

**NAME OF SCHOLAR : MD JAWED**

**NAME OF SUPERVISOR : DR SHAHID JAMAL ANSARI**

**NAME OF CO-SUPERVISOR : DR ANIS UR REHMAN**

**DEPTT: CENTER FOR WEST ASIAN STUDIES JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA**

**TITLE: GULF MIGRATION AND SOCIAL CHANGE AMONG MUSLIMS IN INDIA:  
A CASE STUDY OF DISTT. SIWAN, BIHAR**

---

Migration is a universal phenomenon. Migration takes place in two ways; external migration and internal migration. External migration occurs when people migrate from a country to foreign country. On the other hand internal migration occurs from region to region within a country. Migration from India to other countries can be categorized into two phases. In the first phase of migration, migrants were well-educated with technical and professional expertise like doctors, engineers, scientists, teachers, technicians and nurses. Their main destination was United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia and Western Europe. The second phase of emigration began with early 1970s and peaked in the early 1980s. Its destination was mainly towards the oil producing Gulf countries.

Migration from India to the Gulf countries is an age old phenomenon. This process of migration accelerated after the oil boom in 1970s. In the post oil boom period, people from India especially Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Punjab have migrated in substantial number to these Countries. The major reason of their migration is economic. Majority of the migrant workers are young

below thirty years of age and most of them are agricultural labourers who come from the relatively less affluent families.

Migration has a long history in Bihar. Siwan is one of the districts of Bihar state in India. It is one of the largest recipients of Gulf remittances in Bihar. In this context migrants family use remittances for basic consumption and the basic living expenses also in wedding ceremony, funeral kinds of expenses. In the middle income group of families, money is spent on education, health and businesses. In the absence of universal health coverage, remittances are used for big surgeries and operations. It is also observed that remittance recipient families spend more of their income on health and education.

Migration brings a number of changes in the migrants' family condition. The social changes are mainly due to Gulf remittances and a more frequent contact with the host country. Social change refers to an alteration in the social structure of a social group or society, i.e., a change in the nature, social institutions, social behaviors' or social relations of a society. Social change is a very basic term and must be assigned further context. It may refer to the notion of social progress or socio-cultural evolution; the philosophical ideas that society moves forward by dialectical or evolutionary means.

With regard to social impact of Gulf migration on migrants' family, it is noticed that due to Gulf remittances they have experienced many social changes. The form of family is now changing from joint to nuclear. Their economic condition has improved. Remittance receiving families spend a major part of their wealth more on health and education. On the cultural aspect, not only the practice of dowry but the amount as well has increased. Religious belief system and practices have also undergone changes.