

Seasonal Economic Impact of Date Fruit on Nomads

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Abstract: Nomads are those people who wander repeatedly from one place to another in search of their surveillance. Pastoral tinker gatherer and the traders are three major groups of nomads, they usually rush to the regions where they find good livelihood opportunities. Major objective of this paper is to bring forth the economic implications of their migrations from region to region. This research aims at enlightening the causes of migration of nomads into Khairpur District and socio economic implications of the seasonal employment opportunity arising in the date's fruit season. For, the growers of date's fruit getting expert and trustworthy workers/nomads has remained a difficult task every season The basic reason is that, the growers seldom pay the due wages to the nomadic laborers, even they could not feed them properly, for, often the nomad worker eat more than a normal native worker, however nomads worker have proved to be more strong enough to face the scorching heat of sun; dedicated and durable workers. Yet, their comparatively over-eating has been problematic for the growers. Often the seasonal workers are made to work for more than usual working time , rather, they are not paid the overtime wage, for which neither the growers are pressurized nor the nomads make any hue and cry.

Keywords: *Nomads, Seasonal Economic, Date Fruits*

1. Introduction

Pakistan is a linguistically multidimensional country, having diverse social, economic and cultural background with several economic opportunities in different fields. There can be more than 60% of population live in rural areas of which about 50% is unsure of the next livelihood to come from. Many of such those wandering families remain un-registered. Thus many of them do not get proper recognition in the society. That make them more downtrodden and

restless. Resultantly they live unorganized, minority populated, and scheduled tribes and the backward. Nomadism is pre-history lifestyle. The spread of nomads into the settled civilization marked with early history of ancient Egypt and Babylonia and reached their peak with the great invasion of western Asia by the Mongols in the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries by Chinggis Khan, Halak Khan and Temur Ling (Rubel, 1976, 1998). The nomads coming to Khairpur in date's fruit season have always been welcomed and given a handsome opportunity in the economic opportunities.

2. Literature Review

Seasonal Employment

Worldwide Seasonal employment has remained a major source of the medieval workers who are found all over the world often in the sojourn of their livelihood as the seasonal employment is a type of the employment falling in certain season throughout the world. It begins and ends at different times in different regions. It does not continue longer than few months in the specific. Thus it occurs time and again cyclically making it to be a source of attraction the downtrodden and distressed people of different regions providing the employment opportunities for those people. As soon as the season is off the employers wind up their businesses while the employees pack their luggage's to find the other destiny (A report by "Neil Buhne a representative/ coordinator of United Nations for the UNDP in Pakistan released on Feb. 2019").

Furthermore it depends upon the nature of the work or the crop as some crop take few months while the others take few weeks to go so it is always considered to be the periodical one, for, it recurs only in a particular season or period of time of the year in a particular region. For example the date's fruit growers look forward for the workers due to the shortage of the indigenous workers. Similarly some where the cotton grower's need the workers for cotton picking and it also last for few weeks. Nonetheless the other seasonal crops last for just few weeks. Worldwide people are found to migrate to the regions where ever they find their livelihood. And often they migrate as per their traits and traveling capabilities. Somewhere, they travel in the radius of 20 to 30 kilometers, while somewhere nomads travel beyond the radius of 500 to 1000 kilometers or even beyond depending upon the surveillance of their herds or the dependent.

Major types of the nomadic workers

3. Historical Background Of Date's Fruit Crop at glance

Crop wise dates are grown in various countries of world since time immemorial. Asia is the biggest continent where dates are grown on large scale, where almost 65 million dates trees are fruit bearing and almost 6 million trees are at the glooming age. The major Asian countries where dates are grown are Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, The UAE, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, and Pakistan, whereas on the second it comes African Continent and the major countries where almost 34 million trees are fruit bearing, The major African countries where dates garden are grown are Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Niger, Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Libya and Monaco.

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Worldwide the production of dates fruit stands approximately 6.5 million metric tons according to the statistics report of the FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of which Pakistan share stood up to 750000 tones till the year 2019. Whereas Iran is cutting off the dates trees in the region and UAE and Pakistan both are increasing the number. However, since past few years in some areas of Pakistan the dates trees are being demolished due to the fungus. In Pakistan date's fruit is grown over about Acres 3, 00,000 (1, 20,000) Hectors about one fifth 59,000 Acers (20,000 Hectors) are shared by Khairpur District. Date's fruit is richest fruit among all the fruits, for, a single date's fruit is having about 200 to 250 calories; no other fruit comprises such a huge quantity of the calories. Sindh and Baluchistan Provinces are having favorable environmental conditions for the Dates crop. In Sindh Khairpur , Sukkur, and some parts of NaosheroFeroz Districts are having the favorable environmental conditions for the date's plants .

4. Theoretical& Factual Figures of Date Crop

Seasonal employment often is taken to be the most common coping strategy adopted by the nomads in order to stabilize their livelihood, and also to adopt the changing climatic, political, economic and the social changes . It is the only source of reaching the seasonal economic for all those poor people who are left with no other option than to look for the other source of income. In the human history the migration from one region to the other to sustain the livelihood is a key feature (SriVastav and Sasi Kumar 2003). Thus, it is an attempt of the families in which they change their temporary location for their surveillance.

This study, therefore, examines the process of seasonal employment in respect of nomadic flow into District Khairpur. The research findings reveal that the seasonal employment opportunity is the supplementary livelihood for the nomadic communities who otherwise would live a miserable life.

Table showing the number of nomadic groups

S. No	Type	Singularly	Families	Average saving	Multiplication	Grand in Million Pak Rup
I.	Pastoral	00	9000	57294	9000x57294	630.0
II.	Laborer	90000	4000	8500	110000x8500	930.0
III.	Residual gatherers	00	12000	44786	12000x44786	537.4
IV.	Artisans	5000	800	22000	22000x800	17.60
V.	Beggars	2000	10000	13500	5000x 13500	67.500
VI.	Others		32000	8500	8000x8500	680.0
		Grand total earning of the nomads				2862.5

Significance of the Study

- *In this paper it is attempted to give an exposure to Dates crop of this District*
- *Also it is aimed to watch the economic implications of the nomadic flow in the date's crop season on the economy of Khairpur as well as that of the nomads coming to District Khairpur.*

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5. Diverse Nomads and their Flow to Khairpur District.

5.1 Pastoral or Herder Nomads.

Pastoral or herder nomads are those nomads whose surveillance is the greenery or the region where there free grass is available. It is estimated that, in Pakistan about 0.4 million people belong to the pastoral group of nomads of which about one and a half Lakhs come to District Khairpur every year.

6.2 Residual Gatherer Nomads.

Some people engage themselves in the profession of gathering the residuals of the agro products like that of wheat, rice, cotton and Date's fruit. So in the Date's fruit season people from all the corners come to collect the residuals of the Date's fruit.

6.3 The Job Seeking/ Laboring Nomads.

These are the nomadic class of people who constantly move from one place to another place having the objective to work for their clients. Their lifestyle is little bit better as compared to the other types of the other nomadic people, for, they are aware of spending their earnings very well as compared to the other groups

6.4 Artisan Nomads

These are those nomadic people who have specialization of some typical work like cotton picking dates fruit plucking wooden basket making, herbs sheets making and such other proficiency. These nomadic people are classified as to be the occupational nomads.

7.1 Causes of the Nomadic Flow to Khairpur

Khairpur District is going to be a safe haven for the aliens. Khairpur is gradually becoming an economic hub. Not only the date's fruit but a variety of other fruits are also grown in district Khairpur. Usually in the Dates fruit seasons the work load increases making a shortage of the laborers, for, there some 78000 Acres of land are gardened with date's fruit orchard are grown and the gardening continues (Ref Bulomomin Date's crop of Khairpur District)



6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this paper a case study data was collected through the survey questionnaires semi structured interviews from the growers , nomads and the business community , also the other quarters doing their economic activities in the ,months of , May, to September were brought in the nexus in order to measure the occurring difference in the business of Khairpur District.Furthermore for the reliable results the data has been collected from different sources including quantitative types, such as house holding survey of the nomads, earnings of nomads and its impact on the indigenous people. In this research empirical observations were given more importance than constructing a theoretical model. Qualitative Data with descriptive statistics was used in order to get answers of the research questions. A total sample of 600 respondents divided in three categories. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics,Pearsoncorrelation, and coefficient and regression analysis.The sample respondents for research purpose were 200 each Nomads I,e the Pastoral, Residual gatherers, and the Laborers and artisans & 400 from the indigenous people the businessmen community while 100 growers are also interviewed; method was non probability based upon seasonal dwellers in the respective areas.

8.2 DATA ANALYSIS

In order to reach the suitable results 600 questionnaires based on 30 questions .The questionnaires were distributed among the concerned respondents of which about 10% to 15% respondents denied to respond hence kept mum and silence.

Data was collected through the questionnaire of Likert style (Uni-polar). However, for the convenience the desired languages, Sindhi Balochi, Siraakei, and Punjabi were used during the conversation. Rather, the questionnaires were prepared in Sindhi language.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.

The survey results show that, the seasonal employment to the nomads in date's fruit season is an economic push-up for them. Likewise, the nomadic flow into District Khairpur is becoming the dire need of the indigenous people. For, in the season labor shortage takes place and the laboring nomads fill that periodical gap, which otherwise may cause a huge loss to the growers of date's fruit. The pastoral nomads are the most beneficent of the season, along with them are the laborer nomads who earn in their medieval period in which they are in a dire need of some economic supplement, which they meet in the season, also the artisans and the residual gatherer nomads not only earn a good amount, but, also they get a new enthusiasm of life. Also some of the nomadic children get partly education or even learn some new crafts when in Khairpur District. Hence, the seasonal nomadic flow into Khairpur District generates new socio-economic opportunities for the nomads and also gears up the economy of Khairpur District. Usually the male workers of nomads earn more than the female nomadic workers. This difference arises because of the division of the labor, as the male workers are given the job of picking the fruit on the trees and transporting/ taking on the shoulders the fruit bunches. Whereas, the female workers are given sorting date's fruit or collecting the dropped/ stray date's job of .Hence, the nomadic womenfolk though is engaged for the employment, but on the lesser wages as compared to the male workers, even some times somewhere the female workers are humiliated. Thus, the female workers on average earn less, rather save more as compared to the male workers.

Seasonal Employment Supplement forthe Poor People.

Seasonal employment has long been part of the lively hood of poor people in Pakistan especially in Sindh. It is now a renowned fact, that, seasonal employment is direly needed for the survival of poor segment of society throughout the world. Even though, formal record on the seasonal migration in to District is lacking, rather some statistical data of the crops grown in Khairpur District are gone through. Which reveal that, about three Lakhs people come into Khairpur District in the date's fruit season and about (60000 to 70000) sixty to seventy thousand people come in the winter season from different regions just to avoid the cold wave of winter at their native regions like Quetta, Peshawar Punjgoor and the other northern regions.

Table showing the Descriptive Statistics of The pastoral Nomads

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Seasonal Earning	122965.12	64358.271	200
Ex	64883.72	31276.535	200
Net Saving	74011.63	116532.802	200
Family size	11.48	4.101	200

The data results of the pastoral nomads show that In a season a pastoral nomadic family saves about 122965 averagely whereas they make expenditure of about Pak Rupees 63884 and their net saving stands as to 74011 and the family size in this research is taken to be 11.48. o in the season

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pastoral nomads are the most beneficent nomads. Who not only save their expenditure in the seasonal migration but also become wealthier during their stay in Khairpur. Positive impact of net saving to seasonal employment

Table showing the Descriptive Statistics Residual gatherer nomads

Period lived	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Saved		40210.431	200
Period Lived (weeks)	107700.00 15.15	2.653	200
Usual Expend:	146500.00	44786.249	200

Table showing the Descriptive Statistics Laboring nomads

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Seasonal Earning	9350.00	4567.397	200
Net saving Period lived	8505.00	4286.751	200
(Weeks)	3.87	4.014	200
Seasonal expenses	810.00	860.995	200

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

Seasonal employment has long been part of the lively hood of poor people in Pakistan especially in Sindh. It is now a renowned fact, that, seasonal employment is direly needed for the survival of poor segment of society throughout the world. This case study has highlighted the different dynamics stuck between the indigenous growers and the nomads also we have tried to highlight the complexity of this form of contingent employment. As the date's fruit season reoccurring in Khairpur District not only needs the consideration of the linear dimensions of time in assessing contingent work but also its cyclical nature. Moreover, findings from our case suggest the need to more closely explore how the indigenous and the nomads affect each other in the season. The major conclusion drawn from this study is the results of pastoral nomads which shows that in the season a pastoral nomadic family saves about Rupees 122950 averagely and made an expenditure of about Pak Rupees 63884 and their net saviong stands Pak Rupees 74011 .Further more positive impact on net saving to seasonal employment is recorded. There is negative and in significant on family size to the seasonal earnings and their living standard also improves to much extent in the season. The research results show that the seasonal nomadic flow into Khairpur District not only generate new economic opportunities but also cause push up in the economy of Khairpur District. Considering the above results following recommendations are

proposed. A talent hunt program may be initiated for the talented artisan nomads. Nomadic people may be given vocational and technical trainings. There is need of empowering the nomadic women folk by giving them skill acquisition trainings to become self-reliant.

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