

# Association between Rural-Urban Migration and searching for services (A local case study of Umm Bedda Khartoum State: 1995 – 2022AD)

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## Abstract:

This paper dealt with association between rural to urban migration and searching for better services, where we find that most of the migrations in Sudan are from the countryside to the cities, specifically to the capital, Khartoum, in search of a better life. This increased its population density and consequently pressure on services in Umm Bedda locality, Khartoum state. Importance of this study lies in the importance of studying migration and the scarcity of data on it. The study aimed to identify the demographic characteristics of the migrants, and examine the association between rural-urban migration and searching for better services in the locality. The study was based on hypothesis states that there is association between Rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm Bedda locality. Most of the data collected by questionnaire; In addition to that obtained from the secondary data includes references, pdf files, and websites. The study used the analytical method. The study reached a set of results the most important of which are there is association between Rural-urban migration and searching for better services in the locality. The study came out with a number of recommendations, the most important of which are Improving services in Umm Bedda locality to meet the needs of

the existing population, reducing the increase in migration from rural to urban areas by developing strategies, and implementing of services projects in rural areas.

**Key Words:** Migration, Rural, Urban, services.

العلاقة بين الهجرة من الريف إلى الحضر والبحث عن الخدمات ( دراسة حالة محلية م بدءة -

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المستخلص:

تناولت هذه الورقة الارتباط بين الهجرة من الريف إلى الحضر والبحث عن خدمات أفضل، حيث نجد أن معظم الهجرات في السودان تكون من الريف إلى المدن وتحديدًا إلى العاصمة الخرطوم، بحثاً عن حياة أفضل. وادى ذلك الى زيادة الكثافة السكانية وبالتالي الضغط على الخدمات في محلية أمبدة، ولاية الخرطوم. تكمن اهمية هذه الدراسة في اهمية دراسة الهجرة وندرة البيانات عنها. وتهدف الدراسة الى تحديد الخصائص الديموغرافية للمهاجرين، ودراسة الارتباط بين الهجرة من الريف الى الحضر والبحث عن خدمات افضل في المحلية. وتستند الدراسة على فرضية تنص على وجود ارتباط بين الهجرة من الريف الى الحضر والبحث عن خدمات افضل في محلية أمبدة. معظم البيانات تم جمعها عن طريق الاستبيان بالاضافة الى تلك التي تم الحصول عليها من البيانات الثانوية ونشمل المراجع، ملفات pdf والمواقع الالكترونية. استخدمت الدراسة المنهج التحليلي، وتوصلت الدراسة الى مجموعة من النتائج اهمها وجود ارتباط بين الهجرة من الريف الى الحضر والبحث عن خدمات افضل في المحلية. وخرجت الدراسة بعدد من التوصيات أهمها تحسين الخدمات محلية امبدة لتلبية احتياجات السكان الموجودين، والحد من زيادة الهجرة من الريف إلى الحضر من خلال وضع الاستراتيجيات وتنفيذ مشاريع الخدمات في المناطق الريفية.

كلمات مفتاحية: الهجرة، الريف، الحضر، الخدمات.

## Preface:

Migration is one of the three components of population dynamics; beside it has its own effects especially in urban areas. Migration can be a major component of population change at every administrative level; it may affect age specific, gender and socio-economic conditions. Migration is a selective process; it is the movement of people from one place to another with intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily at a new location

(geographic region). The movement often occurs over long distances and from one country to another, but internal migration (within a single country) is the dominant form of human migration globally. (<https://en.m.wikipedia.com/> (Accessed: 15/6/2022). Internal migration in Sudan is most often related to forced displacement and internal displacement. Among the factors driving this process are the civil war, economic reasons and environmental degradation, and the widespread hunger and malnutrition (<https://migrants-.refugees.va//country-profile/sudan> (Accessed: 15/6/2022).

People migrate to Khartoum state for searching better living conditions, better socio-economic development. They are affected by pull factors that attract people to urban areas and push factors that drive people away from the country side. People are attracted to an urban lifestyle and the “bright lights” of city life (<https://www.open.edu./openlearncreate> (Accessed: 15/6/2022).

Umm Bedda locality is one of the most densely populated localities, making it the top of the list of localities in Khartoum state, this high density population increases pressure on services. This study examines the association between rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm Bedda locality – al Amir unite – Alharah Aloula. There are few researches about this area; so this research helps the competent authorities.

### **The research problem:**

Umm Bedda locality is one of the most densely populated localities, making it the top of the list of localities in Khartoum state. Many people prefer to move from rural to Khartoum state where best services are available. This results in increasing pressure on services in Umm Bedda. To solve this problem the following question, need to be answered:

Why do migrants come to Umm Bedda locality?

## The importance of study :

- Address a topic that helps planners to formulate policies and development plans.
- To understand why people move and settle in the locality.
- This study sheds light on Umm Bedda locality.

## The objectives of study :

To identify the demographic characteristics of the migrants, and to examine the association between rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm Bedda locality.

## The hypothesis of study:

There is association between Rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm Bedda locality.

The Chi-square test of independence is used to determine if there is a significant association between variables (respondent's classification –searching for services).

## The methodology of study :

This study used analytical approach. Both primary and secondary data used. And to determine sample size, using "Cochran equation".

## Sample size criteria:

For populations that are large, Cochran (1963:75) developed the equation (1) to yield a representative sample for proportions:

$$n_0 = \frac{Z^2 pq}{e^2} n_0 = \frac{Z^2 pq}{e^2} \quad (1)$$

Which is valid where  $n_0$  is the sample size,  $Z^2$  is the abscissa of the normal curve that cuts off an area  $\alpha$  at the tails ( $1 - \alpha$  equals the desired confidence level, e.g., 95%),  $e$  is the desired level of precision,  $p$  is the estimated proportion of an attribute that is present in the population, and  $q$  is  $1-p$ . The value for  $Z$  is found in statistical tables which contain

the area under the normal curve.

Assume there is a large population but that we do not know the variability in the proportion that will adopt the practice; therefore, assume  $p=.5$  (maximum variability). Furthermore, suppose we desire a 95% confidence level and  $\pm 5\%$  precision. The resulting sample size is demonstrated in equation (2).

$$n_0 = \frac{Z^2 pq}{e^2} = \frac{(1.96)^2 (.5)(.5)}{(.05)^2} = 385$$

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Used simple random sampling by which selected (385) persons from Umm Bedda locality – Al Amir Unite – Alharah Aloula. The primary data collected through a questionnaire; include demographic questions, migration questions, use of (health services, education, and transportation) questions. For analysis used (SPSS) Statistical Package for Social sciences.

In addition to secondary data that obtained from the secondary data includes references, pdf files, and website.

## Theoretical Framework :

### Push and Pull Factors :

Migration is broadly understood as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. In other words, migration may be defined as a form of relocation diffusion (the spread of people, ideas, innovations, behaviours, from one place to another), involving permanent moves to new locations. The reasons that people migrate are determined by push and pull factors, which are forces that either induce people to move to a new location, or oblige them to leave old residences. These could be economic, political, cultural, and environmental.

Push factors are conditions that can force people to leave their homes and are related to the country from which a person migrates. Push factors include non-availability of enough livelihood opportunities, poverty, rapid population growth that surpasses

available resources ,”Primitive” or “poor” living conditions, desertification, famines/droughts, fear of political persecution, poor healthcare, loss of wealth, and natural disasters.

Pull factors are exactly the opposite of push factors—they attract people to a certain location. Typical examples of pull factors of a place are more job opportunities and better living conditions; easy availability of land for settling and agriculture, political and/or religious freedom, superior education and welfare systems, better transportation and communication facilities, better healthcare system and stress-free environment attractive, and security (<https://www.epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/> Accessed: 20/6/2022).

### **Rural-urban migration and services :**

Migration refers to people moving from rural to urban areas in quest of better opportunities, higher living standards, and access to critical services (<https://www.iips.com.pk/> Accessed: 10/9/2024). This increased in population density consequently pressure on services.

According to Mutandwa, E et al., (2011) “An analysis of the determinants of rural to urban migration among rural youths in northern and western provinces of Rwanda” There is a significant proportion of the youths expressed their intention to migrate to urban areas. Two main reasons were noted as key explanatory variables in the decision to migrate and these are the need to seek for permanent job opportunities and access to better life. That the major reasons for rural-urban migration are the search for convenient access to services, infrastructure, amenities and employment.

### **Lee’s theory of migration :**

Everett Spurgeon Lee, Professor of sociology at the University of Georgia is known for his pioneering theory of migration, which is known as the push and pull theory (<https://www.epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/> Accessed: 15/7/2022).

Lee developed a “general schema into which a variety of spatial movements can be placed” (Lee, 1966): He divided the forces exerting an influence on migrant perceptions into “push” and “pull” factors. The former are “negative” factors tending to force migrants to leave origin areas, while the latter are “positive” factors attracting migrants to destination areas in the expectations of improving their lot. Lee hypothesized that factors associated with origin area conditions would be more important than those associated with destination areas. These factors associated with the area of origin and of destination are governed by personal factors “which affect individual thresholds and facilitate or retard migration” (Lee, 1966, p. 51). Lee’s approach is reflected in a broad range of studies, particularly sociological studies dealing with migrant selectivity. It is actually not a theory but a conceptual framework for classifying factors in migration decisions (Bilsborrow, R., Oberai, A and Standing. G. 1984, P 15).

Lee, E. in his a theory of migration divides the factors that determine the decision to migrate and the process of migration into four categories:

Factors associated with the area of origin:

There are many factors which motivate people to leave their place of origin to outside area. They are push factors.

Factors associated with the area of destination:

There are very attractive forces at the area of destination to which the proportion of “selectivity” migrants is high. According to lee, such forces are found in metropolitan areas of a country. Pull factors are present in such areas.

### **Intervening obstacles:**

There are intervening obstacles like distance and transportation which increase migrant selectivity of the area of destination. These obstacles have been lessened in modern times with technological advances. Lee also refers to cost of movement, ethnic barriers and personal factors as intervening obstacles.

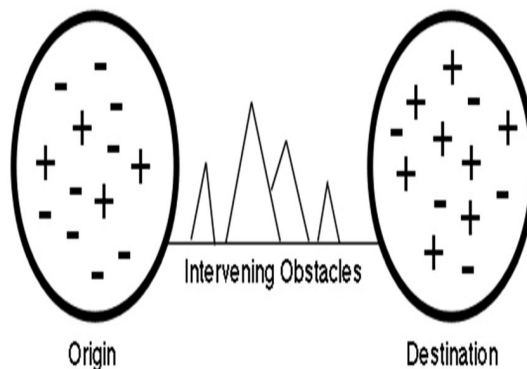
## Personal factors:

Lastly, it is the personal factors on which the decision to migrate from the place of origin to the place of destination depends. In fact, it is an individual's perception of the 'pull and push factors' which influence actual migration. He categorizes these forces into "pluses" and "minuses" respectively. In other words, pluses are pull factors and minuses are push factors. In between them are "zeros" which balance the competing forces.

These are explained in Figure 1, where the first circle represents the area of origin and the second circle the area of destination. The sign pluses represent the forces that attract people to place (pull factors) and that of minuses represents the force that push people from the area. Zeros represent the indifference of the people towards migration. In between these forces are the intervening obstacles.

According to Lee, it is the personal factors such as age, sex, race and education which along with the pull-push factors and intervening obstacles that determine migration. Further, there are sequential migrants such as children and wives of migrants who have little role in the decision to migrate (<https://www.sociologydiscussion.com/> (Accessed: 10/7/2022).

*Figure 1: Lee's push and pull theory*



Source: <https://www.researchgate.net/> Accessed: 10/7/2022

## Demographic characteristics

The data analysis below including: gender, age, and educational level of the migrants, marital status, and occupation.

### Gender of migrants

*Table 1: Gender*

Gender		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	149	58.2	58.2	58.2
	Female	107	41.8	41.8	100.0
	Tota	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author through SPSS for windows.

As shown in Table 1, most of the migrants (58.2%) were male and (41.8%) were female. This finding indicates that men are more likely than women to migrate.

### Age of migrants

*Table 2: Age*

Gender		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	20-24	35	13.7	13.7	13.7
	25-29	41	16.0	16.0	29.7
	30-34	51	19.9	19.9	49.6
	35-39	40	15.6	15.6	65.2
	40-44	34	13.3	13.3	78.5
	45-49	20	7.8	7.8	86.3
	50-54	17	6.6	6.6	93.0
	55-59	13	5.1	5.1	98.0
	60+	5	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author through SPSS for windows.

As shown in Table 2, the age of the migrants is divided into (9) age groups; most of the migrants were within age groups (20-24) – (35-39), this indicates that young people are more likely to migrate and migration decreases with age.

## Educational level of migrants

**Table 3: Educational level**

Valid	Educational level	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Illiterate	25	9.8	9.8	9.8
	Khalwa	36	14.1	14.1	23.8
	Basic	70	27.3	27.3	51.2
	Secondary	82	32.0	32.0	83.2
	University	30	11.7	11.7	94.9
	Postgraduate	13	5.1	5.1	100.0
	Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author through SPSS for windows

As shown in Table 3, most of the migrants have Secondary education, where the propensity to migrate increases with education.

## Marital status of migrants

**Table 4: Marital status**

Valid	Marital status	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Single	89	34.8	34.8	34.8
	Married	151	59.0	59.0	93.8
	Divorced	12	4.7	4.7	98.4
	Widowed	4	1.6	1.6	100.0
	Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: author through SPSS for windows.

As shown in Table 4, most of the migrants (59.0%) were married.

## Type of occupation of migrants

**Table 5: Type of occupation**

Valid	Type of occupation	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Employee	31	12.1	12.1	12.1
	Trader	77	30.1	30.1	42.2
	Worker	128	50.0	50.0	92.2
	Unemployed	20	7.8	7.8	100.0
	Total	256	100.	100.	

Source: author through SPSS for windows.

As shown in Table 5, (50.0%) of the migrants were workers, and (92.2) have an occupation, while 7.8% were unemployed, this indicates to women’s participation with men in work.

**The association between rural-urban migration and searching for services in Umm Bedda locality**

Crosstabulation below used to shows the association between two categorical variables by recording the frequency of observations “counts and percentages of observations”. While Chi square test used to test if a significant association between variables at 0.05 significant level.

Hypotheses: The null hypothesis  $H_0$  and alternative hypothesis  $H_1$  of the Chi-square test of independence:

$H_0$  : There is no statistically significant association.

$H_1$  : There is statistically significant association.

**Table 6: Respondents classification and searching for services**

Respondents classification \* Searching for services Crosstabulation

		Searching for services				Total	
		Searching for services	To join their family	For work	Others		
Respondents classification	Residents	Count	46	33	20	30	129
		% within Searching for services	26.3%	32.0%	35.1%	60.0%	33.5%
	Migrants	Count	129	70	37	20	256
		% within Searching for services	73.7%	68.0%	64.9%	40.0%	66.5%
Total		Count	175	103	57	50	385
		% within Searching for services	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: author through SPSS for windows.

As shown in the finding of crosstabulation in Table 9, most of the migrants (73%7) said they were searching for better services, so they chose Ombada locality and resided on it, compared with (26.3%) of the residents said they resided on

Ombada locality searching for better services. This finding indicates that migrants come to Umm Bedda locality searching for better services.

**Table 7: Chi-square tests**

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	20.011 <sup>a</sup>	3	.000
Likelihood Ratio	19.059	3	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	16.639	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	385		

Chi Square statistic,  $\chi^2 = 20.011$

“P. value = 0.000, less than 0.05”, the null hypothesis is rejected.

As shown in the finding of crosstabulation Table 6 and Chi square in Table 7, There is a statistically significant association between Rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm bedda locality. .

### **The results:**

The study reached the following:

Most of the migrants are male; this finding indicates that men are more likely than women to migrate. And most of the migrants were within age groups (20-24) – (35-39), this indicates that young people are more likely to migrate and migration decreases with age. Most of the migrants have secondary education, where the propensity to migrate increases with education. And most of the migrants were married, and (50.0%) of the migrants were workers.

And there is association between Rural-urban migration and searching for better services in Umm Bedda locality.

## Conclusions and recommendations

In conclusions, the study recommended the following:

1. Improving services in Umm Bedda locality to meet the needs of the existing population.
2. Reducing the increase in migration from rural to urban areas by developing strategies, and implementing of services projects in rural areas.

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