-cultural adaptation process. It is important to and fundamental to understand migrant population their acculturation, assimilation and adaptation. Before getting into understanding of migrant population it is vital to know the back-ground knowledge on cultural adaptations of various social groups which will lead to problem solving process. Despite being there a lot of research done still there is always a scope for more to review the current situation are more obvious to exist during the process people experience new culture.

As said above this research topic is not novel but the societies are dynamic and so the demographics is so there is constant need to study human behavior who may be different in their behavior in different circumstances. The behavior of their pattern is always changing. The research will also disclose that each respondent has different adaptation process and there will be the finding of similar patterns on acculturation and assimilation.

The research would highlight the behavior pattern of the migrants the research would help to analyze the difference between the respondents as their different religion has impact on society differently There is a significant difference between migrants in terms of measure according to the respondents stated religion. This research would also reveal that there is a difference in the adjustment behavior between the genders. It is how biological difference between the genders and their way of thinking affect their acculturation and assimilation. The paper will also reveal the study and comparative information of the migrants of their place of origin and the host country and how it played a vital role in the process of their adjustments in a new society.

The respondents were form UAE specially from Dubai, Ajman and Sharjah. The number of migrants were both male and females. There were wide range of ethnic groups from India ass there are number of people from South, North and even west side of India. The respondents were from different walks of life there were people from corporate, business group, educational institutions, doctors etc.

Data was collected between August and November of 2019 and was mainly collected through visits by the first author. The researcher was present during the completion of the questionnaires in all except for few. Questionnaires were given to the respondents and they returned in 24 hours after completion. The couple of them were followed up via phone calls and ensured firsthand information.

The findings of the present research reveal new information about the influence of socio cultural and personal variables upon the cultural adjustment of India migrants in UAE. The study was conducted on the wide range age group and the respondents living in different Emirates like Dubai Sharjah and Ajman, of the United Arab Emirates. The respondents belonged to all walks of life like they were doctors, teachers, business group and workers etc. The comparison between the two countries and its societies have been brought into forefront. Some migrants accepted the cultural pattern lifestyle of the host country and some rejected. Some made abrupt adjustments, and some gradually accepted, some have modified their lifestyle.

The important element of this study like religion, work culture, financial position, climatic conditions, language, religion etc. which was different in their home country the study has provided an insight of the impact of these elements in cultural adaptation of the migrants

This research is a sociological study comparing of very prominent Indian migrants' cultural adaptation in the UAE.

There is information collected based on the factors such as social status, personal information, socio cultural adaptation, socio economic change. The role of various influences on the cultural adaptation. The data collection is divided into sections of social status, personal information, socio cultural adaptation and socio-economic change

A positive change was found among most of the migrants. 51% respondents adopted the new environment gradually and 34% started settled in the new society still there were 7% who found difficult in coping 5% migrants shared that they were getting annoyed 3% started feeling isolated. The majority of the migrants has a positive change as due to better finance conditions, the connectivity to family and friend also was important element to make them comfortable in a new place. Majority of the migrants gradually adopted the new environment. It was noticed that some respondents who have come recently were still struggling to be the part of new society.

39% Indian migrants experienced mostly all the positive change listed above 27% expressed that they appreciated art and culture of the host country 21% said that they started assimilating in a new culture in UAE. 6% started enjoying the new cuisine 5% enjoyed the topography and 2% initiated to learn the language. The reason for the majority to witness positive changes is due the acceptance of the host country and a great social and economic infrastructure, this greatly helped the migrants started assimilating with the new

culture and new people. This data turned to be an important element to understand the adaptation behavior of the migrants.

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