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The Characteristics of Internal Migrants in Khartoum State: Findings from the Population census 2008

By

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Abstract

This study aims to examine the characteristics of internal migrants in Khartoum State using the 2008 census data. Khartoum state was selected as study area as it was the most receiving state. Understanding the characteristics of internal migrants and in what ways they differ from their non-migrant counterparts, enables to design evident-based policies that contribute in mitigating population movement. The findings revealed that age and sex selectivity of internal migration, in that the majority of migrants were males and in the age group 19-24, the proportion illiterate, however, was higher among migrants and male non migrant have higher educational attainment than that of male migrant. Female non-migrants were having higher educational attainment than that of female migrants; though university graduates were more among female migrants. The majority of male migrants were unmarried whereas the majority of female migrants were married .

The proportion engaged in work among male migrants was much less than that of their non-migrant counterparts and very few female migrants and female non-migrants were working during the last week preceding the census. Over two thirds of migrants and non-migrant females work as full time home workers. The most sending regions were Central region, Kurdofan, Northern and Darfur region.

1.1 Introduction

In-migrants are defined as those internal migrants who have migrated to the destination from the origin. Migration is one of the three components of population change. Any change in the volume and flow of migration changes the size, growth, and other characteristics of the population both in sending and receiving areas. Migration within a country does not affect the total size of the population and growth rate but it affects regional and sub-regional population and growth rate within the country (KC, 2002).

In Sudan, the movement of people from state to state is a common occurrence. The 2008 census data showed that 3.6 million people were enumerated in places different from their place of birth and about 304060 have changed their place of residence during the year preceding the 2008 census (Ahmed 2011).

Migration has development potentials such as increased education or improved health, lower fertility, empowerment of women, improvements in water and sanitation and remittance received by households in states of origin etc., that contribute to institutions and growth. On the other hand, if internal migration leads to a net loss of human capitals (to the extent that those leaving are well educated, have special skills, are highly motivated, and lose ties to origin), it can negatively impact growth.

It is also widely accepted that the internal migration has sociological, environmental and psychological impacts. In-migrant communities tend to reside in areas with poorer housing conditions, environmentally degraded with poor public and private services. Newly arrived in-migrants can only afford cheap and poor housing and do not preserve the environment, misuse of resources, and ignore the local problems; they also hardly accept or are involved in the primary relationships and social networks of the host society such as friendships, partnerships, marriages and membership in voluntary organizations. They may

also face the problem of adapting to traffic, clothing style of the new community and may tend to commit crimes such as burglary and robbery.

Moreover, the society in Sudan is a multicultural society and migration may lead to formation of ethnic minorities and may reinforce ethnic stratification and ethno cultural disparity. Given that individuals are culture-bearing, in-migrants do not immediately adjust sufficiently to cultures at destinations, while others are (for very long time) guided by ethnocentric orientations hardly adapting to the realities of new locations. High crime rate has also been linked to rural-urban migration given the anonymity provided by urban environments (Nwokocha 2008). The role of migration is thus not limited to demography, as it also affects many other areas of social life, including economy, labour relations, politics, and culture.

The characteristics of in- migrants are assumed to be a mixture of characteristics of population in the sending and receiving areas. Understanding the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the in-migrants and to what extent they differ from that of the non-migrants' will help in detecting the reasons behind population movements, speculate for migration impacts and thus enable taking evidence-based decisions conducive to reduce the inverse impacts of migration

The aim of the present study is to identify the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the in-migrants of Khartoum state using the 2008 census data. Khartoum state was selected as study area because it was and is the most receiving state. According to this study, we will look at the characteristics of the in-migrants; For example, are they more likely than others to be young, more educated and single?

There is an obvious limitation in data on internal migration in Sudan. The census questions never address the reasons behind migration or cultural impacts of

internal migration, perhaps because this kind of information would best be captured through household surveys that cover a smaller portion of the population but in more depth. However, no specialized surveys on internal migration are conducted. This study is different from other studies in the area of migration in that, it addresses an important pillar of migration such as examination of the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the in- migrants using the census data and it will add a lot in migration literature in Sudan.

1.2 Objectives

1.2.1 General objectives

Better understanding of the characteristics of the internal migrants to enable the policy makers to design policies and programs that reap migration development potentials.

1.2.2 Specific objectives

The specific objectives are:

1. To examine the characteristics of the internal migrants.
2. To compare these characteristics between migrants and non-migrants.

Hypotheses

H01: There is no significant difference between the in-migrants and non-migrants with respect to age and sex structure, marital status, region of origin, literacy and occupational status.

1.4 Research methods

The present study used the 2008 census raw data to examine the characteristics of the internal migrants and non-migrants in Khartoum state. Descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution was calculated and depicted by graphs using Statistical Package of Social Science (SPSS).

2. Literature review

2.2 Definitions

According to Human Migration Guide (6-8) (2005) Types of Migration are defined as:

Internal Migration: Moving to a new home within a state, country.

External Migration: Moving to a new home in a different state, country.

Emigration: Leaving one country to move to another.

Immigration: Moving into a new country.

Population Transfer: When a government forces a large group of people out of a region, usually based on ethnicity or religion. This is also known as an involuntary or forced migration.

Impelled Migration (also called «reluctant» or «imposed» migration): Individuals are not forced out of their country, but leave because of unfavorable situations such as warfare, political problems, or religious persecution.

Step Migration: A series of shorter, less extreme migrations from a person's place of origin to final destination—such as moving from a farm, to a village, to a town, and finally to a city.

Chain Migration: A series of migrations within a family or defined group of people. A chain migration often begins with one family member who sends money to bring other family members to the new location. Chain migration results in migration fields—the clustering of people from a specific region into certain neighborhoods or small towns.

This study defined an internal migrant as someone who changes his or her state of usual residence, at least for the purpose to stay, so that the region of destination becomes the region of usual residence. On the basis of the responses to place-of-previous residence question in the 2008 census questionnaires, the internal

migrants are categorized such as:

- Migrants: whose place of previous residence (the place where they were living in, during the 12 months preceding the census) was different from the place of their usual residence.
- Non-migrants: whose place of previous residence and the place of their usual residence was the same.

2.2 Theoretical review

2.2.1 The Human Capital Theory

According to the human capital theory, migration takes place as individuals endeavor to maximize their life time income by moving to a new place. Migration decision is thus based on cost - benefit analysis meaning that individuals migrate only if they expect positive net-benefit from migration. The theory assumes that people are aware with labor markets in destination and their original place to compare the net-benefit gained from higher wage at the destination with the associated cost of relocation. In this manner, migration is considered as an investment to get higher income in the future (Sjaastad, 1962; Lee, 1966). The Harris-Todaro model (Todaro, 1969, Harris and Todaro, 1970) is an example of the human capital model where difference in expected earnings between urban and rural areas is the driving force for migration (Beyene, 2011).

Background characteristics of individuals play a role in differences of expected benefit and cost of migration. Some migrants reap the benefit of migration whereas others do not. It is widely accepted that younger people, those who are more educated, unmarried, and males are more likely to migrate as they are expected to achieve the highest benefit from migration and/ or their cost of migration is supposed to be lower (Navratil and Doyle, 1977, Bowles, 1970).

Despite the fact that the human capital theory has been very popular, it is now well accepted that it has serious limitations. It abstracts from other important

factors of migration other than wage difference and implicitly assumes that markets, most notably credit and insurance markets are perfect. Furthermore, like any neo-classical model it assumes that the decision to migrate is made at individual level with no role given to the family (Beyene, 2011).

2.2.2 The New Economics of Labor Migration

According to The New Economics of Labor Migration model, the decision of migration is taken by the family and not by the individuals. Thus the family objective function is maximized. The model changed the unit of analysis and brought some new reasons for migration other than maximizing income; among that minimization of risk by diversifying household's source of income. To this end, families send some member to another place where income is not associated or negatively related to income at the origin. Thus, the migrant member will support the family during bad times (like crop failure) while the family covers her migration cost and also supports her migrant during bad economic conditions at the destination (Stark and Bloom, 1985; Stark and Lucas, 1988; Lauby and Stark, 1988; Taylor, 1999, cited in Beyene, 2011).

Migrant members of households can serve as sources of capital in the absence of well-functioning credit markets and support households when they demand for capital, for example, to modernize their agriculture or launch an off-farm enterprise. Thus NELM puts the issue of migration in a broader context and posits that households care about their relative position (deprivation) in their immunity. As such, they send members to another place to improve their relative position in the community (Stark, 1984; shark and Taylor, 1989; 1991).

The New Economics of Labor Migration model was criticized in that it otally ignored the role of individuals in the migration process While the situation of the household might affect the likelihood of individuals' migration, it is also worth noting that the individual can have an important role in the decision to migrate

(Hoddinot, 1994, cited by Beyene, 2011).

2.2.3 The Social Capital (Network) Theory

Social capital is based on a sense of belonging to a group. The total capital which these groups possess serves as a common security and provides a kind of 'credit-worthiness' (Bourdieu 1983: 191). Social capital relations exist only in practice on the basis of material and/or symbolic relations of exchange, which in the some way maintain these social capital relations. Social capital □□ in the structure of people's relationships.

According to the social capital theory migration is caused by social networks between the place of origin and the destination. Migration networks are considered as a social capital, where member; of the network have the right to get information and otter supports that makes migration more beneficial by increasing the gains and lowering the costs. Friends and relatives at destination serve as sources of information about the opportunities, risks and challenges associated with migration. They also help new migrants to settle in easily by offering housing and other supports. Furthermore, the presence of friends or relatives at destination makes the psychic cost of moving co a new place lower. Thus, migration becomes more attracts e for individual with networks at destination. Networks could also be at a higher level like community. Individuals from communities that are strongly connected with the destination have easy access to information and will get support after they migrated (Taylor, 1986; Massey 1990; Massey and Espinosa, 1997 cited by Beyene, 2011).

2.3 Empirical Review

Population migration is a new phenomenon in China and research in this area started recently. Fang summarized the findings of migration research during 1985-1990 and found that migrants or mobile labor force has some special characteristics in comparison with those non-migrants or immobile labor force. The findings also revealed that migrants have higher quality than non-migrants in human capital, e.g. they have received more formal education in average.

Another notable characteristic of migrants is their high sex ratio. Because population migration in China is mainly economically motivated recently, the percentage of female migrants then depends upon their relative income level to their male counterparts' in urban areas. The existence of employment discriminative policy was also evident, migrants occupy mainly in those jobs that are low paying, dirty, tedious, physically heavy, or hazardous to health that local workers do not want to take. With similar education attainments, migrants and local workers receive different wages, and it follows that migrants' working and living conditions are relatively poor because they lack bargaining power in the employment market, and being discriminated by the community service. In many cases, migrants lack access to normal housing, medical care, day caring, and children's education. Thus there is usually a strong demand for self-services in migrants' settlements, which can reduce their daily costs of living.

Kumar (2003) in Nepal examined reasons of migration and the characteristics of internal migrants and non-migrants with respect to literacy, occupational and ethnic status. The results showed that migrants were more literate than non-migrants and the level of education in general among migrant males was higher than that of female migrants. The study hypothesized that female migrants will increase in the future for aspiration of higher education in order to bridge the gap of gender discrimination or face the consequences of severe social and economic problems in the origin, especially among adolescents.

A study conducted by Singlemann (2005), addresses the patterns of internal migration in developing countries and examines selected demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of migrant;. The study used data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) in a considerable number of developing countries especially in Africa and Asia.

The findings confirm the universality of age selectivity for migration. Migration rates rise rapidly at younger ages to reach their peak at the young adult ages (20-24), then fall away with age, although there is considerable variation of levels between countries. There are also obvious differences for males and females. The analysis of migrant-non-migrant differentials in literacy shows that when residence and age are controlled for (which are two important determinants of literacy), migrants tend to be more literate than non-migrants.

However, DHS do not depict a uniform pattern with regard to literacy differentials by migrant status. While the former finding was true in many African and all Asian countries included in the study, migrants were less literate than non-migrants in most Latin American countries included in the study. The analysis focusing on occupational status confirmed that migrants were more likely to have higher-status of occupations than did non-migrant; at least in two of the three regions under study.

Sakran et al (2006) conducted a study to analyze migration from villages and small cities to big cities and metropolitan centers in Saudi Arabia. The study was conducted in Riyadh, Mukah Al - Mukaramah, Eastern, Al - Baha, Jazan and hail administrative areas. Data was collected from a random sample of 3000 Saudi families. Using disriminant analysis and multiple regression, the effect of some independent variables on migration decision (the dependent variable) were examined. The study results showed that there were high rates of internal migration between the administrative regions. The study also indicated that the economic factors such as search for work and improving income were the most

important causes of migration followed by some social factors such as attending university education and having access to good health services. The study also revealed that migrants were younger and better educated compared to the non-migrants which means that migration drains the pushing areas from its human resources particularly those who were most capable to participate in the development process. The study has recommended encouraging investment in the pushing areas so as to create job opportunities , encouraging the private sectors to employ Saudi nationals, to establish at least one government university in each administrative are;, and to encourage establishing private universities and colleges so as to minimize migration for university education, to improve health services in the pushing areas to minimize migration or good health services, to improve agricultural services to the farmers to increase their income and to finance household income generating activities so as to encourage self-employment.

In Ghana, using a recently compiled dataset on migration and remittances, the determinants of an individual's likely hood to be an internal migrant and the relationship between internal migration and welfare was estimated. The analysis found that the likelihood to migrate is determined by a combination of individual (pull) and community-level (push) characteristics. The Probability of migration is higher for younger and more educated individuals, but communities with higher levels of literacy, higher rates of subsidized medical care, and better access to water and sanitation were less likely to produce migrants. The analysis found that households with migrants tend to be better off than similar households without migrants, even after controlling for the fact that households with migrants were a non-random sample of Ghanaians (Ackah et al, 2010).

According to a study by Metz (1991) in Sudan, which indicated that in addition to the problems of employment, housing, and services that internal migration created, it had an enormous impact on ethnicity. Although migrants tended to

cluster with their kinsfolk in their new environments, the daily interaction with Sudanese from many other ethnic groups rapidly eroded traditional values learned in the villages. In the best of circumstances, this erosion might lead to a new sense of national identity as Sudanese, but the new communities often lacked effective absorptive mechanisms and were weak economically. Ethnic divisions were thus reinforced and at the same time social anomie was perpetuated. The study used secondary data.

3. Results

3.1 Characteristics of migrants

3.1.1 Age and sex composition

The theoretically expected age distribution of migration is one with high rate of mobility at young age; low rate during the teenage years, rapidly increasing rate during early 20s reaching its highest peak and declining rates during older ages and a slight increase of migration is expected at retirement age. Counter to expectations, age distribution of migrants in Khartoum state in 2008 as presented in (Table 1), showed rapidly increasing mobility at age 15-19 reaching the peak, continue up to age 20-24, then

Declined sharply at age 30-34, continued to decline with age, then as expected increased again at the age of retirement. It is also clear that age distribution of migrants and non- migrants are different. The peak of age distribution of the non-migrants is at (0-4) which is also different from the age distribution of the total population in Sudan. This may be due to measurement error resulted from misreport. of age during the census data collection. Internal migration in Khartoum state in 2008 was not only age selective but also sex selective; the proportion of male migrants was much higher than the proportion of female migrants (54% vs. 46%).

Table 1 Percentage distribution of migrants and non-migrants by age and sex, Khartoum late, 2008

	Migrants		Non-migrants	
	Total	Percent		
Sex:				
Male	55593	53.6	2498452	522
Female	48102	46.4	2262945	47
Age:	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
0-4	9133	8.8	574765	12.
5-9	9515	9.2	548873	113
10-14	9443	9.1	522786	115
15-19	16297	15.7	503139	103
20-24	16084	15.5	541745	113
25-29	11737	11.3	454412	95
30-34	6900	6.7	347892	75
35-39	6036	5.8	331990	70
40-44	4440	4.3	244632	5.1
45-49	3047	2.9	193230	4.1
50-54	2913	2.8	156255	3.3
55-59	1678	1.6	92912	2.0
> = 60	646!	6.2	248766	5.2
Total	103685	100	4761397	100.0

Source: Compiled by the author

3.1.2 Marital status

As indicated by Table 2, among male migrants 46.2 % \ ad never been married compared to 42% among male non-migrants. Those who were married, widowed

and divorced among male migrants were respectively 32.1%, 0.7 and 0.7 compared to respectively 40.6, 0.6 and 0.7 among male non-migrants. A comparison between female migrants and female non-migrants marital status revealed that the proportion never married is much lower among female migrants whereas the proportion widowed was much lower among the female non-migrants.

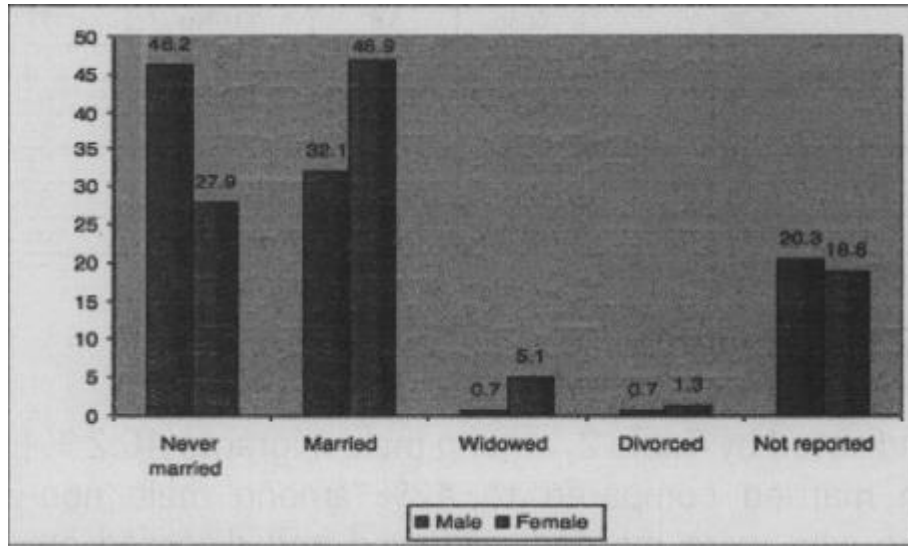
Table 2 Distribution of population 12 year of age and over by sex, marital status and migration status. Khartoum state. 2008

Marital status	Migrants				Non-Migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Never married	20226	46.2	10111	27.9	746419	42.0	481854	30.5
Married	14052	32.1	16998	46.9	721097	40.6	784284	49.7
Widowed	311	0.7	1850	5.1	10395	0.6	72502	4.6
Divorced	309	0.7	484	1.3	12182	0.7	33467	2.1
Not reported	8163	20.3	6819	18.8	286860	16.1	206514	13.1
Total	43781	100.0	36263	100.0	1776952	100.0	1578622	100.0

Source: Compiled by die author

As expected the proportion married among female migrants was by far higher than that of their male counterparts. By norms and traditions in Sudan single unmarried women rarely migrate; however, 5% of the widowed females migrated to Khartoum state during the year preceding the 2008 census (Figure 1).

Figure 1 Percentage distribution of internal migrants by sex and marital status, Khartoum state, 2008



Source: Compiled by the author

Figure 1 Percentage distribution of internal migrants by sex and marital status, Khartoum state, 2008

Source: Compiled by the author

3.1.3 Literacy status and educational attainment of migrants and non-migrants

A comparison between the literacy status between migrants and non-migrants revealed that among male migrants about 82% were literate in 2008 compared to 85% among their non-migrant counterparts (Table 3). This shows that there were more illiterate people among in-migrant in Khartoum state in 2008 (13%). The literacy level among female non-migrant was higher (76%) than among female migrants (69%). The proportion illiterate was by far the highest among female migrants compared to female non-migrants and male migrants and male non-migrants.

The proportion of migrants among males having no qualifications (6.8) appeared higher compared to their female counterparts (6.1). Among female migrants, the

proportion having secondary school certificate and university first degree was higher than that among male migrants; however, post graduates were more among male migrants compared to their female counterparts (1.4 vs. 0.6). What is really noteworthy is that, the proportion having first university degree among females migrants and female non-migrants were higher than that of male migrants and male non-migrants, however, within the female groups, more non-migrants were having first university degree (Table 3).

Table 3: Distribution of population 6 years and above by literacy, school attendance, educational attainment and migration status. Khartoum state.

2008

	Migrants				Non- Migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Education:	40604	81.7	29281	69.0	1822017	85.1	1459821	75.9
Literacy:								
Literate:	6787	13.7	10909	25.7	273564	12.8	415187	21.6
Illiterac:	2280	4.6	2253	5.3	45143	2.1	48166	2.5
Not reported:								
Total:	49670	100.0	42442	100.0	2140724	100.0	1923257	100.0
Educational attainment:								
No Qualification:	2660	6.8	1739	6.1	87804	4.9	72536	5.1
Khalwa:								
Incomplete Primary:	1811	4.6	539	1.9	60813	3.4	2211	1.5
Primary	10648	27.1	8008	28.0	536200	30.1	472748	33.0
Secondary:	9278	23.8	6741	23.6	408385	22.9	322574	22.5
POST-Secondary Diploma:	8137	20.7	6535	22.9	373187	20.9	291149	20.3
	773	2.0	395	1.4	31437	1.8	20407	1.4
	3575	9.1	3085	10.8	190211	1.7	161199	11.3

	Migrants				Non- Migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
University First Decree;	539	1.4	17.4	0.6	29778	1.7	17973	1.3
Post Graduate:	1840	4.5	1361	4.8	65071	3.6	53952	3.8
Not Reported:	39350	100.0	28577	100.0	1782885	100.0	1434699	100.0
Total:								

Source: Compiled by the author

3.1.4 Economic activity of migrants

Entering into labor market is an important issue of internal migration because finding a job is the only way for migrants to be integrated into the hosted communities. A comparison between the economic activities of male migrants and male non-migrants revealed that among male non-migrants 55% had been working during the last week preceding the 2008 census whereas 48% of male migrants had been working during the same period. The proportion seeking job for the first time among male migrants was higher compared to that of their non-migrants counterparts (5.6% vs.4.0%). Nevertheless the proportion not working or not seeking for a work was almost the same for male migrants and male non-migrants.

It is important to examine economic activity by sex to evaluate gender aspects of labor market. For both female migrants and female non-migrants, the proportion that had been working during the last week preceding the census was by far lower than that of their male counterparts, however, within the female groups, the proportion worked during the last week preceding the census among female non-migrants was higher compared to that of their migrant counterparts (12.7 vs. 10.1) (Table 4).

The proportion seeking job for the first time was almost the same among female

migrants and female non-migrants (respectively 3.5% vs.3.8%). Nevertheless the proportion not working or not seeking for a work is higher among female non-migrants compared to female migrants (66.4 vs. 61.7). More than two thirds of female migrants and female non-migrants were working as full time home makers.

The proportion economically inactive as they were full time students was much higher among male migrants and male non-migrants compared to their female counterparts (Table 4). The findings also revealed that the proportion too old to work were higher among migrants compared to the non-migrants, however, within migrant groups elderly were more among male migrants than among female migrants (7.7% vs. 6.2%).

Table 4 Percentage distribution of population 15 years of age and above by economic activity and migration status, Khartoum state. 2008

	Migrants				Non-Migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Economic activity: Activity Status Worked Last Week	19127	48	3358	10.1	903823	54.6	186085	12.7
Temporarily Away From Job	1390	3.5	528	1.6	53956	3.3	23527	1.6
Worked Before and Socking Work	958	2.4	353	1.1	34625	2.1	11818	0.8
First time job seeker	2231	5.6	1153	3.5	65817	4.0	55135	3.8
Not Working or Seeking Work	9766	24.5	20476	61.7	403710	24.4	968943	66.4
Not Reported	6388	16.0	7301	22.0	193019	11.7	214266	14.7
Total	39860	100.0	33168	100.0	1654950	100.0	1459775	100.0

	Migrants				Non-Migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Reasons for economic inactivity: No Hope to Find Job	1446	12.4	689	3.2	42270	9.1	27300	2.7
Full-time Student	6905	59.0	4654	21.4	275666	59.2	239591	23.9
Income Recipient	443	3.8	152	0.7	25058	5.4	7534	0.8
Too Old	904	7.7	1353	6.2	26462	5.7	32199	3.2
Disabled/Too Sick	408	3.5	323	1.5	15690	3.4	8926	0.9
Full-time Homemaker	434	3.7	13066	60.0	22124	4.8	635598	63.5
Pensioner/Retired	579	5.0	173	0.8	42476	9.1	13493	1.3
Not Reported	399	3.4	769	3.5	12190	2.6	28226	2.8
Odra reasons	178	1.5	589	2.7	3686	0.8	8446	0.8
Total	11697	100.0	21769	100.0	465622	100.0	1001314	100.0

Source: Compiled by the author

3.1.4 Regional origin of migrants

The majority of male migrants were coming from the central region (22.7%); the proportion of male migrants coming from Kordufan, Northern region and Darfur region were respectively 21%, 17.5% and 15.9%. The proportion of migrants coming from eastern region was among the least, reached around 4% for male and female migrants. About 24% of the total female migrants came from Kordufan region, 20.4% came from the Central region, and 20% and 15% came from Northern region and Darfur region respectively (Table 5).

Just above one quarter of male non-migrants (25.9%) and 27.9% of female non-migrants reported that their region of origin is Khartoum state, indicating that around three quarters were life time migrants were found to be coming from the

same sending four regions (Table 5).

Table 5 Percentage distribution of migrant and non-migrants by sex and region of origin, Khartoum state, 2008

	Migrants				Non-migrants			
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Northern	12464	17.5	12796	20.0	462628	18.5	446185	19.7
Eastern	2742	3.9	2427	3.8	60417	2.4	51576	23
Khartoum	5485	7.7	5340	83	646655	25.9	625053	27.6
Central region	16176	22.7	13073	20.4	356138	14.3	276801	12.2
Kordofan	14923	21.0	15437	24.1	519919	20.8	473423	20.9
Darfur	11307	15.9	8148	12.7	289965	11.6	235560	10.4
Upper Nile	1131	1.6	1034	1.6	28368	1.1	26481	1.2
Bahar El Ghazai	1031	1.4	912	1.4	39181	1.6	34835	13
Equitoria	757	1.1	657	1.0	25600	1.0	24672	1.1
Not Sudanese	2730	3.8	1963	3.1	22112	0.9	22874	1.0
Not reported	2341	3.3	2169	3.4	47101	1.9	45136	2.0
Total	71087	100.0	63956	100.0	2498084	100	2262945	100

Source: Compiled by die author

4. Discussion

Internal migration in Khartoum state in 2008 was as expected by migration theories age and sex selective. Though females account for a major proportion of internal migration to Khartoum state according to the 2008 census data, still male migrants represented the majority. This is consistent to most of migration theories; however, some empirical studies support the female dominance in both internal and international migration. It is true that as female education is augmented they become eligible to compete in the labor market, however, female migration is determined with factors others than the female education; including the socio-cultural believes.

It is widely expected that migration rapidly increases during the early 20s of age; however, the present study showed a rapidly increasing mobility at age 15-19 and continues to age 20-24. The peak of migration was found to be at age 15-19 and most probably there was a misreport of age that led to shifts in age. Thus we assume the result consist to what is found in the literature.

One of the characteristics conventionally accepted as closely associated with the propensity to migrate, particularly in the case of women, is marital status. Nevertheless marital status affects males and females differently. Unmarried males and married women are more likely to migrate. Later research on Mexican internal migration provides support for the view that female migration reflects family or household migration (Aravena, 2002). The findings of the present study are consistent with what is conventionally accepted in that the majority of male migrants were unmarried and the majority of female migrants were married.

Migrants usually constitute a selected group in terms of education (De la Paz Lopez et al. 1993; Todaro 1976 cited by Aravena, 2002). However, the comparison between literacy status of migrants and non- migrants revealed that more migrants were illiterate and male non migrant as a whole, were found to have higher educational attainment than that of all male migrant. Female non-migrants were also found to have higher educational attainment than that of female migrants; however, the proportion attained first university degree among female migrants was higher than that of their male counterparts.

It is clear that the proportion engage in work among male migrants was much less than that of their non-migrant counterparts; it may be due to the low level of education of male migrants' or because they were late comers and need time to seek for a job.

There is also a gender dimension in regard to work since very few female migrants and female non-migrants were working during the last week preceding the census. Over two thirds of migrants and non-migrant females work as full time home workers.

The majority of male migrated currently moved to Khartoum state came from the Central region whereas the majority of female current migrants come from Kurdofan region. It is most probable that male migrants had come from Al-Gazira

State after the fall of the Al-Gazira scheme. In summary, the most sending regions were: Kurdofan region, Central region, Northern region and Darfur region. It is clear that drought and desertification in Kurdofan region, deterioration of agricultural schemes in the Central region and Northern region, war in Darfur was the reason behind current and lifetime migration.

5. Conclusion

Migration is one of the population dynamics that involve both development potentials and adverse effects on both sending and receiving places. Internal migration refers to population movement inside the administrative boundaries of the same country and it has demographic, social, economic and cultural impacts. The aim of this paper is to identify the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the internal migrants. Understanding the background and socio-economic characteristics of in migrants will assist policy makers to design policies that enable the sending and receiving regions to harvest migration development potentials. Khartoum state was selected as the case study as it was the most attractive state that received 20% of the most recent internal migrants. The study used the 2008 census data.

The findings revealed sex and age selectivity of migration; males compared to females are more likely to migrate and so are the people in age group (19-24). Educational selectivity of migration was not evident as those who had no qualifications, illiterate and below secondary schools were more among the internal migrants, whereas those who were having first university degree at the time of the 2008 census were more among the females migrants and non-migrants, however, proportion graduated among female non-migrants was higher by 0.4 percentage points than their migrant counterparts.

Though the main reason behind in-migration is seeking for jobs, as approved by previous studies in internal migration, the proportion of those who had been working during the last week preceding the 2008 census was by far higher among the male non-migrants than that of their migrant counterparts and generally low among females.

For both current and lifetime migration the most sending regions were the regions that has experienced economic hardship or political instability. The only way to achieve balanced population distribution between states is distribution of development projects evenly between them.

Migration is one of the three components of population change, however unlike fertility and mortality is the least researched area. We need to promote more research on internal migration and to conduct a specialized survey on internal migration to examine the level and trend of immigrants and monitor the economic and social impacts of immigration.

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