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**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS**  
**EGYPT PROJECT**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS**

REMARKS ON INTERNAL MIGRATION STUDIES IN EGYPT

by  
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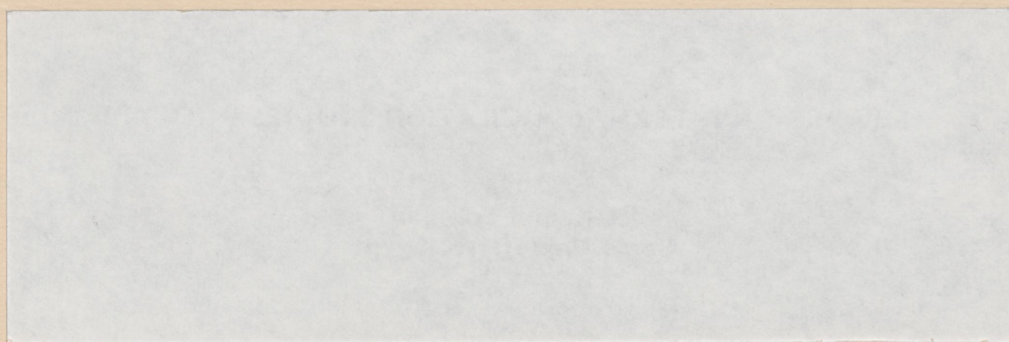
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## REMARKS ON INTERNAL MIGRATION STUDIES IN EGYPT

by

Dr. M. KAMAL SOLIMAN

### Introduction

Migration is one of the three major study areas which compose the scientific population study, and the others are fertility and mortality. Internal migration mobility is an important index of social change, particularly in developing countries .

Egypt is a case in point that its demographic transition is closely linked to its integration in the modern world order. Egypt's population with its high increment rates created a lot of pressure on the economic and social structure. More spectacular and closely related is the transformation of Egypt's urban-rural symbiosis. Urbanization became one of the most important problems in Egypt, urban population accounted for 44% of total population in 1976, in contrast with 38% in 1960. The rural migration to urban areas ( internal migration ) is of Egypt's silent revolutions, which created rigid restrictions on development plans through the impact of expanded cities and towns.

Rural and urban areas have been experiencing a steady decline in death rates, from up to 40% per annum a century ago to less than 15% at present, and similar but relatively high birth rates averaging 4.2%. In turn, cities and villages have been experiencing natural growth rates averaging 2.5% annually in recent decades. Urban areas population shown doubled increment in comparison to rural areas , the reason is part of the natural increment in Egypt's countryside migrated to the cities. Thus urban areas have been growing from two primary resources; their own natural increase plus a steady infusion from rural areas.

## VOLUME AND METHODS OF MEASURING INTERNAL MIGRATION

Egyptian censuses, starting in 1897 and until 1976, did not include any explicit questions bearing on migration. However, some of these censuses did enquire about the birth place and the current place of residence at the time of the census. In regard to data deficiency, researchers have had to contend with techniques measuring internal migration indirectly.

Methods of measuring internal migration, Survival Ratio, which relies on life-tables giving the survival ratio for each age category in each census year in spacial units (usually administratively defined). The difference between actual and expected population represents the net migration for every age category. The sum of all age categories is the total net migration in the intercensal years for the spacial unit.

$$N M = A C L - S ( A / C F )$$

where ;  $N M$  = net migration.

$A C L$  = size of actual age category in the last census.

$A / C F$  = survival ratio of the same age category in the previous census.

Assuming external migration zero or near zero, and requires elaborate and precise life-tables, in which could be constructed on the basis of accurate vital statistics.\*

Balancing Equation; net migration is the difference between

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(\*) Researchers who relied on this technique include Magdy M. Sharaa (1964); M.A. El-Sharnouby (1968); A. Nassef (1973) and A. Zikry (1965).

any change in the size of a given population and the natural increase during a specified period.

$$N M = C P - T I$$

where N M = net migration

C P = change in population in a given period.

T I = natural increase during the same period.

It assumes also, zero external migration and requires accurate data on birth and death rates.\*

#### EVOLUTION OF INTERNAL MIGRATION

Few studies estimated Egypt's internal migration before 1917, due to the failure of the census data to allow the estimating and the phenomenon was not yet substantial in magnitude. Egyptian researchers afterwards who pioneered\*\* this aspect of migration studies, we can summarize the results of their studies as follows:

(a) Population movements across administrative boundaries, movements are premised from data indicating the portion of Egypt's population residing at the time of the census in an administrative unit different from that of place of birth. It amounted to roughly 0.25 million in 1907, 1.2 million in 1917, 1.6 million by 1927; slightly levelling out to 1.5 million in 1937, 2.4 million in 1947 and 4.6 million 1960. Such movements may be estimated at roughly 6.0 million by 1970 and 8.0 million by 1976. In turn, at present, nearly one out of every five Egyptians has changed his place of birth to a different place of residence at least once in his lifetime.\*\*\*

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- (\*) Researches who relied on this technique include M.A. El-Badry (1965); A. Zikry (1965); S. Abdel-Hakim (1957). Both indirect techniques have used by several Egyptian researches (Abdel-Hakim 1966, 1975).  
(\*\*) M. Sobhy Abdel-Hakim (1957; 1966; 1968; 1974; 1975), Saad Zaghloul Hassan (1966), Abdel-Fattah Nassef (1973), and William H. Tadros (1967).  
(\*\*\*) Abdel-Hakim (1975), Nassef (1973), El-Sharnouby (1968).



(b) Net migration among administrative governorates , net migration is the differences between in-migrants and out-migrants for each of Egypt's administrative units (i.e. governorates ). Net migration was about 0.25 million in 1917, 0.375 million 1927, 0.226 million 1937, 0.636 million by 1937 and 3 million by 1960 , and also 4.8 million by 1976.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION , internal migration may include rural-urban movement, inter-city, and inter-rural movements. Due to the census data is given on the level of governorates as administrative units , it does not allow an accurate picture of the trends and directions of all three types of movements . However, the fact that some of the Egyptian governorates are mostly urban and others are mostly rural with some urban centers, it could be assumed that the movement from the latter to the former is a rural-urban migration .

Internal migration has generally been; from South to North, from South and North to the Canal Zone, from all of Egypt's hinterland to Cairo and Alexandria; and from Egypt's Center to its peripheries. The biggest move of migration streams in Cairo Metropolitan (Greater Cairo, which includes Cairo city, Giza across the Nile and Shubra El-Khema<sup>\*\*</sup>).

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNAL MIGRANTS , most of the studies concentrated on their age and sex composition, and the rest tried to describe their occupational , educational , and psychological profiles. The general conclusions are; that the dominance of Males over Females; Young over Old age and Non-Select migrants over Select migrants .

(\*) . For example , about 38% of Cairo population in 1960 was not born there but came over years from elsewhere in the country. While about 10% of the Cairo-born population were residing in other governorates. Which means that about 28% of Cairo residents represent a net migration gain .

(\*\*) . M. Sharnouby, 1968 ; M. Sharaa, 1964 , and M. El-Kurdy, 1974).



THE MIGRATION DECISION--MAKING PROCESS, minor attention been winded to the decision-making process of migration . It seems that Communication, Inducement<sup>\*\*</sup> and Facilitators<sup>\*\*\*</sup> are the three variables in the decision to migrate among all those who have similar socioeconomic-psychological profiles.

FACTORS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION, many authors have classified dynamics of migration into ,push factors (of an economic nature)i.e. negative features of the home environment ,and- pull factors refer to positive features of an alternative milieu.Many studies have stressed rural poverty (push factors),high urban income (pull factors) as most important factors, but the income differential is the relevant facor. The issue of rural-urban income differential has been treated in detail by authors:particulary in developed countries.In under-developing countries the treatment of such comparisons are made without qualifying the results, ( Lewis 1967, and Todaro 1971 ), because the most common comparison is between average rural incomes and the wage rate in the modern urban sector .The probability of obtaining an urban job is a function of investments turned to the economic sectors and the related service sectors, regardless if the country's economy planned or not. Studies on Egypt's push factors of internal migration pointed out the following causes; demographic pressure<sup>1</sup> (the relation between population density and the cultivated land in areas of origin ), Economic opportunities decline<sup>2</sup> ( landless families increment ,land fragmentation , unavailability of work opportunities, and low levels of wage ), Services and other social amenities scarcity<sup>3</sup> , (the

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(\*).Ouda, 1974, and S.I.Saad, 1976.

(\*).Cuda, 1974, direct inducement accounted for 16%, while indirect inducement (modeling-emulation) and firm job offers accounted for 13% .

(\*\*).Ouda, 1977 and S.I.Saad, 1977).at industrial migrant workers in Shubra El-kheima , 72% reported relatives as facilitators, 24% friends or (baladiyyat), but only 30% had firm assurances.

relative deprivation in some areas particularly Cairo and Alexandria at the expense of provincial capitals and smaller towns ), Political factors<sup>4</sup> , (forced migration, Nubia and the High dam, and 1967 war and the Suez canal cities migration), and at last, the grip of rigid customs<sup>5</sup> . At last, push factors have been strongest at work in the recent years in the governorates of Menoufia, Sohag, Kena, Asyut, Damietta, Dakhlia, and Behaira . Pull factors, justification of the problem is to say that for every push factor there is a complementary pull factor, so, the push factors underline the decision to leave the community of origin , it is the pull factors which determine where to go<sup>6</sup>. Studies on Egypt's pull factors of internal migration pointed out the following causes; economic factors attraction<sup>7</sup>, (higher wages are cited by about 85% of migrants, Egyptians would go where opportunities for employment and/or higher wages exist), socio-cultural services<sup>8</sup>, (seems responsible for about 15% of internal migration); concentration of political power<sup>9</sup>, (those who are ambitious and authority interests migrate to Cairo; in addition, resources allocation is almostly a political decision), Finally, most studies of Egyptian internal migration have shown that concentration of economic opportunities , services, and political power

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(1). Abdel Hakim, 1966, 1975; El sharnouby 1967, 1968; Nassef, 1974; El-Kurdy, 1975; S. Ibrahim, 1974, 1975, 1977.

(2). Fadil, 1978; INP-ILO, 1968; El-Sherif, 1954; M Abdel Rahim, 1971; El-Magdoub, 1972; CAMPAS, 1973 ).

(3). Abdel Hakim, 1975; El-Kurdy 1975; Fadil, 1978; S. Ibrahim, 1977.

(4). M.E.A. Attiya, 1972; T.I. Abdel-Malek, 1975; Sara Loza, 1973.

(5) Fadil, 1978; Ouda, 1979; S. Ibrahim, 1975.

(6) S. Ibrahim , 1980.

(7) Ouda, 1979, S.I. Saad 1976, INP-ILO, 1968; Hegazy, 1971; Farag F, 1970.

(8) Ouda, 1979; Hegazy, 1971; El-Kurdy, 1974; S. Ibrahim, 1974; M. Nagi, 1974, Fadil, 1978.

(9) S. Ibrahim, 1975, Fadil, 1978.

in Egypt's major urban areas especially Cairo and Alexandria has made them pull magnets of the country from both rural and other smaller urban areas .

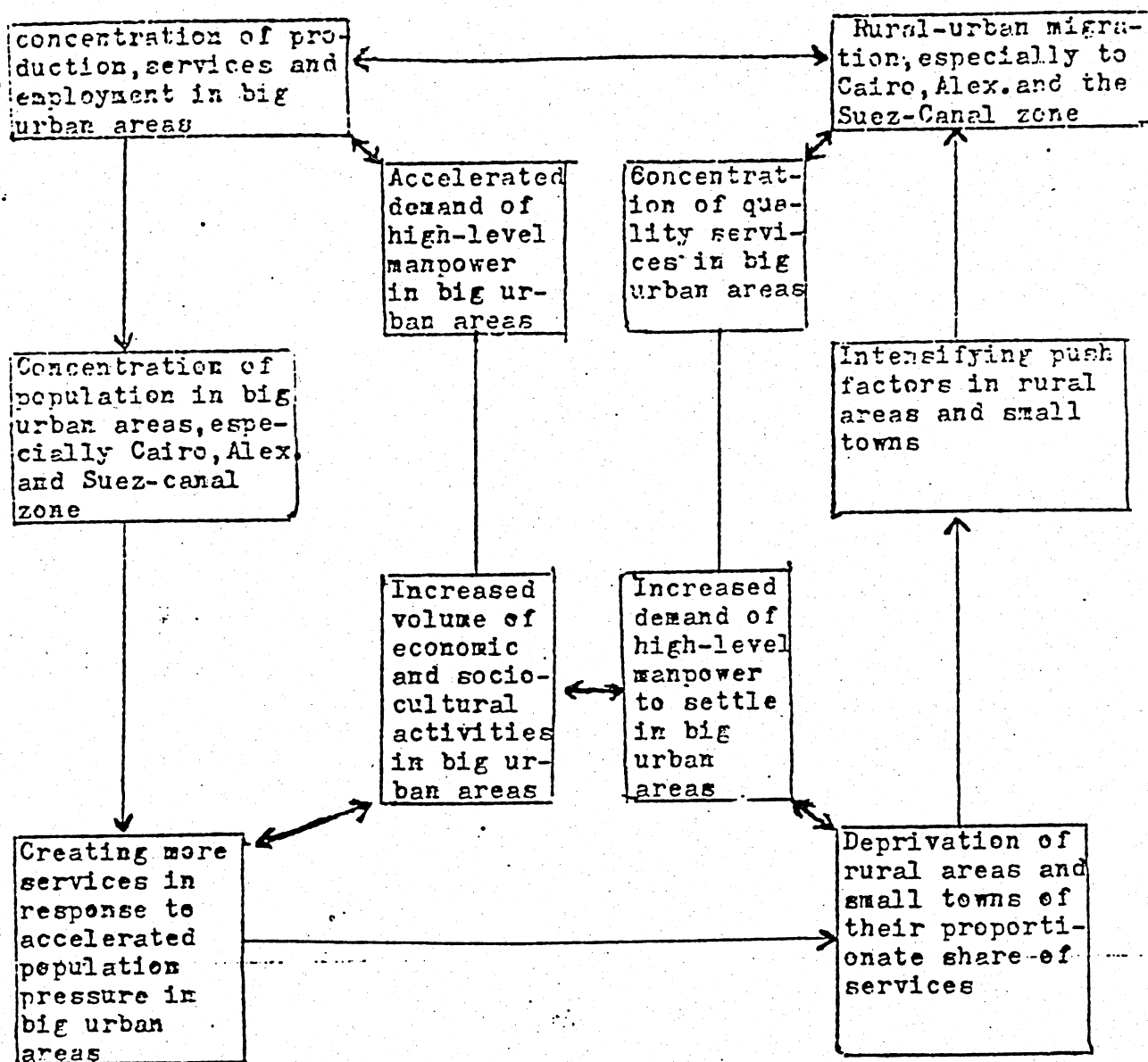
SIGNIFICANCE OF INTERNAL MIGRATION , the rapid growth, the substantial magnitude and the unbalanced directions of Egypt's internal migration made its consequences complex and multitude. Studies on Egyptian migration have been concentrated on social consequences, and pointed out the following consequences; demographic consequences, the changing of Egypt's population distribution and composition, through urbanization rapid extension and the selective nature process of migration which lead to population composition change; economic consequences, it assumes that , other things being equal, migration is a function of optimum productivity, (Todaro, 1971); but (S.Ibrahim.1980), mentioned that it does not operate freely because wage differentials are not the only cause; our judgment and as indicated by Eyerlee & Elcher, 1974, the supply price of labour will vary depending on whether the individual or household is the decision-making unit; if the marginal productivity of labour is less than the average productivity, the household as the decision-making unit could subsidize a migrant in town; Social consequences, about 40% of the studies have focused exclusively or partly on social consequences, and its negative structural consequences on society and

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- (1). Abdel-hakim, 1975; CAMPAS, 1971/73; S.Ibrahim, 1975; I.M. Eld and A. Hilal, 1974; Medhat M. Aly, 1965).
  - (2). Abdel-Hakim, 1975; CAMPAS, 1971; S.E. Ibrahim, 1975; El-Sharnouby, 1968; El-Kurdy, 1974 ; El-Mafy , 1965; A. Nassef, 1972.
  - (3). O. Allam, 1970; G. Madbouly, 1976; H. Fahim, 1976; H. El-Saaty, 1958;
  - (4). Fadel, 1970; S. Ibrahim, 1975; El-Magdoub, 1972; M. Pasha, 1974; El-Sherif, 1954; Abdel-Rahim, 1971, El-Nimr, 1979; S. Ibrahim, 1979; Hegazy, 1971; Hassan, 1973; S.I. Saad, 1976.

mixed (some positive and some negative) consequences of migration on individuals involved.

INTERACTION OF FACTORS GOVERNING RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION



(\*). After, S. Ibrahim, 1980.



# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNAL MIGRATION STUDIES

Conceptual framework offered for consideration may be treated as that man is migratory creature by nature; and that migration is a dynamic system. The migration system, as suggested by Goldscheider, 1971; first-time migrants, return migrants, streams and counter streams to and from areas of origin and areas of destination.

(a) Movers from an area of origin (X) to an area of destination (Y), subdivided into first-time movers (Ia) and return movers (Ib).

(b) The population within the area of origin (X),  
movers within the area of origin (IIa)  
nonmovers within the area of origin (IIb)

(c) Movers from the area of origin (X)  
to all areas of destination (Z)  
excluding area (Y)  
first-time movers (IIIa)  
return movers (IIIb)

(d) The population within the area of destination (Y)  
movers within the area of destination (IVa)  
nonmovers within the area of destination (IVb)

(e) Movers from the area of destination (Y)  
to the area of origin (counterstream) (X)  
first time movers (Va)  
return movers (Vb)

(f) Movers from the area of destination (Y)  
to all areas of destination (Z)  
excluding the area of origin (X)  
first-time movers (VIa)  
return movers (VIb)

(g) Movers from all areas (Z)  
excluding the area of origin (X)  
to the area of destination (Y)  
first-time movers (VIIa)  
return movers (VIIb)

(h) Movers from all areas (Z)  
excluding the area of destination (Y)  
to the area of origin (X)  
first-time movers (VIIIa)  
return movers (VIIIb)

(i) The population of all areas (Z)  
excluding the area of origin (X)  
and the area of destination (Y)  
movers between and within the area (Z(IXa))  
nonmovers within area (Z(IXb))

## The Migration System

		Destination	
Origin	Area Y	Area X	Area Z
Area X	Ia/Ib	IIa/IIb	IIIa/IIIb
Area Y	IVa/IVb	Va/Vb	VIa/VIb
Area Z	VIIa/VIIb	VIIIa/VIIIb	IXa/IXb
Ia. First-time movers X to Y	Vb. Return movers Y to X		
Ib. Return movers X to Y	VIa. First-time movers Y to Z		
IIa. Movers within X	VIIb. Return movers Y to Z		
IIb. Nonmovers within X	VIIIa. First-time movers Z to Y		
IIIa. First-time movers X to Z	VIIb. Return movers Z to Y		
IIIb. Return movers X to Z	VIIIa. First-time movers Z to X		
IVa. Return movers X to Z	VIIIb. Return movers Z to X		
IVb. Nonmovers within Y	IXa. Movers within Z		
Va. First-time movers Y to X	IXb. Nonmovers within Z		

(\*). Source; Goldscheider, 1971, pp. 54-55), modified by S. Ibrahim, 1980.

The system is not closed and many comparisons may be made depending on the analytical problem being investigated.

The Selectivity process, the description of the socioeconomic characteristics, particularly marital status, occupation and education should be covered by censuses and surveys; Structural features, of both areas of origin and areas of destination, particularly, Wage differentials, land tenure distribution and other economic services, emphasizing to cover both ends of the migratory stream and counter-stream.

The Decision-Making process, vast amount of authors created the theory of decision-making. However, the decision-making process would include; needed information, thinking of migration, inducers and their direct (communicative persuasion) or indirect (sheer ambition) influence, inhibitors, and facilitators.

Consequences of migration, migration system should be treated as input-output system, implies inputs as processes of interaction among inputs and outputs defined in conventional terms as consequences.

Conclusions and Research proposals

The gaps in the knowledge about Egypt's internal migration have shown very briefly . So, we suggest the following areas of study for future work to qualify and quantify internal migration and in turn the transit migration to the petroleum and non-petroleum Arab countries ,because of its interacted nature;

- a) The Rural-Rural migration , particularly in lower Egypt , and from upper Egypt to lower Egypt (the ordinary stream), i.e. Intera-governorate migration .
- b) Rural-Urban migration , mechanism through quantification the factors of effect .
- c) Urban-Rural migration , by considering present factors of repulsion from urban areas to rurals , inside the frame of infra-structure and services improvement in these areas .

Finally , it is essential to study the wage differentials and the shadow wage influence on internal migration and counter migration and its impact on the socio-economic system in Egypt .

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