

# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION IN WEST ASIA

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the Dissertation entitled INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION IN WEST ASIA submitted by Mr. S. Arasu in fulfilment of Nine credits out of total requirements of twenty four credits for the award of the Degree of MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (M.Phil.) of this University, is his original work and may be placed before the Examiners and evaluation. This Dissertation has not been submitted for the award of any other Degree of this University or of any other university to the best of our knowledge.

(Prof. M.L. Sonchi)  
CHAIRPERSON

(Prof. R.C. Sharma)  
SUPERVISOR

DEDICATED TO MY PARENTS

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My heartfelt thanks to Mr. Venkat for having helped me in finishing the work in time by sitting even throughout late in the nights. The A.P. Computers deserve a great appreciation for their cooperation.

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(S. ARASU)

## CONTENTS

|      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| I.   | Introduction : Conceptual Frame Work, Survey of Literature and Methodology           | 1   |
| II.  | Process and Pattern of Urbanization in Third World : With Reference to West Asia     | 32  |
| III. | Evolution and Trends of Urbanization in West Asia.                                   | 65  |
| IV.  | Modernization, Development and International Migration and Urban Growth in West Asia | 107 |
| V.   | Consequences of Urban Growth and Urban Policies in West Asia                         | 145 |
|      | Conclusion   |     |
|      | Bibliography   |     |

## LIST OF TABLES

- Table No.
- 2.1. Percentage of Population Living in Urban Areas and Annual Growth Rate of Urban Population, by Major Area and Region, 1970 and 2000.
  - 3.1. Rural-Urban Migration as Percentage.
  - 3.2. Trends of Urbanization in West Asian Countries, 1950-2000.
  - 3.3. City Size Class of West Asian Region 1950-2025.
  - 3.4. Percentage of Urban Population and Average Annual of change of Urban Agglomeration, 1 million or more inhabitants in West Asia by 1990.
  - 3.5. Population in Urban Agglomeration (2 million and above in West Asian Countries, 1990.
  - 4.1. Sectoral Distribution of the Labour Force, 1960-1980.
  - 4.2. Non-national Work Force and Population in the West Asian Countries, 1975 and 1985.
  - 4.3. Non-national Population in the West Asian Countries, 1975 and 1985.
  - 4.4. Migrant Workers in the West Asian Region by Countries or Employment, 1975 and 1985.
  - 4.5. Migrant Workers in West Asian Countries by Country of Origin and Employment, 1980.
  - 4.6. Annual Outflow of Contract Migrants from selected Asian Countries.
  - 4.7. Number of Foreign Labour Force in West Asian Countries, by Country of Origin, 1985.
  - 4.8. Relation between Economy and Urban Levels in the Asian Countries.
  - 4.9. Relationship between Economy and Urban Growth.

## LIST OF GRAPHS

### Figure No.

- 2.1 Urban Population.
- 3.1 Urban Population Trends in West Asian Region.
- 4.1 Migrant Workers in West Asian Region.
- 4.2 Flows of Temporary Workers to West Asian from Selected Asian Countries, 1975-86.
- 4.3 Migrant Workers in West Asian Countries.

## LIST OF FIGURES

### Figure No.

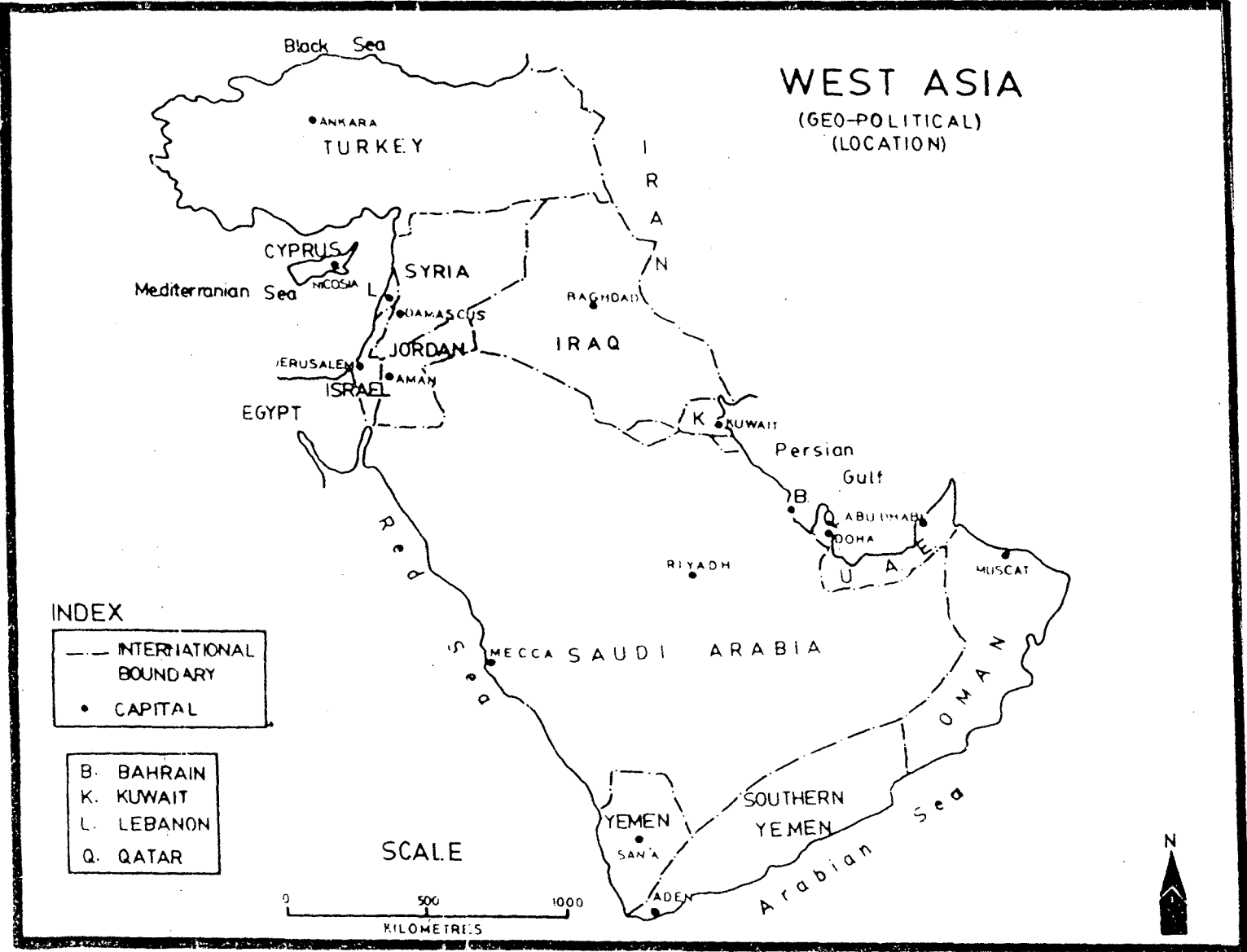
1. Geo-Political Location of West Asian Countries.
- 3.1 City-Size Distribution in West Asian Countries, 1973.
- 3.2 Concentration of Urban Population Large Cities, 1990.

### Abbreviations/Acronyms

|          |                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| D.Yemen  | Democratic Yemen                     |
| U.A.E.   | United Arab Emirates                 |
| S.A.     | Saudi Arabia                         |
| U.N.     | United Nations                       |
| G.D.P.   | Gross Domestic Product               |
| G.N.P.   | Gross National Product               |
| C.A.C    | Cross Activity Rate                  |
| E.C.W.A. | Economic Commission for<br>West Asia |



# WEST ASIA (GEO-POLITICAL) (LOCATION)

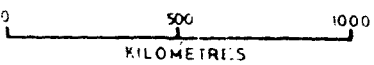


### INDEX

— INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY  
• CAPITAL

B. BAHRAIN  
K. KUWAIT  
L. LEBANON  
Q. QATAR

### SCALE



**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION:**

**CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK, SURVEY OF LITERATURE AND METHODOLOGY**

## INTRODUCTION

The Urban transition constitutes a great human transformation, comparable to the domestication of plants and animals ten thousand years ago when the first urban settlements were established in the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates. However, as in the beginning of this century only one in eight people lived in an urban areas. The twentieth century is the century of the urban transition. By the end of the century, nearly half of the world's population, close to three billion people, will live in urban settlements<sup>1</sup>.

Although modern urbanization is a universal phenomenon, its character and speed differ from region to region and country to country, depending on factors like population growth, levels of development and socio-economic structures<sup>2</sup>. Presently, more than forty per cent of urban population lives in urban areas. This will increase to more than fifty per cent after the turn of the century<sup>3</sup>. One of the important features of the twentieth century has been the unprecedented growth of urban population<sup>4</sup>, particularly in Third World countries. Rafae M. Sales, pointed out that, in 1970 the total urban population of the developed regions was almost 30 million more than developing regions. Only five years later the position was reversed and by 1985 the

difference had widened to more than 300 million. By the year 2000 A.D. the urban population of developing countries will be almost doubled that of the developed ones<sup>5</sup>.

Cities within the developing regions manifest important differences, reflecting the regions state of development and peculiarities of its urban structures and history. While the cities are growing at a rapid pace and an ever increasing proportion of the total population<sup>6</sup>. Particularly, a growing proportion of the urban population will be in the bigger cities<sup>7</sup>. It is believed that by the year 2000 A.D., at least 20 largest cities will be in the developing countries. No development policies or population policies for that matter, can afford to ignore this fact.

Urbanization in the developing countries currently is more heavily influenced by high rates of natural increase - the simple difference between fertility. and more levels of<sup>8</sup>; in combination with migration to urban areas. As a major factor in the rural-urban shift in population is the actual or the perceived disparities in economic opportunities and in social and cultural between urban and rural areas, called as "urban bias<sup>9</sup>". Alongwith various 'push and pull' factors are influencing in many countries,

rural to urban migration and especially immigration to 'primate' cities or 'capital' cities, which increasing partial polarization.

Concurrently, to the extent that such migration is not fully justified by economic development of the city, it results together with rapid urban growth, in perpetuating massive urban poverty in the midst of those locations which also represent the economic, cultural, social, political and usually most modern centres of the nations. The net result is that both economic and spatial polarization because mutually reinforcing<sup>10</sup>. Moreover, serious disequilibrium in the growth of the urban centres, contamination of the environment of adequate housing and social services, and social and psychological stress etc.<sup>11</sup> have also resulted.

In the case of West Asia, urbanization is an ancient phenomenon influenced by political and technological developments, production of goods and services, demographic patterns and civilization dimensions<sup>12</sup>. As with the urban settlements from any region of the world, it is impossible to identify a classic and discrete urban pattern which is the exclusive product of these countries. Like all regions and to a greater extent perhaps that most urban forms in the

West Asia have been the results of a large variety of historical circumstances and the changes in culture which they have created (Roberts, 1978)<sup>13</sup>.

Urbanization in the West Asian countries exhibits poorly inter related components, in terms of its social, economical and physical infrastructures. Abulghod rightly emphasised that despite the cultural unity created by common language, history and religion, comparatively high levels of development commonly found, the various sub regions and political states in the contemporary Arab world differs from one another not only interms of their present day economic, cultural and urban characteristics but also in terms of of the past economy and urbanization based upon which present developments are being imposed<sup>14</sup>.

In the West Asian countries, international capitalism and western technology manipulated economic activities derived from oil, thus widening the gap between petro economic activities and the distribution of income<sup>15</sup>. This adversely affected the role of the tribe as a social political unit and has prompted cultural-political changes as well as changes in urban development and population structures.

This trend of urbanization will result in a hyper concentration of investment and development activities in only a few large urban centres. This will lead to wide disparity in levels of development resulting in perpetual social and economic tensions between the developed 'core' and underdeveloped 'periphery'.

Perhaps, because of the scale and rapid pace of urbanization, along with unidirectional pattern of migration, urbanization has been more a function of 'push' from rural areas than a 'pull' from urban centres<sup>16</sup>. Abu-lughod (1984), correspondingly, through increased petroleum production and prices to the status of core economic and strategic powers. Their wealth has made them the recipients of international migration and consequently they have been urbanizing at an extremely rapid rate<sup>17</sup>. Although, the exact number of labour migrants may not be known, the range of the estimates is relatively narrow. Yet may not infer simply, as suggested by Shaw (1979)<sup>18</sup>.

However, the steady growth of cities, overtaxed urban facilities many private cities have not provided even bare necessities for their own people, as well as to their new residents. The rapid urban growth created lot of problems. like housing shortages, slum and squatter settlements, water problem, poverty and so on. The growing

urban population requires planning strategies that would enable urban areas to provide adequate public services to residents. However, the diverse conditions in West Asian countries pose themselves tremendous challenges to urban planners and policy makers<sup>19</sup>.

Therefore, it is essential to examine the influence of economic development and labour force migration on urbanization and their different types of problems which are unique in many ways and therefore deserves special attention.

## CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK

### Urbanization, Migration and Economic Development

Generally, urbanization refers to the proportion of population residing within urban limits, particularly the proportion of population engaged in non-agricultural activities, or otherwise we can say it as, the proportion of population engaged in secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy in urban centres. Demographically, it is an increase in the proportion of the urban population to the total population over a period of time. As long as there is an increase in this proportion there is urbanization. Usually it takes place in two ways; the expansion of the



size of existing urban units and; the appearance of new urban units<sup>20</sup>. Urbanization is a continuous and complex process. It is continuous in the sense that it involves becoming urban, moving towards cities. Demographers believe that half of the urban population growth in developing countries is due to natural increase and the rest due to migration from the country side<sup>21</sup>. It is concluded that by many studies that the proportion of natural increase may not be solely responsible for the present urban process in third world countries. Migration is considered to be an important factor contributing to the urbanization of a given territory, especially rural-to-urban migration is a moving force behind the urbanization. Since migration process is a complex one<sup>22</sup>, number of factors contribute to this process.

Various historical, geographical, economic and social sciences have attempted to develop their own theories and model to explain, predict and understand the process of human migration. Jansen attempted to cover all moves under a general heading called 'pull-push' hypothesis<sup>23</sup>. It is generally recognized that the first systematic attempt to generate 'law' of<sup>24</sup> migration made by E.G. Ravenstein (1885), and Everett, Lee (1966) revived Ravenstein work some eighty years after its original work. His conventional,

simple 'model' of migration considers migration, as a movement in response to a service of 'push' and 'pull' from the region of origin to the destination<sup>25</sup>.

In connection with "Laws of Migration" one can cite the names of Todaro (1969); Wollpert (1967); Pryor (1974); and so on<sup>26</sup>. From the models and the studies put forward on migration, one can trace out some basic laws or behaviour pattern. The 'pull' factors, when people are attracted by the advantages of a new place the benefits are regarded as the pull factors (B.N. Ghosh<sup>27</sup> 1985). The most commonly mentioned 'push' factors are lack of sufficient or productive land; alternative economic and medical services; poor educational facilities; and in some places lack of security and potential natural disasters. (Butter Worth, 1981), and also, poverty<sup>28</sup>, the attraction of city and so on.

### Economic Model

The basic economic model of migration assumes that potential migrants rationally weigh the cost and returns of migration. Todaro model, the decision to migrate from rural to urban area is functionally related to two principal variables. The rural urban real income differentials and the probability of obtaining a job in urban areas<sup>30</sup>. The model given by Lewis (1954) and later formulated and extended by

Fai and Rains (1961) postulated that the process of labour transferred as well as the growth of out put in the modern sector and the growth of employment in the modern sector<sup>31</sup>. Although the Lewis-Fei, Rains models are simple it conforms to the western experience in variance with the realities of migration and under development in most of the third world. Herrick (1965). The migration was stimulated in part by the nature of the labour demand emanating from the new industrial towns.... this of course implicitly makes the motivation wholly economic<sup>32</sup>.

There are numerous micro studies have revealed that, the economic rationale does seem to be an important propelling force behind rural-urban migration in the developing countries<sup>33</sup>. The burden on cultivable land in rural areas 'pushes' into urban areas, the people who search for jobs in the industry, trade, banking, communication, public and private sectors<sup>34</sup>.

#### Sex and age Selectivity

Migration is a 'selective process' which affects individual with certain economic, social educational and cultural characters. Analysing selectivities of migration is a 'modified decision making model' that emphasises the structural constrains with in which individual decisions are

exercised. As in the push-pull model, determinants of decisions to migrate can be divided into two categories structural and psychological structural variables reflect the potential of migrants position and within the opportunities system. Shaw (1975), sex is another bio-demographical fact upon which migration theory is built. Although it has generally been held that males are more migratory than female, current research indicated that not only is sex lesser selectivity in migration than age, but it is less uniform over time and space<sup>35</sup>.

#### Circular Movement Model

Circulation is a type of non-permanent movement which is primarily based on socio-economic factors. Findlay (1987) differentiates population movement on the basis of types of interaction migration forces<sup>36</sup>. Pronthro, pointed out, the contemporary population mobility operating at a faster pace in third world societies than else where, ... By comparision, there is only fragmentary evidence of post circular movements in the more developed part of the world<sup>37</sup>. This circulation movements can be subdivide into four main groups - daily, periodic, seasonal and long term. All these movements vary much in the third world countries particularly, Africa and Latin America and some part of Asiā region.

## THEORIES OF URBAN-RURAL INTERACTION: "URBAN BIAS"

"The most important class conflict in the poor country of the world today is not between labour and capital. Nor is it between foreign and national interests. It is between the rural class and the urban class" (Lipton, 1977, p.13). Many observers now believe that internal migration adversely affects the welfare of source areas primarily rural (see Lipton 1988<sup>39</sup>,

The recent works of Lipton, Stohr and Taylor, built on these concepts and taken together provide a range of theoretical stands to view urban-rural interaction.

Three basic and interrelated ideas have dominated much of literature on urban rural links. The 'growth poles' concept, 'Top-down' development and the conceptualization of cities as being either 'parasitic' or 'generative'<sup>40</sup>. see (Rondinelli (1985); and Michal and 'O' Hare (1987).

## DEPENDENCY THEORY

The ideological orientation of 1950's and 1960's. The concept of 'dependency' is the emerging frontier, particularly in the third world countries (Butter Worth,

1981, p.192). To explain the lack of economic growth in the underdeveloped world, these studies emphasis such variables as class structure, class domination, and international dependency as the major factor explaining the process of urbanization and structure of urban system and cities<sup>41</sup>.

### URBANIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

Industrialization has been termed, the most important factor infleucing the growth of urbanization, urban centres and generally economic development<sup>42</sup>. (Basu, 1965). Helen Hughes views that, industrialization however, accelerates the pace of urban growth<sup>43</sup>. Although industrialization is embodied with urbanization in the modern world, the term industrialization has frequently been confused or used inter changeably with urbanization. In some part of the world industrialization and urbanization have gone in hand in hand and have developed together. In other countries, urbanization and industrialization both are still very much in the process of developing. "urbanization can appear without concomitant industrialization"<sup>44</sup>. Questions have been raised such as whether there exist a necessary strict correlation between the two processes, whether industrial growth has planned decentralization on the other hand, though they are unanswered. But Mookerjee (1973) accepted that industrialization plays an important role in

the growth of urbanization process in a country<sup>45</sup>. Thus the relief that industrialization leads to urbanization is apparently based on the outstanding phenomenon in recent times, in West Europe and America. But in parts of the world, especially in the Third World countries the growth of urban areas has initiated industrialization (Sarlkwel, 1978)<sup>46</sup>. The pace and pattern of industrial development is however, the major determinants of urbanization and spatial concentration. Industries trend to locate themselves in urban areas especially in the larger cities (A.S. Oberai, 1989)<sup>1</sup>. There are many studies reflecting the same view.

#### URBANIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

However, it is yet to be examined the opinion as to whether the existence of cities provided the basis for economic development or whether economic development represents the main source of growth of cities. The relationship between urbanization and a variety of indices of economic development, various studies' conclusions demonstrated a possessive high correlation between them. Kamar Schen (1969) found a correlation between per capita income, industrialization and urbanization in the developing

countries<sup>47</sup>. While, Hauser maintaining that "Economic development ... results almost invariably in an accentuation of the process of urbanization ..... Implies a change in the occupational structure of the work force towards non-agricultural activities<sup>48</sup>.

### SURVEY OF LITERATURE

Urbanization in developing countries is different from the experience of developed countries (Cohen, 1984). Even in the developing countries urbanization varied widely. Colonization may be one of the reasons for this different urban structure in third world. According to Firehaugh, 1985, the third world caught up with Western Europe in the proportion of the non-agricultural population living in urban areas in 1960 at a much earlier stage in the urban transition. However, most of the third world countries are 'parasitic', paying little contribution to the economic development of the West Asian countries (Barke and Hare, 1987).

There are a number of studies which provided broad overviews of urbanization in a region or in the context of a country. Kirby (1985) for China. Abu-lughod (1984); Blake



and R.I. Lawless (1980) and Birks and Sinclair (1980) for Arab World. Gugler and Flanger (1978) for West Africa, a portes (1976), Roberts (1978) and Duglas and Chance (1981) for latin America. R.C. Sharma (1984) provide studies one over all aspect in South Asian Region, as well as Guglar (1988) offer a comprehensive account of third world countries which contain 21 studies and explores various aspects of urbanization. Ghosh (1984) gives an excellent studies on urbanization process and pattern in third world countries. Also an excellent collection of papers by Michael ed., (1988), Number of Scholars examining the third world countries background of the urbanization process and the urban growth (Cherunilam (1984); and Carter (1976). Davis (1984), emphasis the spectacular rate of urbanisation in these countries. Also, extensive treatment of urban bias and colonial exploitation as a major factor in urban growth, can be found in recent volumes (Lipton, 1977). Industrialization and market economy accelerated the growth of urbanization, particularly in Asia, elaborately explained by Hughes, 1984.

Migration plays an important role in the urban process, can be found in many studies, migration takes places, because searching for improved income and life style, in the urban areas. Dipak Muzumdar, questions that the prevailing model, particularly the assumption that, the service sector plays a predominant role, as a point entry

into the labour for migrants to urban areas. Although sex and age selectivities, affect the female labour force in the migration process (Guglar, 1983). Regarding urban 'primary' 'city size' and growth aspects. Smith (1985) extensively discuss various explanation of urban primacy and Preston (1988) analyses the city size and city growth in the third world.

Some scholars concentrate on the causes of urban growth, Hauser and Robert (1982) raised a point that, 'over urbanization', leads to void in the development. Berry and Sabot (1978) provide more recent data for unemployment problem of these countries. Berry, examines whether most third world urban growth concentrated in so-called 'Squatter' or 'uncontrolled' settlements. Gugler and Gilber (1982) gave an outline of poverty and housing condition in the third world countries.

The West Asian countries with long urban history has attracted great interest from different disciplines from the beginning of this country. Arab historians, geographers and travelers have written extensive description of Arab cities. Orientalists have also contributed to the study of Arab Muslim society in general and Middle Eastern cities in particular. (Grunebaum, 1955 and Earnest, 1973). Major generalization about urbanization in the Arab world are

primarily based on case studies of great cities. However, some of these case studies developed an ideal model of the Islamic city. The major criticism of the Islamic model and by some scholars is the inability to uncover the variations in Islamic cities in different periods and regions (Lapidus, 1973). Paul Wheatly advocates, the use of a comparative method to discover the difference and the similarities among urban setting from different regions and periods in Islamic urban history.

While the social scientists have written extensively on contemporary urban life and city structure. The recent monograph and articles on contemporary cities in the Arab world have been written by geographers on Amman, Misurata, Memeean, Damascus and Beirut concerning spatial structure and historical urban growth (Hackers, 1960; and Blake, 1968). Monographs on Mumluk cities and Anthropologists study of towns and small cities such as Alkark, Jordan Doghara, Iraq, Hareidh and South Yemen (Gubser, 1973 and Shayh and Effecdi, 1970).

Also a number of excellent papers on Arab urbanization of different periods have resulted from three special conference held in Oxford, Berkely and Princetion in 1965, 1966 and 1970 (Lapidus, 1969; Hurani and Stern, ed., 1970; and Brown, 1973) have reflected a great deal of

interest in the field. After 1970, especially in the last two decades, many number of research being done on various aspects of urbanization in this region. Particularly, there are some pioneer studies describing the nature and emergence of muslim cities ant their structure of development very extensively.

Regarding the contemporary pattern and process of urbanization and labour migration aspect, number of scholars focused elaborately. For the urban or city primacy aspect (Castillo, 1979; Robert, 1979; Blake and Lawless, 1980; and Richards and Waterbury, 1990). J.I. Clarke and Roberts, both are explaining primacy aspect in general but with different simple statistical methods, where as Findlay (1977) examines, how rural-urban migration leads to urban primacy in the West Asian countries.

Regarding Economic development, urbanization, and labour migration aspects in West Asian region, many studies focusing on it. According to the present economic position and disparities among the West Asian countries, Birks and Sinclair (1980) whereas Lec Beam (1984) divided these countries as capital rich and capital poor.

Keith McLachlan (1980) and J.S. Birks and Sinclair (1980) described the oil industry's evolution and the impact of economic development on nomadic life of this region. In the same perspective, David Lerner (1958); Galar A Amin (1974); and Henry T. Azzam (1988).

The Oil price increase and the economic development enhanced large scale investment in industrial sector. (Guecioueur, 1981; Turner, 1980).

While Yusif (1978) analysing the oil discoveries and the economic development requires labour from Arab and non-Arab countries. Also Khoury (1982) gave in more emphasis on the intra regional migration aspects. J.S. Birks (1988), Ian J. Secombe (1988), Richards and Waterbury (1990), IShag Y. Qutub (1984) and others, examining the nature and the contemporary Labour force migration, Abu-laghod (1984), partly analyse the future possibility of changes in the international labour migration structure in this region.

In the rapid growth of urbanization and labour migration implies lot of causes and consequences in the West Asian countries. There are studies explaining on this aspect, Beaumont, extensively analyses the water shortage and a number of United Nations documents deal with housing, slums problem and unemployment problems. Extensively

analyzed population policies and programs in these countries, like migration, urbanization and redistribution policies, Qutub (1984) and Vijay P. Singh (1984) examine countries effort to develop strategies for different urban settings. While Misra and Agra (1984) suggest some direction to the future urban strategy for these countries. There are number of U.N. Documents dealing extensively with the above policy perspectives of these countries.

### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study are:

1. To examine the pattern and process of urbanization in the Third World.
2. To analyse the evolution of cities and the contemporary pattern of urbanization in West Asian countries.
3. To bring out interrelatedness of modernization and development, international migration and their impact on rapid urbanization in these countries.
4. To analyse the intra-regional variations with the rate of urbanization in West Asia.
5. To critically evaluate the migration and the urbanization policies in the countries of West Asia.

RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY


Very few attempts have been made on regional scale to study and analyse the pace and pattern of urbanization in the West Asian countries. Since all the West Asian countries have undergone remarkable changes in their social and economic structure both demographically and spatially, it is of primary importance to focus the research on the nature of changes that have taken place due to influence of industrialization and international labour force migration pattern and urbanization process in this region.

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Rapid urbanization growth, especially when it does not follow planned schemes, tends to produce wide variety of socio-economic and political problems, which require scientific investigation in order to identify the nature and scope of such problems. As already existing literature, does not provide an adequate analysis. This study shall attempt to set right the discrepancy.

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## RESEARCH METHOD OF STUDY

The study will be based on survey of primary source materials such as official documents, reports and publications of ILO, World Bank Reports, various United Nations Reports and Data sheets. ESCAP Reports Middle East year Books, Demographic year Books and other releases.

Secondary source materials, are articles in journals, periodicals and books. Supplementary source materials like various institutions' reports will be used wherever, needed for comparison.

This study will be largely descriptive in nature, with cartographic methods used for necessary illustrations prepared to highlight the important characters. Simple statistics being used to pinpoint the degree of changes and the rates of growth of urbanization and also the trend of international labour migration.

There is a stark and significant paucity in the availability of well documented reliable data (especially over long periods) from even primary sources. Secondary



sources which are available tend to vary both in content and accuracy. Even though this factor being determined to organized research, this study shall attempt to serve.

### CHAPTERIZATION

The First chapter deals with the overall introduction of the research topic by highlighting the conceptual framework, an extensive survey of literature and the methodology.

The Second chapter deals with the process of urbanization by analyzing the colonial impact, rural urban migration, natural increases and the factors along with the focus on the primate cities in the Third World countries. The second part deals with the pattern of urbanization in Third World with specific reference to West Asian countries.

The Third Chapter traces the evolution of cities in the West Asian Region from the pre-Islamic upto contemporary trends of urbanization.

The Fourth chapter deals with the modernization aspect, international migration and urban growth. It also extensively focusses on the migration of international labour force and urbanization.

The Fifth chapter describes about the various urban problems and different policy aspects.

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CHAPTER II

PROCESS AND PATTERN OF URBANIZATION IN THIR  
WITH REFERENCE TO WEST ASIA

## PROCESS AND PATTERN OF URBANIZATION IN THE THIRD WORLD

### WITH REFERENCE TO WEST ASIA

Different terms have been used at various times to indicate the development state or condition at the Third World. No single term, however, can define completely the development conditions of a country or region. The terms such as 'colonies', 'territories', and 'primitive' used in 1930's and 1940's no longer in general use. After the second world war some more descriptions which are less harsh, less superior in tune for example in 'under developed' and the 'less developed' countries together with the 'south' and the 'third world' itself have become popular in used. (Gugler and Gilbert 1982)<sup>1</sup>

The terms was first employed as part of a three fold division at the world which recognized the first world of industrialized market economy status, the second world of centrally planned economies, and the economically inform and supposedly politically neutral Third World. A more recent four fold classification of countries with Third World serves to underline the high degree of generality attached to the earlier term. Beneath the superficial unity, however, the Third World constitutes a multitude or varied social

economic, cultural, political and environmental settings<sup>2</sup> and encompassed 60 per cent of the world land surface.

More than three quarters of the world's population or around 3,300 million people living in these large group of independent nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Melanesia. The geographical locations of these countries which are collectively called as the Third World<sup>3</sup>.

Originally the 'Third World' was a political term applied to those countries. Subsequently economic criteria were attached to them. These terms most frequently employed, general terms to describe poor countries, with the low per capita incomes, a high proportions of employment in the rural sector and low ratio of professionals of populations<sup>4</sup> where world bank 1988, defines those countries whose population stand a per capita income below \$ 3000 in 1978 or a life expectancy of less than 70 years<sup>5</sup>.

In overall, the term Third World is a convenient shorthand description for that part of the world dominated by a particular combination of social and economic disadvantages; most evident in widespread poverty, over population and weak economic structures.

#### **URBANIZATION PROCESS**



Process is a recurrent dynamic system which takes place in time and space. This system can be made to repeat itself as long as the conditions and requirements for its existence exist<sup>6</sup> (Collins and Aschenbrenner 1974, p9). The process of urbanization for its essential to define and understand the nature of the processes is important, Lampard argues that there are, three concepts of urbanization which have currently in the social sciences, the behavioral, the structural and the demographic<sup>7</sup>.

The first of these is concerned with the experience of individuals overtime and with pattern of behavior; the second is related to the activities of the whole population and is primarily related to changes in economic structures, the third is the demographic concept where the process is seen primarily as one of population concentration<sup>8</sup>. All three of these throw a different light on the process.

These process known as urbanization or urban growth, which may be variously defined as, the growth in the number of people living in urban centres; the growth in the number of urban centres; the socio-economic processes involving an increasing in urban life; the physical extension of urban land use; or combinations of the above. Obviously any one of the five processes may occur without corresponding change in the other four<sup>9</sup>.

Urbanization may be conceived very comprehensively as a four-dimensional process demographic, ecological, socio-technological and economic. R.P. Mishra defines urbanization as "a process which reveals that itself through temporal, spatial and sectoral changes in the demographic, social, economic, technical and environmental aspect of life in a given society. These changes manifest themselves in the increasing concentration of population in human settlement larger than villages, in the increasing involvement of the people in secondary and tertiary production functions, and in the progressive adoption of certain social traits which are a typical of traditional rural societies"<sup>10</sup>.

Urbanization as a process of leading to a spatial concentration of activities in relatively few areas and centers where labour efficiency is the highest (Alam and Pokshishevsky, 1946). The process of urbanization of a country, i.e., the process of its acquiring cells of exercise decisive influence on the course of development of the economy and culture is historically circumscribed, it has its beginning and end<sup>11</sup>.

However, population dynamics plays a central part in the Urbanization process. The process can be consisted into three demographic components, natural increase, migration and reclassification.

The phenomenon of urbanization, universal in the contemporary world, being generated by so many different factors, operating with different emphasis in each separate country, that it would be impossible to try to summarize the process in any meaningful way. Therefore, an understanding of the process and the pattern of urban development in Third World is indispensable. Thus, the urbanization or Third World countries form the subject matter of this chapter.

However, the urban transition constitutes a great human transformation, comparable to the domestication of plants and animals ten thousand years ago that made a sedimentary life possible. The second transformation began five thousand years ago, when the first urban were established in the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates. The last phase of the urban transition is taking place in the Third World the magnitude of the transformation, the sheer number of people involved, is without precedent in urban history<sup>12</sup>.

#### COLONIAL IMPACT

The process of urban growth come easier and was more marked in the Spanish and Portuguese empire than elsewhere, but in other parts of the 'traditional' world, from 16th century onwards arrivals of European were eventually lead to the foundation of new cities throughout the empire. There are signs (Payne 1977) however, that the 'colonial connection' is slowly becoming recognised as a major source in the generation of settlement patterns which had a specific historical conditions and which have since became the basic of urban growth throughout the third world<sup>13</sup>.

The pattern and process of urbanization in the third world have been so strongly stamped by their colonial history that the contemporary realities cannot be properly understood without an analysis of the factors that were introduced in the system during the colonial period<sup>14</sup>. It is evident that number of these countries passed long established indigenous towns for many of their large scale urban development was a product of colonialism. Colonialism had both stimulated and damaging effects on urbanization in the Third World.

McGee, rightly emphasized that, thus city was the nerve centre colonial exploitation with the concentration of the institution through which capitalism extended its

control over the colonial economy<sup>15</sup>. Thus the town was an instrument of political and economic control imposed without power concentrated there, would stimulated further commercial and service activities. The expansion of capitalism 'conditioned' the socio-economic structure and the urban form of the Third World. Castells (1979) put forward this argument by using the term 'development urbanization' elsewhere<sup>16</sup>.

However, Paul (1977) emphasized by administrative action taken by colonial authorities to limit immigration into cities has minimized the pace of urbanization processes in some of the Third World countries<sup>17</sup>.

In many Third World countries the coastal cities have been instilled by colonizing power on an almost total rural indigenous population. Earlier (1972) pointed the urban population of colonial country was concentrated in largest cities, often the chief-sea port cum capital city located eccentrically on the geographic periphery of the country<sup>18</sup>. The growth of port cities in the continental interior and the growth of port cities as over land routes were supplanted by maritime trade. Such urban growth was not generated therefore by internal processes was linked to the expansion of colonial of foreign trading interest as there flourished so did the cities, in the sense such centres could be termed "Colonial Urban dependencies"<sup>19</sup> and represent a specific urban type which forms a major elements

in the initial growth of many contemporary cities throughout the Third World. Most notable in this respect was the emergence of number of provincial towns and domestic merchants that served as link between village and the capital and as port town which served as link between country and the outside world<sup>20</sup> (Harik, 1968).

In the first half of this century the varied and specific needs of colonial powers have led to the establishment of administration, commercial and industrial centres which have exerted tremendous pull on outlying rural areas in the form of the supply of labour as vital market commodity whether these centres were grafted to towns or cities which antedated Colonial presence<sup>21</sup>.

Also, countries undergoing colonial rule experienced the same change in their pattern of economic and urban structures. In the country ruled by the metropolitan powers, the growth of and prosperity of settlements depend on their level of involvement with the modern sector of the economy<sup>22</sup>. The changes brought into being best of new settlements in all the areas experiencing changes. In contrast, countries due to the colonial pattern of development urban centres often one neither closely linked to their rural hinter lands nor well distributed geographically.

In fact, cities could be classified into four types, namely the religious, capital, educational and commercial or trade centres. In India and other East Asian countries, there are number of towns established around tramples is obvious. In Latin America, town as an agent of Colonial and as an outpost and control point of the imperial government shaped significantly the locations of towns. Hardov (1975) illustrious many colonised cities established in the first two stages of urbanization in Latin America the particular type of mercantile system practiced by the spanish government give rise to the development of two kinds of urban settlements: ports and mining towns, the growth of these two type of settlements characterized the third stage of the urbanization process<sup>23</sup>.

In sub-urban Africa, Johannesburg, Cape Town. Nairobi, and Salisbury were all established by Europeans. Europe built coastal cities to act as foci for trade, cities which were to become future metropolitan centres. Thus in India, the British founded Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras. Only in China, North Africa, and other parts of the Middle East do the indigenous centres still dominate the urban systems, albeit with certain foreign additions and considerable modifications<sup>24</sup> (Gilbert & Guglar 1982).

#### RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

World Bank (1984) reports indicate that almost twice the rate of overall population more than half the increase is due to the balance of births overdeaths; the rest is due to migration from rural areas to urban states and the reclassification of rural areas to urban status<sup>25</sup>.

Mainly, migration and natural increase both are alternative forces which influence the urbanization process in the Third World countries where as reclassification is considered as negligible proportion or mean proportion in the urbanization process. In the process of urbanization in a country migration play an important role<sup>26</sup>, particularly, rural to urban migration continues to be a key population movement for the process of urbanization<sup>27</sup>. In the Third World countries, many urban dwellers come from the peasants<sup>28</sup>. In general, migration is more important in the early stages of urban growth when the proportion of national population living in towns and cities is low. As the urban population rises, so does the contributory role of natural growth upto a certain point, thereafter urban fertilities begin to decline and migration growth once again becomes more important<sup>29</sup>.



The Third World cities have substantial surplus labour in various guises. Their labour force continues nevertheless to increase swelled by rural urban migration that on an average it contributes two-fifths of the urban growth in most Third World countries<sup>30</sup>.

There are number of 'push' and 'pull' factors plays an important role in the rural-urban migration stream. People attracted to major urban centres for better and more varied job opportunities, richer facilities, more stimulating intellectual activities, better entertainment amenities, and a more sophisticated life style<sup>31</sup>

The evidence is overwhelming, the great majority of people move towards cities for economic reasons. It is undeniable that employment opportunities apparently offered by the industrial administration, port and transport functions of the main cities have created as powerful magnet for people strong migration stream may be identified in most of the Third World countries.

In many aspects cities are compared favourably with rural areas through an "urban bias" in many countries<sup>32</sup> which is responsible for systematically favouring the cities. The strong urban bias is higher standard of living or income better employment opportunities. Improved

prospects for social mobility and the variety and quality of services draw people to the cities. The migration is primarily from 'backward' rural areas to 'advanced' urban areas.

In broad perspective, the shift of people from rural to urban areas mainly reflects the process of industrialization changes it brings in the demand for labour in certain countries. Also in rural areas unequal land distribution, landlessness, agricultural mechanization, natural calamities have strongly influenced the urbanization process in many countries.

There are number of theories extensively focused on rural-urban issues, which are are elaborately discussed in the first chapter.

#### **NATURAL INCREASE**

Higher rates of natural population increase account more for the rapid growth of cities in the developing countries, cities are currently absorbing Third World of the total population increase in developing countries and more than half of the urban population growth now results from Natural increase and has rural urban

migration<sup>33</sup> appears, therefore, that natural increase may be higher in the cities than in the rural areas of the Third World.

Despite the lack of precise close on the components of urban growth in the third world we can attempt to come to conclusion, that only a few countries are significantly affected by international migration. So at the national level most population growth is due to natural increase<sup>34</sup>. The relative contribution of each to urban population growth varies but in the majority of cities natural increases are the primary contributory factor. However, two sources are interviewed by, for a large proportion of those leaving the country side are in their reproductive years and therefore in their reproductive years and therefore may be partly responsible for the high rates of natural population increase in urban centres<sup>35</sup>.

The reduction in mortality rates, due to improved public hygiene and medical services have been so dramatically increased natural increase.

In twenty four of these countries including the largest countries examined (India, Indonesia, and Brazil), natural increase contributed more to urban growth. The mean

percentage of urban growth attributable to urban natural increase for these countries, was 60 percent and average was still higher among the poor countries.

Evidence shows that in some of the middle eastern countries natural increase rather than migration been the predominant factor behind the urban growth.

In addition, encyclopedias of population, suggest that, the major source of urbanization growth is to be found not in migration or reclassification but the natural increase of city residents themselves<sup>36</sup>.

#### OTHER FACTORS

Industrialization added new dimensions to the urban process on a large scale and is agglomeration in character<sup>37</sup>. The phenomenon of rapid urbanization prior to adequate industrialization and job opportunities must be recognised. Many scholars view that 'urban' section as a process resulting from an improvement of technology and modern economic development. The trend towards industrialization is in proximity with urbanization process in the Third World countries.

In some of the Third World countries, new oil wealth and their eagerness to become modern in a short span of time, and also embarked upon ambitious development plans which envisage massive investments, contributed accelerated urbanization process. In addition, the participation of female labour force in the sectorial activities steadily increased as Urban growth.

#### URBAN AGGLOMERATION

For more than 200 years, the world population has tended to concentrate in a relatively small part of the earth's surface in towns and cities. But the pace of this process-called urbanization has accelerated sharply during the twentieth century. During the past 25 years, virtually all countries have experienced an increase in the proportion of the population living in urban centres.

Another gauge of the extend to which urbanization is increasing is the number of major cities. More than a billion people live in the cities, and towns of the Third World. Their numbers are growing rapidly in almost every country, and only in Latin America is there evidence of a slowdown. The cumulative effect of this continuous rapid growth is dramatic. Thus the Third World cities are out striping their First World countries parts; and by the end of the century 17 of the 23 large metropolitan areas, with population over 10 million, will be in the Third World<sup>38</sup>. By

1980, the number of largest agglomerations in the developing regions has increased to 22. One in Africa, 16 in Asia and five in Latin America. By the end of this century, 25 of the 35 largest agglomeration are projected to be in the regions, 3 in Africa, 17 in Asia and 5 in Latin America<sup>39</sup>. Between 1950 and 1980 the proportion of urban dwellers in cities more than 5 million increased from 2 to 14 percent. Also, in 2000, there will be five 'super cities' of 15 million or more urban population, out of these three of them in Third World countries.

World resource (1986), in 1980 there were about 230 cities with a population of 1 million or more, compared with only 13 in 1900, but for the past few decades have been concentrated in a few key "metropolitan area or core regions" of the Third World countries<sup>40</sup>.

Latin America is the most urbanized to the Third World countries, 69 per cent of Latin America lived in urban areas in 1985. There were 15 large urban agglomeration. Four of them being among the 12 largest urban agglomeration in the world. Four urban centres Mexico city, Sao paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires, had population exceeding 15 largest agglomeration. In all, one in four Latin America lives in city with a population of at least 1 million.

Since Asia has a number of the most populous countries in the world, it is not surprising that there are

many large urban agglomeration. Among the 99 large urban agglomeration, 44 were in Asia, including 14 in China, 9 in India, 4 in Japan; and each one in South Korea, Indonesia and Philippines.

There are six urban agglomerations in Africa with more than 2 million residents, Alexanris (Egypt), Algier (Algeria). Cairo (Egypt), Logos (Nigeria), Casabalanca (Morocco) and Kinshasa (Zaire), particularly Cairo, had more than 10 million inhabitants in 1985<sup>41</sup>.

#### PRIMATE CITIES

A primate pattern is one where one major city or some time two dominate the national settlement pattern<sup>42</sup>. In Asia, Africa and Latin America, the primate city is the unique dominant urban element.

Wheatly (1970) and others have described as the areas of 'primary urban generation' were confined to what is now the Third World<sup>43</sup> into these cities would eventually have more larger number of rural migrants, their land alienated by the intrusion of capitalist enterprise, and their number swollen by lower mortality rates. Thus the primate cities we recognize today had began to emerge as being of the Third World<sup>44</sup>.

Primate cities in Third World countries are said to be drawing a proportionate inflow of population from

other areas. Their rapid growth is alleged as the result from biases in pattern of government expenditure and better employment opportunities, in part resulting from the undue political influences<sup>45</sup>, high concentration of the urban population in one large metropolitan area to form what has been termed as primate urban pattern. This at the same time has assumed that primate cities are very large, and this assumption has led to the conclusion that very large cities over 2 million inhabitants in these countries tend to grow more rapidly.

#### MEDIUM SIZE CITIES

At present evidence indicate that while many large cities in the Third World countries are primate cities, only a minority of the primate cities are very large, moreover, a comparison of growth rate among cities by initial size shows that small and medium sized cities that tend to grow most rapidly.

Already several cities have exceeded a population by available evidence. The primate cities have therefore become a major features in the complex socio-economic processes characterizing in these countries. However, they do not always dominate growth rate completely and in a number of countries medium sized cities now appear to be expanding at an increasing rate<sup>46</sup>, because there is a tendency in almost all countries, a substantial proportion



of rural urban migrants attract towards medium size cities for example in some parts of the Latin America medium or inter mediate cities are now growing rapidly than the largest cities as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela are obvious.

Even in some Asian governments, notably India and China are now putting growth of medium size cities high on their urban agencies. Medium size cities, there urban specialists say, can help mitigate the urban crises by absorbing people from both rural and urban areas.

But primacy was not always linked to port location. In Latin America several major capitals emerged in areas physically separated from the main production area and export routes. In Venezuela petroleum is produced in, and shipped from, areas hundreds of kilometers away from the national capital, Caracas. In Chile most of the copper is produced in the far north of the country.

In recent years industrial and commercial employment has grown more rapidly outside the inner cities. Some central cities have been growing more slowly than suburban rings and some cities beyond the community ranges of the largest centres have grown more quickly than the metropolitan areas in some of the Third World countries.

## LOCATION OF CITIES

It is no coincidence that so many primate cities are major ports. The major ports consequences of their control over international trade, because primate location was favoured by the dependence of many new industries on imported ports, machine and fuel.

Through out the Third World the growth of primate cities or major cities was linked to the growth of international trade<sup>47</sup>. For example, Singapore on the basis of tin and rubber, Calcutta on jute, cotton and textiles, Sau Paulo grew on coffee and Buenos Aires on mutton, wool and cereals. Nevertheless major centres developed precisely because there were the channels of export trade. Jute, tea and indigo went through Calcutta, tobacco and cotton through Madras, textiles from Bombay and cotton and tobacco through Karachi, whether or not export linked metropolitan development led to urban primacy was dependent upon the degree to which one or several centres controlled the flow of international trade.

Therefore, primacy in Third World countries can be explained in terms of the geographical location of export production, the transport networks which emerged to ship those exports and, most fundamental of all the location of all the main beneficiaries of the profits generated by international trade.

## PATTERN OF URBANIZATION

While the Urbanization has been the most significant feature of trends in the distribution of the world's population during the last century or so a global view of this phenomenon can obscure the tremendous diversity in patterns of human settlements and the complicated mix of local, regional, national and international factors that underline these patterns of change in the countries of the Third World. For example, they are often markedly different from those taking place in the First World or Second World nations. Even within the Third World<sup>48</sup> in the sub-regions of Asia, Africa and Latin America, there are further variations that can be accounted in their level of urbanization and economic development.

However, one should keep in mind that different countries use different criteria for defining urban population which is a major problem when making international comparisons. Further more, changes of definitions with individual countries create additional problem of comparison through time<sup>49</sup>.

# URBAN POPULATION

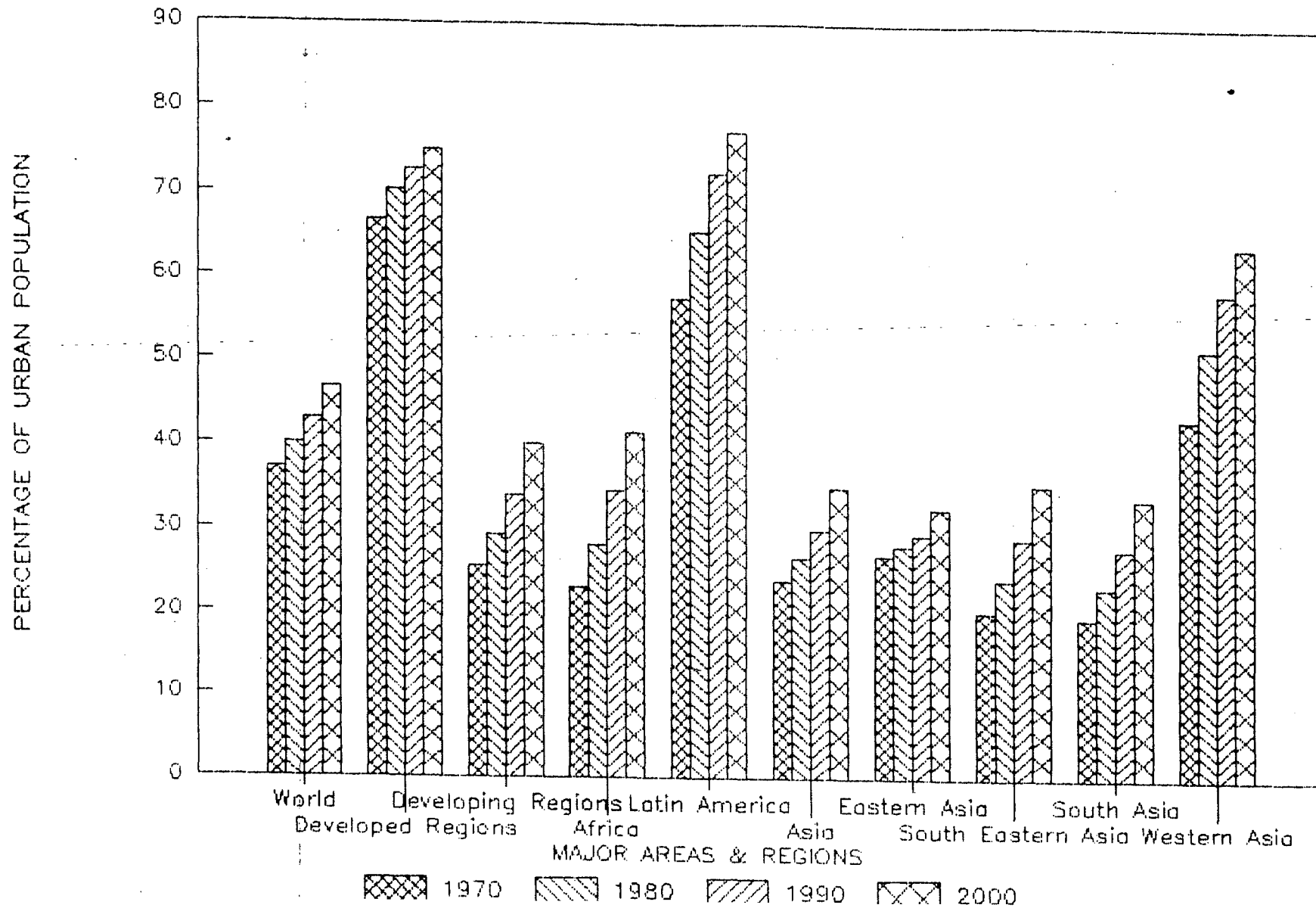


Table 2.1.

Percentage of Population Living in Urban  
Areas and Annual Growth Rate of Urban  
Population by Major Area and Region

| Percentage of Urban Population<br>and Region<br>Urban<br>1985-90 | Percentage of Urban Population |      |      | Average Major Area<br>Annual Growth<br>Rate |                                  |
|--|--------------------------------|------|------|---|----------------------------------|
|  | 1970                           | 1980 | 1990 | 2000  | Growth<br>of<br>P<br>o<br>p<br>. |
| World  | 37.2                           | 40.0 | 43.0 | 46.7  | 2.5                              |
| Developed<br>Regions   | 66.6                           | 70.2 | 72.7 | 75.0  | 0.8                              |
| Developing<br>Regions  | 25.5                           | 29.3 | 34.0 | 40.0  | 3.6                              |
| Africa   | 23.0                           | 28.0 | 34.5 | 41.4  | 5.2                              |
| Latin America  | 57.3                           | 65.4 | 72.3 | 77.1  | 3.0                              |
| Asia   | 23.9                           | 26.6 | 30.0 | 35.0  | 3.2                              |
| East Asia  | 26.9                           | 28.1 | 29.4 | 32.6  | 1.9                              |
| South East<br>Asia   | 20.2                           | 24.0 | 29.0 | 35.5  | 4.0                              |
| South Asia   | 19.5                           | 23.2 | 27.8 | 33.8  | 4.3                              |
| West Asia  | 43.2                           | 51.7 | 58.2 | 63.9  | 4.0                              |

Source: United Nations, Urban Prospects 1988, New York, 1988  
pp. 5-10

Currently, the pattern of urbanization in the Third World region can be classified into four groups.

1. Region with a high level of urbanization and slow growth;

2. Region with a high level of urbanization and moderate growth
3. Region of moderately high level of urbanization and faster growth, and
4. Regions with low levels of urbanization and faster Growth

First Group, this description fit most Latin America countries<sup>50</sup>. The region with high level of urbanization, in 1990, 70 percent of its 448 million people were urban dwellers, highest among the Third World countries. Even among the regions of Latin America, there are significant differences in the level of urbanization, although these differences are not as wide as those found in other major areas. The highest level of urbanization in 1990 was found in South America (75 per cent), followed by Central America (66 percent) and the Caribbean (60 percent), with continue to have moderate growth rate around 3 percent per year.

The projection indicates that, the end of the urbanization process in this group will probably occur before the turn of century, both rates of total population growth and rates of urbanization. The high growth pattern that prevailed in the past is unlikely to continue, since

the growth of the total population is expected to decline gradually, a trend that started in the mid-1960s, as well as the rate of urbanization. As a result, the urban population growth is expected to follow a substantial decline and drop to below 2 per cent at the beginning of the next century. By 2025, it is projected that variation will be somewhat smaller, with 87 per centage urban for South America, 80 percent for Ccentral America and 75 percent for the Caribbean.

The pattern of urbanization in that countries are characterized by a heavy concentration of economic activities and wealth in a few large urban centres, and there is little population pressure on arable land and natural resources<sup>51</sup>. However, providing a state contract to the economic stagnation and much lower average income in many of peripheral regions. Although average urban income are relatively high poverty remains a series problem in many cities<sup>52</sup>

The contribution of migration to urban growth relative to natural growth will continue to decline but will remain significant for the next one or two decades in the countries of Latin America.

Second Group; West Asian Region<sup>53</sup> is perhaps undergoing one of the most rapid urbanization among the Third World regions and has the highest rate of urbanization

in the Asian region. It stands by itself for having moderately high level of urbanization in 1990, 63 percent, alongwith still accelerating urban growth (4 percent per year). The high growth rate of the urban population corresponds to the regions high rate of total population growth. Although, a decline of urban population growth rate is projected<sup>54</sup>, but nonetheless it is expected to remain above 3.5 per cent until the end of this century.

This trend was more intensive in the oil producing countries for the last two decades, the oil money boom and migration, both internal and international, as predominant factors contributed to the highest level of urbanization in the region. Average urban income are relatively higher than rural areas.

Third Group; the African country typfy a third pattern<sup>55</sup>. In comparison with Third World countries in general, the urban phenomenon in Africa is not only of low level of urbanization but also of a greater concentration of urban population in relatively small localities<sup>56</sup>, but its most rapidly growing urban population is followed by Asia.

In 1990, 217.4 million persons, about 35 percent, lived in urban areas of Africa. At the regional level there is significant variation in the level of Urbanization among the regions, 22 percent for East Africa, 33 percent for Northern Africa and 55 percent for South Africa.



The countries of Africa exhibit the highest urban population growth rates, 5 percent annually in the world, and these rates are projected to remain high through the end of the century. This high urban growth rate was the result of a combined effect of a rising rate of population growth.

Urban poverty is relatively minor problem when compared with these countries' rural poverty, since the growth of countries is still in the early stages of a very rapid urbanization process<sup>57</sup>.

The Fourth Group of urbanization pattern is found in the large Asian countries<sup>58</sup> and Melanesia. Asia has 975 million urban residents, comprising one third of its total population in 1990. During the next decade, a net increase of 510 million additional urban residents is expected; by the end of this century 41 per cent of the Asian population will be urban. In the average annual growth rate of urbanization annually in 1985-90 is between 3.8 to 4.2 per cent is quite high compared to the low level of urbanization.

Population growth rates are higher and are expected to decline rather slowly, partly because most families are rural, potential for rural to urban migration is high and the migration influence will continue to swell the urban population for several decades<sup>59</sup>.

As the region of East Asia, China has been experiencing a steady decline in the total population growth. Urban growth was primarily a result of natural increase prior to 1980. End of this century, the urban population growth may start to decline along with the total population growth and rate of urbanization. The other East Asia region has a different pattern of urban growth. Both the growth on total population and the rate of urbanization contributes significantly to urban growth.

The rate of urbanization in South Asia is expected to rise slightly between 1985 and 2010 from 1.7 to 1.9 per cent and then decrease to 1.4 per cent in 2025. Since the growth of the total population has been slowing down, urban population growth is also expected to slow down.

In the future, as the natural increase or urban population is expected to play a mere and decreasing role in South East Asia and South Asia, the rate of urbanization will then dominate the urban growth. If the current trends continue most of these countries will dominate in the year

2000 by large and growing rural population living in absolute poverty. In Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, the rate of urban growth has also been on the decline, although the growth rate was still very high in Melanesia (4.1 per cent per year during 1980-85).

The Fourth pattern of urbanization is encountered in low income Asia, having less than one third of the population residing in urban areas. Though they have world largest cities, the countries in the group are predominantly rural; and despite the intense pressure urbanization is expected to remain low. This is mainly because cities generally do not offer more attractive working and living conditions than the rural areas; indeed the incidence of poverty is as severe in urban as in rural areas<sup>60</sup>. Nevertheless, the absolute size of the urban population in the region is already low. However, in these fourth group region will become predominantly urban by the turn of this century. It is expected that rural urban migration will continuously is play a major role in the urbanization process of these countries.

#### COMMON FEATURES

Though Third World countries are strongly differ from one another in the level of modern urbanization, economic development and the degree of maturity because their colonial part. Despite all the socio-economic and geographical position, practically all of them have shared many common structural features: majority of these countries have economic structures characterized by a high proportion of population employed in primary sector.

In the absence of welfare systems, hunger and under nourishment are their daily experience. Particularly, poverty remains as a prominent force behind the hindrance of the development activities, along with poor agricultural productivity, fragmentary industrialization and lack of technical application.

As far as urbanization concern, over urbanization is one of the distinguished features in the Third World countries. At least half of their population in urban centres are experiencing a rapid rural urban migration and even in some countries heavily influenced by high rate of natural increase.

The speed of urbanization is very rapid, which generate socio, economic and political tensions and many of these countries unable to cope up with them.

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CHAPTER III

EVOLUTION AND TRENDS OF URBANIZATION IN WEST ASIA

## HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF CITIES

As with urban settlements from any region of the world it is impossible to identify a classic and discrete urban pattern which is the exclusive product of West Asia. Urban forms in West Asia have been the result of a large variety of historical circumstances and the change in culture<sup>1</sup>. Therefore it is necessary to identify a pattern of evolution and urbanization of different periods and locations. For the purpose of this chapter a town is defined as "a concentration of population larger than a neighbouring agricultural settlements, in which there is a substantial non-agricultural production population, which may have connection with defence, administration, religion, commerce and/ or industry, though not necessarily of course, in that order",. (Smith, 1967).

### PRE-ISLAMIC TOWN

Much of our information about pre-islamic cities of the West Asia comes from source relating mainly to large cities<sup>2</sup>. The available data regarding the cities of Pre-Islamic and Islamic, upto contemporary period is merely connected with archaeology based urban structures. Therefore, the details regarding population, its distribution, etc., even with regard to small towns insufficient. A variety of reasons such as physical

distribution ancient towns in subsequent history, the concentration of more recent urban forms immediately above those of Pre-Islamic Character and the encroachment of sand desert over previously fertile and inhabited areas of land are given for the insufficiency in data in West Asian region<sup>3</sup>. Two distinct elements of this early period may be identified, namely the towns of ancient history and culture. First document from about 4000 B.C and what may be termed a Greco-Roman group starting with those founded by Alexander the Great after 340 BC. The towns of ancient history reflected large concentration of population in the main river valleys<sup>4</sup>.

The river valleys of the Nile, the Tigris and Euphrates were the sites of these urban settlements, with evidence of some 14 or 15 towns suggesting parallel development of different societies into an urban stage of evolution at approximately the same time.

The idea of living in such settlements be conceived as a contagion spreading into neighbouring lands after incubation of Southern Iraq around 4000 BC<sup>5</sup>. But if the claims of Mellart are justified, then towns existed around 7000 BC in the Jordon Valley and in Anatolia<sup>6</sup>. Also Mallowan<sup>7</sup> claims Eridu and capital Huyuk in modern Turkey as the earliest in the world.

The population of these and other towns are largely unknown although Gordon Childe<sup>8</sup> has made an estimate of between 7000 and 25000. The difficulties involved in archaeological exploration of whole town sites are obvious enough, but much has been unearthed at Nineveh and Ur. For example to reveal monumental buildings such as temples and housing adopting the courtyard principle<sup>9</sup>. Elaborate sewage and water supply systems engineering capabilities of a high order an inheritance of the irrigation skills which had been utilised in valley agriculture before the cities were built.

Whatever the explanations for the emergence of the first towns, by the half of the third millenium B.C. West Asia was dotted with towns and cities<sup>10</sup>, so too was the Nile valley, despite the views of some Egyptologists, but the first town may have been the phoenician and Greek colonies established at points of the coasts during the eighth and seventh centuries B.C.

The earliest towns, those of the third millennium B.C. may best be described as the core of the town was an area surrounded by massive towered walls which ment not only, or even primarily, for defence but were meant to display the wealth or power of the urban community. Perhaps, urban form in general remained more or less as described for the third millennium until the third century B.C. Various innovations, however, were introduced one of those was

formalities implied at least an over all concept of the size shape and internal articulation of the town - a rationalizing of the traditional irregular cell like structure<sup>11</sup>. Although found in small towns, formal layouts were particularly associated with such large imperial capital as Nimrud, laidout on a 360 ha site by Assuripal (883-859 BC). Ninereh (729 ha) built by Sennacherib (704 to 561 BC)<sup>12</sup>.

Radical changes took place in West Asia, with the intrusion of Macedonian and the Roman power. The change involved three related developments. First; an increase in the number of towns, second; the elaboration of new urban forms stemming in part from the development, the introduction of a different socio-political concept of the town.

The Greco-Roman concept was that of a self-governing community bound together not just by religious obligations or Kinship but by constructual relationship and living for preference in a single settlement set in the midst of a defined territory<sup>13</sup>.

The local settlement system appear, contain municipal offices, a gymnasium, theatre and 'agoro' (gathering place) and should possess a public water supply system existed in the coastal districts of the region from the initial Greek settling of the Tenth Century B.C. and latter two centuries. Further developments and some restructuring of the hierarchy took place during the succeeding Sassanian period (AD 225 to 637). By the time of Justiniani (AD 527 to 565), imperial governors had become responsible for ruining most of the towns<sup>14</sup>.

However, two elements of town development appear to have existed in West Asia towards the end of the pre-islamic era, namely, the Roman influence on the Mediterranean littoral and the Sessanid and Abbasid cultures and civilization.

### ISLAMIC CITIES

Following the death of Mohammed in 632 AD, the Islamic conquerors spread out from the Arabian peninsula across North Africa, north into Turkey and Persia. They established the longest period of significant urban-growth which the region has ever experienced. By the advent of Islam in the 7th century AD revealed the Mesopotamian experience in which the complex civilization towns superseded neolithic village life. The common experience of

city life, however, did not eliminate the legacy of local traditions, social ideas and religious belief and practices which formed unique local cultures.

There are three specific arguments for increased Urbanization. The fundamental is religious. Islam means submission to the will of God, and main duty to be performed. The Quron contrasts the virtues of settled life with nomadism. Urban life is thus, an ideal to which muslim should strive<sup>15</sup>. A second argument stresses the military needs of the invading Arabs, and point to the establishment of military campus which gradually grew into towns - for example, Basra (Founded AD 635), Kufah (AD 639), Fustat (AD 641 to 642) and Kairovan (AD 670) - and the case could further supported by adding various fortress towns established later on the frontier with Byzantium and the Khazars.

A Third argument takes up the idea of the Fourteenth century historian, Iban Khaldun<sup>16</sup>. The growth and development of quarters within individual cities were encouraged by the islamic administration as a way of dividing popular urban forces against each other, and to prevent the development of overt city or region consciousness.

However, Arab did not introduce a model Islamic town. Its typical features are well known many of these were either inherited from pre-existing town or emerged gradually over time through a process of convergence<sup>17</sup>. A physical pattern created in pre-islamic urban settlements were therefore being perpetuated and refined through the administration process imposed by the islamic culture.

But islamic towns usually had religious schools located near the mosque, emphasizing the influence of religious institutions at the heart of the urban community. Cities were surrounded by Mud-built walls and defensive castle with narrow roads, and housing complex accommodating extended families. The Emirs place was the focal point from which radiated roads and markets. Traditional and tribe social relations prevailed. The colonialists and foreigners resided in separate quarters usually at some distance from the national settlements (Qutub, 1983, p. 174)<sup>18</sup>.

Whereas, medieval European travelers fell into three categories. Most important was the throne city sites were chosen for the strategic control they gave over the realm and its would-be invaders. The Throne-city was the centre of military and administrative power and influence. Many states took their name from the capital city of second importance was the bazaar city, a centre for international



trade in costly goods. The third form of city was that centred on the temple, the centre of pilgrimage. Each of these three types included within the population numbers of foreigners, whether envoys, merchants or pilgrims. They had their own special areas of residence and the various indigenous tribes and trades.

In overall, the islamic civilization and the growth of towns after 650 AD show a distinct pattern of movement inland from the coasts with for so long had been vulnerable to pirate attacks in the Mediterranean, the Red sea and the Gulf. The inland migration of towns in islamic times is seen in the displacement at this time of Alaxandria by Cairo as Egyptian major city and Cteslphon by Baghdad in Iraq<sup>19</sup>.

Thus as early as 964 AD there is documented evidence of separation of residential quarters through the organization of a administration and low enforcement of quarter level. In the 10th century the whole of the middle east was dominated by Bagdad, the capital of the United Caliphate, with population estimated at 200,000 - 500,000<sup>20</sup>. Other cities were much smaller. In fact the golden age of islamic Urbanization was probably between the 13th and 14th centuries at a time when territorial expansion, economic growth and the flourishing of art and music literature and philosophy at their height.

During the peak periods of Medieval Arab hegemony in 16th century, the proportion of population living in the cities was probably between 10 and 15 percent, after the fall of Rome, the largest cities were located in the Middle East. Some these cities reached impressive size (1,00,000 to 5,00,000 or perhaps more) during the highest point of islamic power, and many of them - including cairo, Baghdad, Damascus, Aleppo, Jerusalem<sup>21</sup>.

As the Ottoman power declined through the 17th and 18th centuries, the towns become more common, vast rural depopulation took place as preliminary process, with people seeking production in the towns.

### MODERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT

During the 19th century regular planned suburbs become common features of at least the larger towns, as the wealthy and their emulators moved out from congested city centres. In some cases dual town developed. The other town presented a crumbling and crowded version of the traditional mic town<sup>22</sup>.

In the beginning of the 19th century the two marked characteristics in its urban pattern were a large proportion of town dwellers and a concentration of

population in inland towns. But it was, with the rise of European based economic colonialisation the new and vibrant patterns of changes once again become discernible in the region's towns (Ibrahim 1975). During the modern age at the beginning of the 19th century. At the time the towns of the Arab world were still products of the islamic traditional age and displayed the following features. (1) absence of municipal self government and institutions (2) co-existence of various religious communities; each in its own quarters, had no rigid segregation; (3) concentric layout with the 'hobbies' crafts and traders located immediately around the central mosque and palace, and the baser ones on the outside<sup>23</sup>.

However, during the islamic period, urban hierarchies were not stable, and internal planning of towns fluctuated. Three major tendencies can be observed. Many small towns developed and declined at th end of the 18th century. New market areas emerged and the pattern of at least aristocrat residence changed considerably in a search for quite and semi rural life.

In some relatively small towns, the number of residential quarters rose as population increased, but a mere general stability was to be found in others. Some of the quarters were doubles purely residential, but the more central ones seems to have been a mixture of shops,

workshops, office, and housing sewn into the fabric of the town not only be shopping, service and also networks engendered by "putting out" systems of manufacturing, especially in textile<sup>24</sup>. The second tendency becomes clear during the 20th century but probably originated much earlier. This was for functions of such permanent structures as bazzars and caravarserais to change over time. Perhaps, the grouping of traders and crofters, which some have seen as a characteristics of the islamic town emergence. The third trend which also emerges in the deliberate planning of new developments, physical planning itself was not new to the islamic town for it had been found in some early muslim creations, notably the residence round city of Baghdad<sup>25</sup>.

However, the parochial element in muslim cities remained pronounced. Almost any town or city would be composed of some grouping of similar, neighbourhood quarter, muslim sects or Fraternities, Christian or Jewminorities, ethnic strangers, settlers from villages or towns, manufacturing or trading groups or a combination of forgoing parochial bodies (Ian p labdius 1973 P.53)<sup>26</sup>.

## DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Demographic and social bases of most of the West Asian countries are similar. They are characteristics of high rates of population growth. A young population structure, predominantly high rates of young age at marriage with large family norms. Currently, West Asian countries has a population growth rate of approximately 3 percent annually, compared with 2 per cent annually for the developing world as a whole. Growing at this rate, the region will expect to double its population in around 23 years.

Population growth has accelerated in the region as a whole. In 1950-55, the rate of population growth at 2.64 percent per year was the highest at the major cultural economic regions of the world. In 1980-85, the rate had risen to 2.98 still second highest in the world. (Richard and Waterbury 1990)<sup>27</sup>. However, fertility rates have fallen during the past generation, the decline in the death rate has been swifter, accelerating population growth during the past ten years. The region has always had a very high birth rate, in 1950-55 the regional crude birth rate was highest in the world, 50.5 per cent per 1000. The crude birth rate

1950 and 1985, but in percentage term, the decline was only about one half of the decline for the third world as a whole.

In simplest terms, population growth accelerated because the birth rate declined more slowly than the death rate since no one advocates population control by raising the death rates. Population policy analysis focuses on the birth rates.

Both the resource availability and the population growth vary from one another. In this regard, Sadik (1991) grouped these countries into three categories<sup>28</sup>.

- 1) Rapid population growth with adequate resources, the pattern in the oil-rich countries Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE,
- 2) Rapid growth with moderate resources the pattern in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,
- 3) Limited Resources, with high level and still rapid population growth, with further decline in mortality, however, over population problem will worsen in democratic Yemen, Oman and Yemen.

From the 1920's onwards the proportion of people living in urban areas in the West Asia has risen rapidly, accelerating even further after the second world war. The main factor responsible for this growth may conveniently be grouped under four headings of political centralization, internal political strife, change in foreign trade patterns and relations and the discovery and exploitation of oil (V.I. Castello 1980)<sup>29</sup>.

After the second world war, urban administrative areas grew as a consequence of their new functions, the new states required a net work of regional urban administrative centres to carry through their new policies and some were even designated urban because of these functions rather than their size and / or economic rate.

International political strife, too, has played a part in encouraging urban growth through unsettling large number of people. The establishment of Israel (1948) resulting in moving of 9,00,000 Palestinians, many of whom took up residence in such cities as Amman, Kuwait, Beirut and Riyath. In stability within countries, following coups and changes of regime, has followed coups and changes of regime promoted sizeable number to move to cities (French & Hill 1971)<sup>30</sup>. Foreign trade and relations also influenced and developed urban growth. Lastly oil has contributed the accelerated urban growth.

#### URBANIZATION PROCESS

The important aspect of the urbanization process in the West Asian Region is its faster growth. This Urbanization growth has three main sources: rural-to-urban migration, natural growth of the urban population and reclassification. Richards and Waterbury (1990)<sup>31</sup>, give a

very crude calculation which would be to assume that rates of natural increase (fertility minus mortality rates) are the same in urban and rural areas. Then the rate of rural-to-urban migration (plus reclassification) could be approximately the difference between the rates of growth of cities and the overall rate of population growth (these calculations are shown in table).

x Although it is impossible to give precise estimates of the relative weight of each of these factors, we shall present evidence that suggests that rural-to-urban migration usually accounts for at least half of the growth of cities. These absolute number of rural migrants to cities has been very large during the past decades. For example, in the mid 1970s in Turkey, upto 650,000 rural residents arrived in the cities every year: by the 1980's 800,000 arrived every year (Danielson and Keles, 1980)<sup>32</sup>. From the 1968 to 1977 Just less than 1 million rural Iraqies moved to the cities especially to Baghdad and Basra (Sluglett and Sluglett, 1987)<sup>33</sup>. There are number of factors responsible for migration from rural ares to urban areas in the west Asian countries<sup>34</sup> (Regheb, 1969 Issawi, 1969; Abu-lughod, 1972). Various 'push' and 'pull' factors mostly responsible for the migration of a country. Particularly economic motives predominate in the decision to migrate in the city side.



Table 3.1  
Rural Urban Migration as Percentage of  
Urban Growth, 1965-1985.

| S.No. | Countries      | 1965-1980 | 1980-1985 |
|-------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1.    | Iraq           | 36        | 43.0      |
| 2.    | Israel         | 20        | 23.0      |
| 3.    | Jordan         | 51        | 7.5       |
| 4.    | Kuwait ✓       | 15        | 14        |
| 5.    | Lebanon        | 65        | -         |
| 6.    | Oman ✓         | 56        | 34        |
| 7.    | Saudi Arabia ✓ | 41        | 30        |
| 8.    | Syria          | 24        | 35        |
| 9.    | Turkey         | 44        | 43        |
| 10.   | UAE ✓          | 16        | -         |
| 11.   | YAR            | 74        | 66        |
| 12.   | PDRY           | 38        | 47        |

Source: Richards and Waterbury, A Political economy of the

The widening disparity in terms of income and wealth between rural and urban areas have encouraged internal migration and hence more urban job seekers and their contribution to the growing pull of those informally employed. Especially when the modern urban sector as well as the oil industry are being developed, they go to cities where building boom is particularly developed. They get jobs in industry and services and incase there are relatively few with some special talents, they may find private employment

in urban areas as traders and shopkeepers. Further, the cities in West Asian countries are magnets because they offer education social and cultural attractions<sup>35</sup>.

Mostly, the pull has been strongly enticing for relatively well paid jobs. Therefore, the requirements of the expanding cities of the West Asian region have created a small regional city state economy, that mostly, drawing man power from rural areas as well as migrant labour from other countries<sup>36</sup>. Because the work force is essential to the economic development. The indigenous work force of these countries is really small and some sectors of the economy requiring specialized skills, migrants represent the entire work force of West Asia<sup>37</sup>.

The migration to cities is primarily due to the limited economic and cultural opportunities in rural areas. New economic opportunities emerged in the cities through the expansion of oil industry. Improvements in transportation and communication enabled many coastal towns to develop trade and commerce.

Economic conditions in rural areas worsened because farm land continues to be subdivided making it difficult to introduce improving methods of cultivation. Many peasants were landless labourers especially in Iraq. Those who had

some land were discouraged by lack of water, agricultural poor yield and their earning is poor than industrial labourers. All these factors pushed towards city side.

Even, population growth, distribution of agricultural and industrial sectors in the national economy, regional imbalance in economic growth, and some governments misguided policies have also encouraged the rural people to move to urban areas. (Singh 1983, p.205)<sup>38</sup>.

A substantial amount of urban growth is occurring because of natural increase. In 1950's death rates began to decline because of the invention of antibiotics and the spread of DDT usage against malaria. The recently, indeed prosperity has appeared lead to increase in some cases. The improvement in public health has contributed to a steep decline in mortality, while fertility has remained fairly high.

In West Asia, the annual rate of natural increase has varied between 2.5 and 4 per cent in the population as a whole. But this increase is even larger in cities, due to better health facilities. Sanitation and means of livelihood, social support networks and extended family relations help maintain high fertility norms in the urban family. In many instances, large families get larger with better housing government aid than smaller families.

Therefore, the increasing life expectancy and high birth rates will lead to a continued growth of cities in the foreseeable future even if there is no migration.

Thirdly, the displacement of some Palestinians during the 1948 war in Israel flooded the surrounding countries Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and to a lesser extent Iraq as well as with a population which index went forced urbanization. In the second displacement in 1967 when an additional 350,000 persons were evicted again seeking refuge in cities. In Israel alone, millions of Jews immigrated and settled in cities.

Fourth, International Labour migration is one of the predominant factors behind these rapid urban growths in those West Asian Countries, since last two decades. We have extensively discussed on this aspect separately in the fourth chapter.

#### URBAN POPULATION GROWTH FROM 1950 TO 1985

The rate of urban growth for each country data are available in slightly different forms and over different periods for each country strict comparability is not always possible. (V.F. Costello 1977)<sup>39</sup>. However, some of the countries' urban population growth are represented here.

Iraq: The level of Iraq's population remained constant between 1867 and 1930 at about 25 percent of the total though the numbers living in cities rose from 310000 to 808000 people. The annual growth rate for cities between 1957 and 1965 was 5.7 percent, compared with a national rate of 3.5 percent. Fertility is thought to be higher in the urban areas than the rural areas and by 1965, with additional boost of migration, the urban population was 3.6 million, forming 44 per cent of the 8.2 million total (Lawless 1972)<sup>40</sup>. This level has increased to 69.3 percent in 1985, but whereas the annual growth rate for 1975-80 (5.26 percent) has declined as 4.06 in 1985-90.

Israel: In 1948, total population of 873,000 which 73.6 percent was living in towns. However, by 1967 this had risen to 81.6 percent of total of 2.7 million. Immigration accounted for much of the rise in total population (Blake 1972, P.191-4)<sup>41</sup>. In 1985, the level of urbanization was 90.3 percent one of the high level urbanization in the West Asian countries comprise with 1.9 percent annual growth rate for 1985-1990.

Lebanon: The absence of reliable census data for Lebanon makes comparison of urban size difficult. However, UN (1990)<sup>42</sup> evidence suggest the level of urbanization in Lebanon for 1950, 22.7 percent which has

increased impressively 80.4 percent in 1985. At the sametime it has to be noted that, the annual growth rate was only 1.21 percent in 1975-80, which declined even further as 1 percent in 1985-90. It suggest that, the growth rate may go down even further in the future. Interestingly, compare with developed countries similar urban growth rate could appear in Lebanon.

**Jordan:** The census figure available for Jordan, dating from 1961 give as urban population 43.9 per cent of the total of 1.7 million (Fisher, 1972, P.212-13)<sup>43</sup>. In 1970 the level of urban was 50.8 per cent increased as 64.2 per cent in 1985. The annual growth rate 3.9 per cent in (1985-90) to 4.3 per cent in 1985-90. The similar level of urban growth rate could be identified in developing countries.

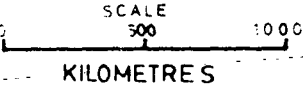
**Saudi Arabia:** Estimates show, Saudi Arabia's urban population between 1932 and 1962-63 about 170 per cent from about 300,000 to 800,000 persons, and increasing to 1.3 million 1969-70. The urban population between 1962-63 and 1969-70 is estimated to have increased from 24 percent of the total of 3.3 million to 33 percent of a total of 4 million, absorbing half of the settled population increase and all of the nomadic population increase through migration

(McGregor, 1972: P.236-7)<sup>44</sup>. The level of urbanization increased, after the oil price rose in 1973, were 48.7 per cent to attain 73.0 per cent in 1985. Corresponding with the annual urban growth rate of 7.7 per cent in 1975-80 to 5.1 percent in 1985-90

**Syria:** The evidence suggest that urban growth has been rapid, raising from 37 per cent of the total population in 1960 to perhaps over 40 percent by 1970. Damascus and Aleppo were of comparable size in 1970, being 835,000 and 639,000 respectively (Dewdney, 1972)<sup>45</sup>. Between 1970 and 1985, the level of urban increased only 5 percent, from 43.8 to 48.2 percent but the growth rate remain constant as 4.0 in 1975-80 to 4.4 per cent for 1985-90.

**Turkey:** Between 1935 and 1950 the urban population as a proportion of the total rose only from 17.6 percent to 18.7 percent. From 1950 to 1965, however, the urban element increased by 138 percent, a numerical growth of 5.4 million people to 9.3 million, 29.8 percent of the total population, and in the five years 1960-65 urban areas increased in population by 23.5 percent, 2.2 million, compared with 7.4 percent in rural areas. Migration clearly plays an important part in urban growth. (Dewdney 1972, P.54)<sup>46</sup>. In 1970 and 1985, the level of urban has increased 38.4 to 52.5 per cent, along with 3.1 percent in 1975-80 to 5.21 percent by 1985-90.

# WEST ASIA CITIES - 1973

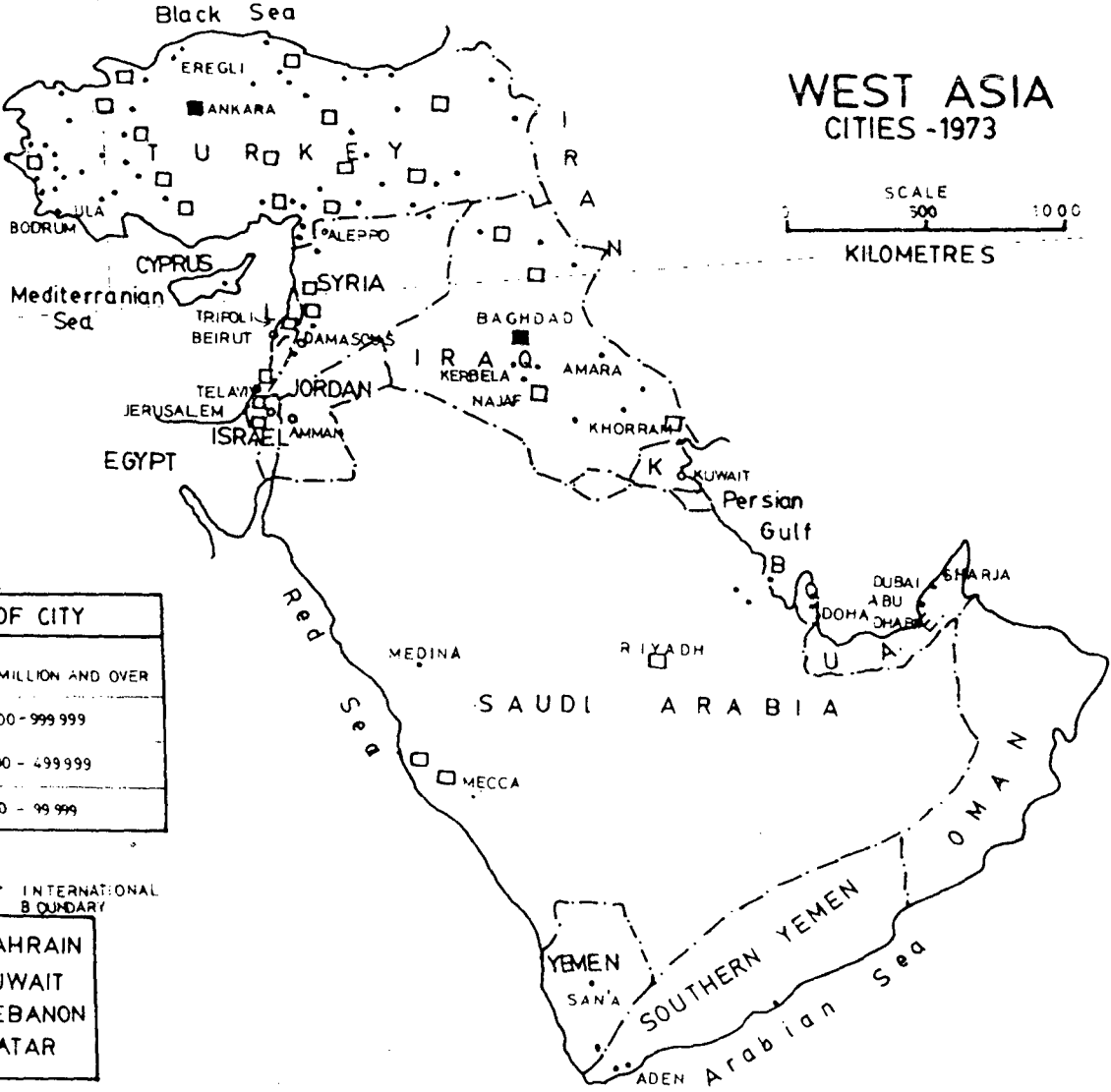


## INDEX

| SIZE OF CITY |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| ■            | ONE MILLION AND OVER |
| ◦            | 500 000 - 999 999    |
| □            | 100 000 - 499 999    |
| •            | 25 000 - 99 999      |

— INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| B | BAHRAIN |
| K | KUWAIT  |
| L | LEBANON |
| Q | QATAR   |





**Kuwait:** The level of urban was 59.1 percent in 1950 which accelerated dramatically as 93.7 by 1985. The growth in 1975-80 was 7.71 per cent declined sharply 3.80 in 1985-90. Until recently, however, immigration has been controlled, and the possibilities for rural to urban migration continued for urban growth.

**Omen and Yeman:** In the case of omen and Yemen, posing low level of urbanization, in 1950, both had 8.8 and 20.8 percent respectively, and the corresponding growth rate for 1975-80, Omen 8.7 and Yemen 10 percent decline 7.4 and 8.1 in 1985-90. In overall, the past, both Omen and Yemen consist of low level urbanization with high annual growth in the West Asian region.

#### **TRENDS OF URBANIZATION : 1950-2000**

The Table 3.2 represent the data on the urbanization trend from 1950 to 1990 and the rate of urban annual growth for 1985-90. It gives the general position about the urbanization pattern in West Asian countries. In 1990, these countries are possessed 63 per cent of urbanization with 4.5 per cent of annual growth rate in 1985-90 when compared to the third world countries, West Asia countries as a whole consist of more urbanization than

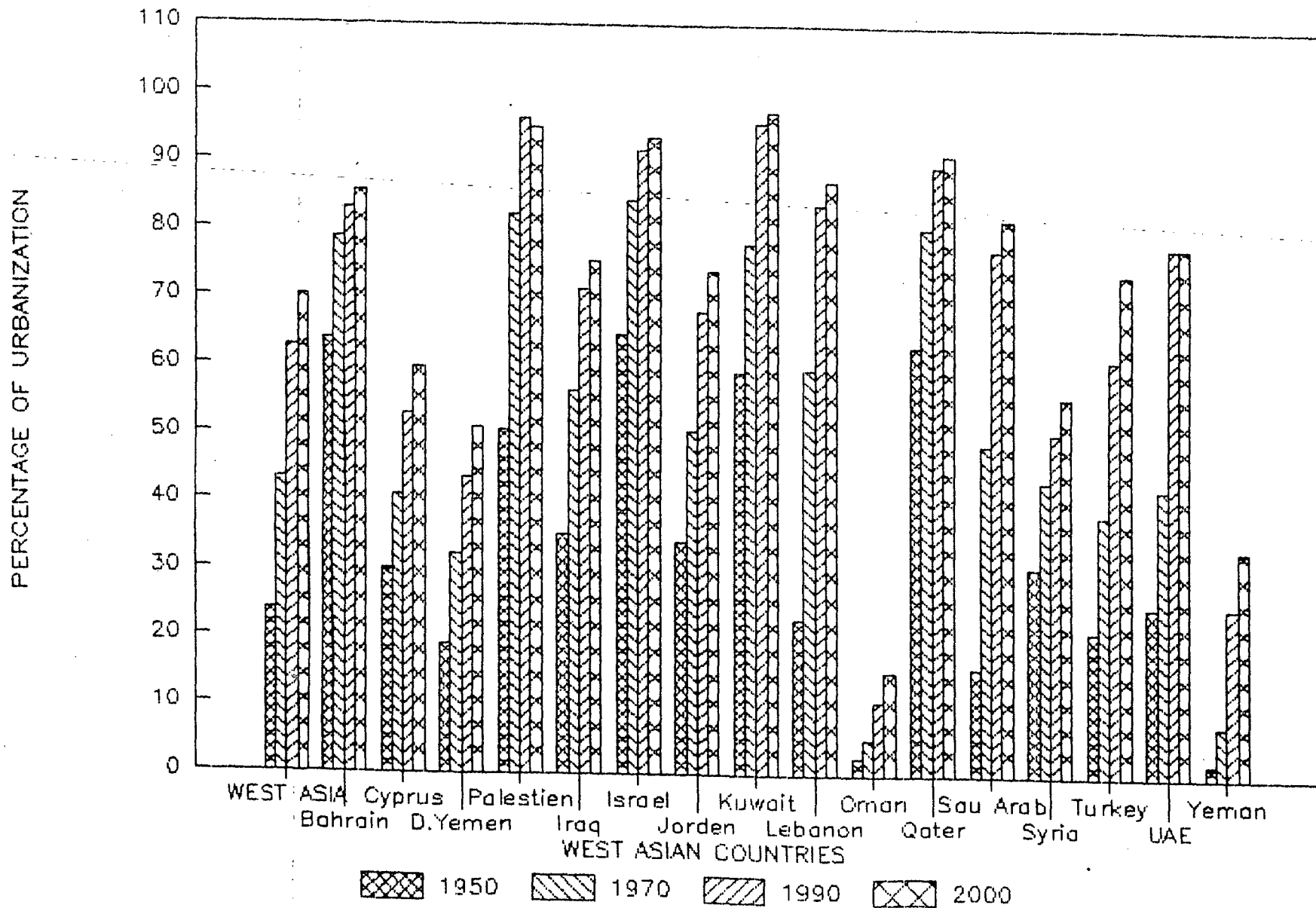
China, India, South East Asia and Africa, but less so than Latin America, where about 72 percent (1990) of population lives in cities.

Trends in Urbanization in West Asian Countries (in %) 1950-2000 and Annual Urban Growth Rate during 1985-90

| Country   | 1950 | 1970 | 1990 | 2000 | Annual Growth Rate (%) |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------------------------|
| WEST ASIA | 23.9 | 43.2 | 62.7 | 70.3 | 4.6                    |
| Bahrain   | 63.8 | 78.7 | 83.0 | 85.4 | 4.0                    |
| Cyprus    | 29.8 | 40.8 | 52.8 | 59.7 | 2.4                    |
| D. Yemen  | 18.8 | 32.1 | 43.3 | 50.8 | 4.7                    |
| Palestien | 50.5 | 82.1 | 96.3 | 94.9 | 3.0                    |
| Iraq      | 35.1 | 56.2 | 71.3 | 75.3 | 4.1                    |
| Israel    | 64.6 | 84.2 | 91.6 | 93.5 | 2.0                    |
| Jorden    | 34.1 | 50.5 | 68.0 | 73.9 | 4.4                    |
| Kuwait    | 59.1 | 77.8 | 95.6 | 97.2 | 3.8                    |
| Lebanon   | 22.7 | 59.4 | 83.7 | 87.0 | 1.1                    |
| Oman      | 2.4  | 5.1  | 10.6 | 15.1 | 7.5                    |
| Qater     | 62.9 | 80.3 | 89.5 | 91.3 | 4.5                    |
| Sau Arab  | 15.9 | 48.7 | 77.3 | 81.8 | 5.1                    |
| Syria     | 30.6 | 43.3 | 50.4 | 55.8 | 4.5                    |
| Turkey    | 21.3 | 38.4 | 61.3 | 74.0 | 5.2                    |
| UAE       | 25.0 | 42.3 | 77.8 | 77.8 | 3.3                    |
| Yeman     | 1.9  | 7.5  | 25.0 | 33.4 | 8.2                    |

Source: United Nations, Prospects of Urbanization 1990, 1991, pp.148-149

# TRENDS IN URBANIZATION IN WEST ASIA



During the past forty years, the trend of urbanization increased smoothly but also very rapidly. At present the proportion of urban population has increased at least two fold (62.7 in 1990), when we compare with 1950's urban population 23.9 percent. Whereas, in contrast with other West Asian countries, Yemen increased ten times, from 3.4 per cent in 1950 to 33.4 percent of urban population in 1990.

In general, there are obvious differences which appear in the proportion of urban population in 1990. For example, In countries like Kuwait, Bahrain, Israel, Lebanon, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, the proportion of people residing in urban areas ranges from 80 to as high as 93 percent of the total population. The urbanization in countries like, Cyprus, Iraq, Syria and Jordan are more moderate. The below proportion of urban population of urban population, below 40 percent living in Yemen and Omen.

The urbanization in countries like Cyprus, Iraq, Syria and Jordan are more moderate the low proportion of urban population, below 40 percent, living in Yemen and Omen. According to the West Asian countries annual rate of urban growth in 1985-1990, we can separate them into three groups. The First group, Omen, Saudi Arabia and Yemen are very high growth rate above 5 to 8 percent. In the second

group consist of Bahrain, D. Yemen, Iraq, Kuwait and Syria having urban growth between 3 to 5 percent. In the last group of countries are Lebanon, Israel and Cyprus and below 2 percent annually.

However, in general, West Asian Countries urban growth rate was declined atleast more than one percent from 1980-85 (5.14 percent) to 1990 in 4.59 percent. In exception, United Arab EmirateS stand a side from other countries within in one decade the percentage of annual Urban growth has sharply declined, atleast four times, in 1985-90 (about 3.2 percent)compared with 1970-80 (14.32 percent).

#### **CITY-SIZE CLASSES**

A comprehensive analysis of the Urbanization process must include the characteristics of that structure. For that purpose, the urban population has been analyzed by city-size classes are presented in table.

Table 3.3  
City Size Class of West Asian Region : 1960 - 2025  
(Population in '000)

| Area/Size Class    | 1960 | 1970  | 1980  | 1990  | 2000  | 2010  | 2025  |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>4000+</b>       |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 0    | 0     | 11059 | 17373 | 29231 | 40579 | 68561 |
| No. of Cities      | 0    | 0     | 2     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 8     |
| % of Urban         | 0.0  | 0.0   | 21.6  | 22.5  | 26.5  | 27.5  | 32.9  |
| <b>2000 - 3999</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         |      | 5286  | 2220  | 7706  | 20378 | 24122 | 22722 |
| No. of Cities      |      | 2     | 1     | 3     | 8     | 8     | 8     |
| % of Urban         |      | 16.6  | 4.3   | 10.0  | 18.5  | 16.3  | 10.9  |
| <b>1000 - 1999</b> |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 2478 | 2340  | 8423  | 12505 | 13325 | 18358 | 31186 |
| No. of Cities      | 2    | 2     | 7     | 8     | 11    | 13    | 22    |
| % of Urban         | 13.2 | 7.3   | 16.5  | 16.2  | 12.1  | 12.4  | 14.9  |
| <b>500 - 999</b>   |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 2523 | 3822  | 4746  | 9995  | 13080 |       |       |
| No. of Cities      | 4    | 5     | 7     | 15    | 22    |       |       |
| % of Urban         | 13.7 | 12.0  | 9.3   | 12.9  | 11.9  |       |       |
| <b>250 - 499</b>   |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 1429 | 4384  | 8235  | 8225  |       |       |       |
| No. of Cities      | 4    | 13    | 24    | 21    |       |       |       |
| % of Urban         | 7.8  | 13.8  | 16.1  | 10.6  |       |       |       |
| <b>100 - 249</b>   |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 4045 | 4566  | 2923  |       |       |       |       |
| No. of Cities      | 26   | 27    | 16    |       |       |       |       |
| % of Urban         | 22.0 | 14.3  | 5.7   |       |       |       |       |
| <b>Below 100</b>   |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Population         | 7919 | 11484 | 13488 |       |       |       |       |
| % of Urban         | 43   | 36.8  | 26.4  |       |       |       |       |

Source: United Nations, Estimates and Projections of Urban, Rural and City Population 1950-2025, The 1982 Assessment, 1984, p.132

The table presents information about the growth of cities by size classes and the proportion of urban in these classes from 1950 to 2025. However, the projection must be interpreted with caution. As the data indicate that the number of cities in a particular size category changes from one period to the next, this is due to the fact that cities grow sufficiently. They can leave one size category and enter a larger one. Therefore, these data may not explain directly to the growth of cities but rather to population growth in size classes. This means that during periods of national population growth and urbanization<sup>47</sup>.

The largest city class expands not only from population growth in cities that were previously allocated to that class, but also from cities newly entering the class. Therefore, chances of over stated growth of individual cities in this class. In the case of, smaller size cities, not projected very far in the future. This lack of information affect the next larger classes too, because, in the long run, the graduation of cities in the smallest categories becomes one of the source of growth in the categories immediately following. Perhaps, long-term projections would seriously underestimate growth in these categories. So all these aspects caveats in mind some of the trends that can be explained.



West Asia had no city reaching 4 million or above until 1980 (21.6 per cent) only 2 in this category which remained till 1990, but the percentage of share has been increased as 22.5 per cent. The projection indicate that, it will be added one more number in 2000 with the urban share of 26.5 per cent. In contrast, below 4 million size class cities started increasing very rapidly since 1950, but the urban population share has been declining gradually after 1980. In exception, medium size cities, between 1 million to below 2 million, cities are growing in numbers very rapidly than other size class cities, corresponding with increasing proportion of urban share. The available evidence suggest that, the total population of cities in the smaller size categories are unlikely to grow much and even there is a possibility of declining by the year 2000.

In connection, Jones (1975) emphasized, in medium sized and small towns, which are sympathetic to modern tendencies and have a sufficient number of job available in modern industries and the westernized territory occupation often have growth rate as great as the largest cities or agglomeration<sup>48</sup>. Therefore, it is very obvious that the concentration of higher percentage of urban population share mostly in few largest cities in West Asian region.

Many studies maintain that the lower the level of Urbanization, the greater the tendency to primacy, where the

higher the level of Urbanization the greater the tendency to rank-size distribution also related to the same phenomenon to the level of economic development. Thus the higher the level of development the greater the tendency to rank-size distribution. Whereas low levels of development are related to primacy. However, Elestant and Shachar, (1987) point out that primacy distribution occurs when one city dominates the other in population and economic power, thus controlling the flow of resources between itself and all other settlement in the system<sup>49</sup>.

#### URBAN AGGLOMERATION

Urban agglomeration in an area comprising a central city or cities surrounded by an urban area. In 1988, there were 100 urban agglomerations in the world with 2 million or more inhabitants an increasing number from 62 in 1970, of these 100 largest urban agglomerations 60 in the third world region.

Table 3.4  
 Percentage Share of Urban Population and Average  
 Annual Rate of Change of Urban Agglomerations  
 Comprising One Million or More Inhabitants  
 in West Asia by 1990

| City<br>Agglomeration/<br>Countries | Share of Urban<br>Population (%) |      | Average Annual<br>Rate of Change (%) |         |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|---------|
|                                     | 1980                             | 1990 | 1975-80                              | 1985-90 |
| Baghdad(Iraq)                       | 38.1                             | 30.0 | 4.0                                  | 1.9     |
| Tel-Aviv(Israel)                    | 41.2                             | 44.7 | 3.2                                  | 2.5     |
| Amman(Jordan)                       | 36.8                             | 37.6 | 5.1                                  | 4.6     |
| Kuwait City                         | 67.0                             | 55.4 | 4.0                                  | 2.5     |
| Jeddah(Sau. Arab)                   | 11.9                             | 11.1 | 4.9                                  | 4.9     |
| Riyadh                              | 15.9                             | 18.1 | 6.9                                  | 6.9     |
| Allepo(Syria)                       | 25.7                             | 27.3 | 5.1                                  | 4.7     |
| Damascus                            | 33.5                             | 32.4 | 4.1                                  | 3.9     |
| Adana(Turkey)                       | 2.9                              | 3.0  | 4.0                                  | 6.0     |
| Ankara                              | 9.7                              | 7.6  | 2.6                                  | 3.2     |
| Istanbul                            | 22.6                             | 19.4 | 4.0                                  | 4.2     |
| Izmir                               | 6.3                              | 5.2  | 3.0                                  | 3.9     |

The above table 3.4 display the percentage share of urban population and their annual rate of change of urban agglomerations comprising 1 million or more inhabitants in West Asian countries by 1990.

Only seven countries having urban agglomeration (1 million or more inhabitants) status in West Asian region. They are Iraq, (Baghdad), Israel (Tel-Aviv), Jordan (Amman), Kuwait (Kuwait City), Saudi Arabia (Jeddah and Riyadh) and Turkey (Adama, Ankara, Istanbw and Izmir). In general, these countries urban share of agglomeration by 1980 to 1990 shows declining trend, except Tel Alviv, Kiyadh, Aleppo and Adama has increased only a mere percentage during this period. The average annual rate of change of urban agglomeration from 1975-80 to 1985-90, Turkey is the only country in West Asia shows an increasing rate of change in urban agglomeration, remain all other countries growth rate has declined.

Recently the high rate of urbanization reached an alarming point because of the weakness of the economy and its dependency on outside existence. Jordan and Syria receive some subsidies from oil-producing countries and also export labour to these countries in order to receive remittance from them. Urban development and planning in these countries are hindered by lack of funds and resources. Their difficulty in implementing urban development plans

works as a negative factor in their weak economic and political systems. In the case of Iraq, oil resources and agricultural land which could be expanded and utilised. With internal and external problems has had disrupted its development plans.

In the third group, Yemen and D-Yemen comprise of low level per capita income (below 999 \$) and low level urbanization (below 40 per cent) because urbanization in these countries in its early stages. These economies rely on traditional agricultural and handicrafts, and prospects of economic development are limited due to lack of resources. The rate of u is high compare to their poor percapita income, indicating future problems which require an urban policy that will take into consideration of the economic resources for these countries. The U.A.E., Saudi Arabia and Cyprus fall into the Fourth group. Although these countries are possessing a higher level of percapita income, above 3000 \$, but they have medium level of urbanization. All these countries' economies are based on the oil and gas products. Even these countries urbanization level is very similar with the first group countries. The population size of these countries are fairly small and partly nomadic and pastrol.

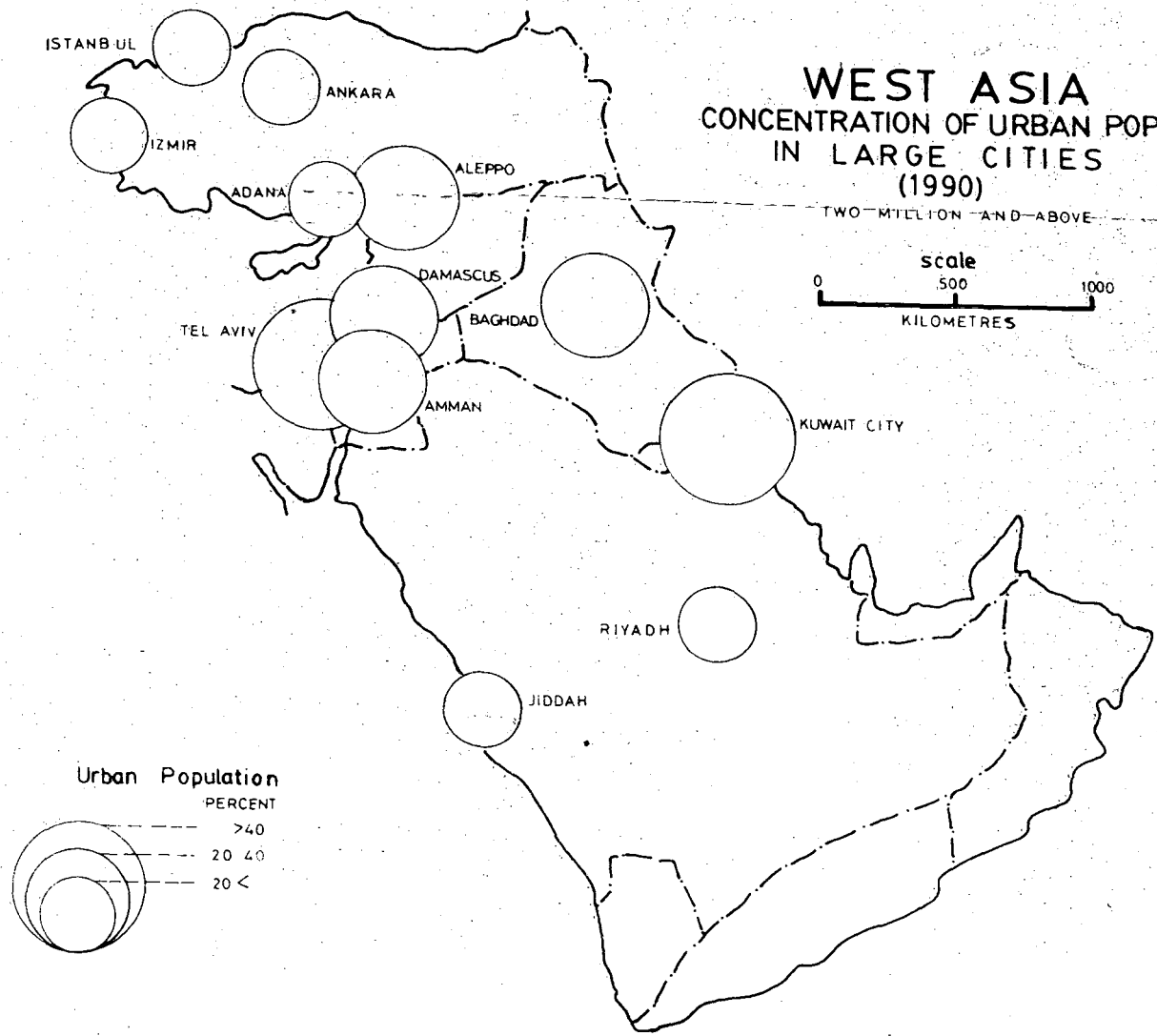
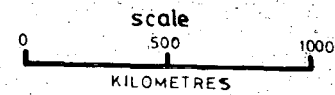
Table 3.5  
Population Residing in Agglomerations (2 Million  
and Above) West Asian Countries, 1990

| Urban Agglomerations | Country   | Populat. 1990<br>(Million) | Annual Gr. Rate 1985-90 | % of urban to Total Populat. |
|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aleppo               | Syrian    | 1.7                        | 4.7                     | 27.3                         |
| Adana                | Turkey    | 1.0                        | 6.0                     | 3.0                          |
| Amman                | Jordan    | 1.0                        | 4.6                     | 37.6                         |
| Ankara               | Turkey    | 2.6                        | 3.2                     | 7.6                          |
| Baghdad              | Iraq      | 4.0                        | 1.9                     | 30.0                         |
| Damascus             | Syrian    | 2.0                        | 3.9                     | 32.4                         |
| Istanbul             | Turkey    | 6.7                        | 4.2                     | 19.4                         |
| Izmir                | Turkey    | 1.8                        | 3.9                     | 5.2                          |
| Jaddah               | Sau. Arab | 1.2                        | 4.9                     | 11.1                         |
| Kuwait               | CiKuwait  | 1.1                        | 2.7                     | 55.4                         |
| Riyadh               | Sau. Arab | 2.0                        | 6.9                     | 18.1                         |
| Tel-Aviv             | Israel    | 1.9                        | 2.5                     | 44.7                         |

Source: United Nations, Urban Agglomeration Chart,  
United Nations (ST/ESA/SERA/121/Add.1),  
New York, 1990.

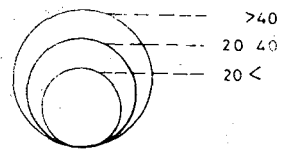
# WEST ASIA CONCENTRATION OF URBAN POPULATION IN LARGE CITIES (1990)

TWO MILLION AND ABOVE



Urban Population

PERCENT



Over all, except Kuwait Urban Agglomeration which shows a high degree of urban primacy in the country, the other cities in the region show low concentration of urban population in their respective countries urban hierarchy. Among the West Asian Countries Turkey is the only country where the number of million cities is more and the urban population is distributed in four major cities such as Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, and Adama. This shows the development of urban agglomerations throughout the country, showing less sign of the urban primacy or concentration of urban population in the large city. It is uniformly distributed among the lower order cities.

#### **CITIES CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES**

The current forms and pattern of urbanization in the West Asia are phenomena of the westernization of urban forms of life consequently, most West Asian cities today appear as a very interesting mixture of ancient oriental elements and modern purely western elements (Jones, P.318)<sup>50</sup>.

As a result of these influences of larger cities show quite a number of highly characteristic features.



being frequented by entirely different buyers.

(3) Out side the bazaar, the medieval part of the city has lost much of the Social prestige as a residential quarter. Obviously this district today more than ever represents the seat of the traditional crafts.

(4) The more recent residential quarters outside the medieval city belonging to the most westernized part of the West Asia towns. Recently various Social transformations have been taken place in these areas.

(5) At present, one of the most note worthy feature of urban growth in West Asia is its overwhelming concentration in large cities due to migration (national or international) and to some extent natural urban growth.

(6) Oversuburbanization, the great size of primate cities, and the emergence of megapolitan centers which have already contributed to a variety of economic and social problems in these West Asian countries.

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CHAPTER IV

MODERNIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND URBAN GROWTH

## MODERNIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND URBAN GROWTH

### MODERNIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The discovery of oil and the emergence of its related industries had sudden impact on the deeply traditional Society in West Asia. Economic change in the oil era was the ultimate cause of the decline on nomadism and its moral values. Oil revenues created new forms of wealth and new opportunities for employment gave the nomads the chance to act as labourers, drivers and guides. Rapid expansion of construction industries provided employment for them and the expanding government agencies recruited nomads as policemen, guards and soldiers.

The growing gap between the incomes of those engaged in nomadic pastrolism and those working in other areas of the economy was made dramatically wider as a consequence of rapid rising oil revenues during the 1970's. The attraction of wages, living conditions and health facilities that was over-whelmingly better than those offered by live-stock-herding ensured a decline of all but the most determined from nomadism to sedentary life of oil rich states.

settlement of nomads in the West Asian countries, which today is spontaneous settling that accounts for rapidly decline of pastoral nomadism. Modernization can be viewed as a process by which a nation or society reaches the highest stage of technology available to mankind.

Sung-chick Hong (1976), modernization implies three conditions: a social system that can constantly innovate without falling apart (and that includes among its essential beliefs, the acceptability of change); differential, flexible social structures and social framework to provide the skills and knowledge necessary for living in a technologically advanced world<sup>1</sup>.

Technological advancement operates to achieve economic in the Manpower engaged in production. At the sametime the increasingly complex organization of modern economy, combined with provision in more elaborate and specialized ways. For the individual and social desiderata that soon become needs, many of which are provided in jobs that contribute to such labour from productive goods to rendering services. This shift from the production to occupations, accompanied by a rising standard of living is associated with modernization. In other words, modernization is a shift of homes from settlement of the traditional pattern of the country side, its villages and hamlets into swelling towns (Jones 1979)<sup>2</sup>.



In West Asian countries modernization meant and still it means, Westernization. Qutub (1984) emphasizes, the discovery of oil and the subsequently increasing revenues induced modern development linked with Westernization. The region emerged into a transitory phase between tribal society and modernization system of education, hospitalization, recreation and communication<sup>3</sup>.

The country side is reflected in changes in the way of life and pattern of consumption of their inhabitants. The diffusion of modern schools into rural areas, the expansion of rural networks, the increasing mobility of the population (temporary work in city or emigration abroad) and the growing influence of the mass media are the present scenario in the West Asian Countries.

In fact, the great wealth of these countries has permitted the rapid establishment of adequate education and health services which have assisted the modernization process. As a result within one generation, most cities in the oil-rich Arab countries have moved from among the most primitive to a reasonably modern physical settings.

The modern communication system will bridge the gap between the industrial centres and underdeveloped remote areas, and also bring the historically secluded society in contact with the outside world permeating new ideas and radical change in the outlook<sup>4</sup>.

The rapid urbanization, i.e., rehabilitation of nomads in modern settlement dwellings, migration of rural population to industrial centres and modern secular education all will dissolve the traditional tribal bounds and weaken its base. However, it is important to mention here that all countries in the West Asian countries did not start modernization activities at the same time nor is the strength of wealth the same for all of them. They have diverse resource bases which offer the possibilities for diversified programmes for modernization as well as economic development<sup>5</sup>.

#### **CAPITAL RICH AND CAPITAL POOR COUNTRIES:**

Marbo (1975) was the first to typically distinguish the West Asian Countries, primarily in terms of wealth based upon oil, which produced a sharp distinction between "capital rich" and "capital poor" in the region. Whereas Yusuf (1979), made distinction on the basis of gross national product per capita<sup>6</sup>. The range of wealth in the region is extremely wide indeed it is probably fair to say that no major area of the world shows a higher variation in

percapita income across nation-states. The region has two very wealthy countries Kuwait and the U.A.E. whose standard of living rivals developed countries. Israel remains classified by the World Bank as a less developed country more for political than economic reasons; the per capita gross national product exceeds some of the developed countries (Richards and Waterbury, 1990)<sup>7</sup>.

The capital-rich states are starved of indigenous human capital in them, development has been made possible by the assistance of large number of migrant workers. In the capital-poor states, population growth combined with limited endowment of financial and mineral resources, result in a low level of per capita income<sup>8</sup>. The capital-poor countries all are labour exporting countries and the capital rich countries are 'labour importing' but to different degrees. For instance, the impact of labour exporting is most drastically seen in Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen, where over one quarter of the national labour force is working in abroad.

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Between 1970 and 1979, this ten year period brought more dramatic changes than any earlier decade had witnessed. Oil revenues in this period have permitted a five or six fold rise in national products per head instead of four fold rise between 1930 and 1980. The steep rise in G.D.P for the oil-exporting countries, Iraq, Kuwait, U.A.E.,

Qatar and Saudi Arabia designated by the World Bank as 'capital-surplus oil exporters' according to a categorization based on G.D.P per capita<sup>9</sup>.

#### ECONOMIC GROWTH AND STRUCTURAL CHANGE:

Economic growth and structural change have proceeded briskly in the West Asia Region during the last two decades. In assessing the number in the following table, several items should be kept in mind. First the data are often simply guesses of inform observers particularly regarding poor countries, the data are of poor quality. Secondly, it is important to remember that many countries of the region have started the economic development process from a very low base<sup>10</sup>.

Growth was also uneven across sectors of 'primary', 'secondary' and 'tertiary or service' sectors. The residual categories of 'tertiary' accounts for one-third to over one-half of output. The percentage share of 'industry' in national product for most countries either same or slightly below that what we would expect on the basis of their percapita incomes. The share of agriculture has declined in all countries.

Table 4.1

## Sectoral Distribution of the Labour Force, 1960 - 1980

(percentage)

| Countries | Agriculture |      |      | Industry |      |      | Services |      |      |
|-----------|-------------|------|------|----------|------|------|----------|------|------|
|           | 1960        | 1970 | 1980 | 1960     | 1970 | 1980 | 1960     | 1970 | 1980 |
| Iraq      | 53          | 47   | 51   | 18       | 22   | 22   | 29       | 31   | 48   |
| Isreal    | 14          | 10   | 6    | 35       | 35   | 32   | 51       | 55   | 62   |
| Jordan    | 44          | 34   | 10   | 26       | 33   | 26   | 50       | 33   | 64   |
| Kuwait    | 2           | 2    | 2    | 34       | 34   | 33   | 64       | 64   | 65   |
| Lebanon   | 38          | 20   | 11   | 23       | 25   | 27   | 39       | 55   | 62   |
| Oman      | 62*         | -    | 50   | 15*      | -    | 22   | 22*      | -    | 28   |
| S.A.      | 71          | 66   | 49   | 10       | 11   | 14   | 19       | 23   | 37   |
| Syria     | 54          | 51   | 32   | 19       | 21   | 32   | 27       | 28   | 36   |
| Turkey    | 78          | 68   | 58   | 11       | 12   | 17   | 11       | 20   | 25   |
| U.A.E.    | 20*         | -    | 5    | 33*      | -    | 38   | 47*      | -    | 57   |
| Y.A.R.    | 83          | 80   | 69   | 7        | 9    | 9    | 10       | 11   | 22   |
| D.Yemen   | 70          | 65   | 41   | 15       | 18   | 18   | 15       | 17   | 41   |

Note: \* 1985.

Source: World Bank, World Development Report, Oxford, 1986.  
 FAO, "World-wide Estimates and Projection of the Agricultural Segment, 1950-2025", Statistical Division, Economic and Social Policy Department, Rome, 1986.

Till recently a general tendency prevailed throughout the West Asian region was of a slow shift from the primary sector to the secondary and tertiary occupations. In fact this trend was by deliberate policies of industrialization as well as infrastructure investment and other modernization development activities. But at the same time this trend was undirected possibly due to the growing difficulties of primary sector employment opportunities.

Chenery et.al. (1971) emphasised the main characteristics of the pattern that the contribution of oil industry is growing rapidly than agricultures but the service sector contributed large share in GNP compared to agricultural and the industrial sector due to the Oddity of the region. The neglect of agriculture, under-pricing and under developing of its products, the large share of the oil and service sectors<sup>11</sup> enhance the industrial development. Indeed, economic development involves a moment away from primary sector in favour of manufacturing and service sectors activities. Srivastava 1985, the importance of agriculture declines as a source of income, output and employment in the process of economic development<sup>12</sup>

Generally, a rapid expansion of tertiary employment in relative and absolute terms follows an industrial phase. The enlarged provision of services is

normally a post-industrial phenomenon. Many scholars point out, the high proportion of the labour force are employed in territory sector or service sector activities is surprising. It represents not only an unusual pattern of development, but also an absolute reversal of the normal evolution of the structure of labour force<sup>13</sup>.

In West Asia, however tertiary development is together with urbanization have taken place before the industrial phase, and not as a consequence of the growth of manufacturing and other secondary activities. Also the majority of job opportunities are again found in the sector loosely called the 'service of tertiary' sector. In addition the informal sector is now increasing very rapidly. Perhaps the structural transformation of the economy would increase employment opportunities, improve standard standard of living and sustain equitable distribution of its benefits to all section of the people.

#### **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:**

The desire of the major oil-exporting states to consolidate their wealth, to create an alternative source of income, to achieve the qualities of a 'modern' state spawned industrial development. Indeed the oil prices of 1973 transformed the potential for economic development, and in particular the industrial ambitions of the capital-rich

states. The establishment of heavy industry was facilitated, apart from the financial resources by the cheap source of power represented by natural gas.

In West Asian countries industrial development is still an embryonic stage,<sup>14</sup> through remarkable progress has been in the case of oil rich countries for the last one decade. These countries are giving more importance for developing industries because of (Yusuf, 1980) the need be their accelerated development in order to have an alternative source of income to compensate for the decline in oil export revenues, once it tapers off<sup>15</sup>. The current and future programmes of these countries are to establish fertilizer plants, natural gas lubrication plants, a petrochemical complex, steel mills and cement plants, some infrastructural projects like power generating plants, water distillation unity and educational facilities<sup>16</sup>.

The industrial development is a subject of urgent need to Saudi Arabia. Five years ago there were only 300 factories in the Kingdom, but now, excluding the huge government establishment, there are 600 new light industries developed. Saudi Arabia has setup one of the largest single industrial projects in history with a gas gathering system to capture and use petroleum associated natural gas which was previously wasted<sup>17</sup>. Between 1970-75, 261 license were issued to setup new private industries over



half of them were food production, chemical and paper and numerous metal industries and related products. Also, the construction and building materials and cement industries are developing very rapidly.

In Kuwait progress is being made in petrochemical and cement industries. In Iraq textiles and food processing importance<sup>18</sup>. The current and future development programmes in the U.A.E include development of urban industrial areas for industrial location of gas processing plant a fertilizer plant, an iron and steel works petro chemical plants and cement factories<sup>19</sup>. Dairy products and poultry have started to flourish recently in the region. For instance in 1981, the U.A.E. established 127 poultry and seven dairy projects scattered in various Emirates to encourage Bodium settlements. Qutub (1984) gives a list of major industrial project of West Asian countries. Kuwait- Petro chemicals, cement and pipes building materials and fertilizer industries. Bahrain - Aluminum industries. U.A.E. -Aluminum, petro chemicals, cement and steel industries. Qatar - steel mill, petro chemicals and fertilizer. Oman - Natural gas and fertilizer<sup>20</sup>.

These countries often encourage promotion of the private sectors through joint ventures, extending loans, subsidies no taxation and permits to recruit foreign labours force with supporting labour laws and regulations.

Governments giving them land at normal rent and supplying water, power and other facilities. The resulting demand for labour of virtually all skills and qualification in the oil-exporting states, because of their financial resources combined with their urge to develop their labour force (being a very small labour force) base.

#### DEMAND FOR LABOUR FORCE:

The international migration in the region is as a result of economic forces and in particular the demand for labour in the oil rich states<sup>21</sup>. Especially, after the oil price rise of 1973, almost all and every rich states of the region try and envisage industrialization as an essential and central component of the domestic development. Therefore demands for labour has grown high<sup>22</sup>.

Such rapid economic growth and construction of a physical and social infrastructure would have been impossible without the dramatic inflow of foreign labour<sup>23</sup>. Since relatively small and yet insufficiently trained local labour force were inadequate to carry out them<sup>24</sup>. Further, these local man power has moved into non-productive sectors, which has caused an increasing dependency on a foreign labour force in the semi-skilled, skilled and

non-skilled occupations.\*25 Otherwise Richards and Waterbury (1990), simply put it, the increase in demand for labour of all types from construction labour to computer programmers from doctors to doormen<sup>26</sup>. Therefore, these countries have become large importers of population. They have been recipient of an international migration of labour. Specifically, Birks and Sinclair (1980), they are considerably dependent not only on Arab labour but more dependent on workers from Asian and Far Eastern countries<sup>27</sup>.

#### ORIGIN OF LABOUR FORCE

There are however a geographical difference in the supply of labour skills. The largest proportion of specialized and skilled labour and semiskilled labour came from an ever widening range of countries to the West Asian region.

##### Arab Labour Migrants

There are countries that import labour from neighbouring Arab countries migrants who occupy a wide range of professional and skilled jobs in the both private and public sectors. These categories are: administration, doctors, nurses, teachers, legal and political advisers, judges, technicians, contractors, engineering professional supervisors, accountants and security officers. In this

category, Syrians, Sudanese, Palestinians, Iraqis, Saudis, Lebanese and Egyptians are engaged<sup>28</sup>. On the other hand, there are Yemenis and Omanis who are generally engaged in semiskilled jobs, such as porters, domestic servants, street cleaners, gardeners, security and defense personnels<sup>29</sup>.

### Non-Arab Labour Migrants

The non-Arab migrants in large numbers are working in these region. First, there are numerous Westerners mainly British who are engaged in skilled jobs in oil industry and advisory position at a highest level of government<sup>30</sup>. Banking and engineering companies have mostly Europeans as doctors, teachers, engineers, technicians as well as manufacturing personnels<sup>31</sup>.

Secondly there are migrant labour from Asian countries like, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Korea and Philippines<sup>32</sup>.

Indians are mostly merchants and clerks in commercial companies<sup>33</sup>. From the 1970's the Asian participation in the labour market increasing steadily in employment sectors. Of course, the Asian labour is playing a crucial role in the West Asian states<sup>34</sup>. Trevor (1988) emphasised Asian labour migration has been characterized by a high degree of organization and has been closely

associated with the successful penetration of contracting companies from these countries in to the West Asian countries<sup>35</sup>.

But this trend is changing now a days in administration, clerical and teaching posts because nationals are available in large numbers<sup>36</sup>. Basically, three factors led to large scale Asian labour migration to the West Asian region.

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Firstly, besides being influenced by religious considerations, the labour importing countries wanted to diversify their source of labour not to depend on any one particular source which might create hazardous economic and social pressure groups with their increased dependence on foreign labour.

Secondly the demand for Asian labour increased because of the lower chances of their interfering in the internal affairs (social, political, and economical ) of the West Asian countries. as well as due to the safety in recruiting Asian labours who demand less but work harder.

Thirdly, The different skill categories of workers in various development projects undertaken by the labour importing countries of this region could only be met from



diversified sources and in this sense the Asian Countries readily made available their vast pool of semi skilled and skilled workers<sup>37</sup>.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANTS

**Sex and Age:** It has been found that migration for economic motives is highly selective with respect to sex ratio. Generally, migrants include a large number of males than females and have been mostly of the young working age group<sup>38</sup>. According to the World Bank study of labour migration in those countries, it is found workers mostly-comprising of single males<sup>39</sup>. There is, of course some evidence supporting the assumption that most workers move alone. For example, Briks, in a survey of one region of Oman during the early part of the 1970s, noted that of the population which had moved out of the areas with most working abroad 89 percent were males and of these 69 percent were between the age of 15 and 35.

The rapid increase in the number of migrants for employment is that of the young single male. It may be due to the policy of restricted family migration and a virtual

freeze at present on the immigration of family members except who work as high professionals who come mostly from the developed countries<sup>40</sup>.

**Social Background:** The migrants came from a different social backgrounds. More over they represent relatively a large middle class consisting mainly of Muslims, Christians<sup>41</sup>, Hindus, Buddhists and Jews<sup>42</sup>. However the quality of migrants is different depending upon the labour exporting countries. The immigrants came from a wide-ranging social groups<sup>43</sup>.

#### NON-NATIONAL LABOUR FORCE

The following table shows the changes of crude activity rates of non-national communities in the oil rich Arab states from 1975 to 1985. This C.A.R. increased markedly from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and U.A.E. This was a result in large parts to the switch to Asian rather than Arab workers in this period. In overall the C.A.R. for all non-nationals in these countries rose dramatically from 49.4 to 57.8 percent between 1975 and 1985. This is not necessarily the result of increased demographic settling but may instead reflect the growth draw down of the Asian, rather than Arab migrant workforce.

Table 4.2

Non-National Workforces and Population in the West  
Asian Countries 1975 and 1985

| 1975<br>Workers | Popula<br>CAR | 1985<br>Country | Workers | Popula<br>CAR | Workers | Popula<br>CAR |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| Baharain        | 29300         | 56000           | 52.3    | 104191        | 149952  | 69.5          |
| Kuwait          | 208000        | 502500          | 41.4    | 493750        | 1015527 | 48.6          |
| Oman            | 70700         | 132250          | 53.5    | 301600        | 340107  | 88.7          |
| Qater           | 53700         | 97000           | 54.4    | 92894         | 179791  | 53.5          |
| Sau. Arab       | 773400        | 1565000         | 49.4    | 1376812       | 2605554 | 52.8          |
| UAE             | 251500        | 456000          | 55.2    | 705478        | 1258430 | 56.1          |
| Total           | 1386600       | 2808850         | 49.4    | 3074724       | 5543424 | 55.1          |

Source: J.S. Briks, "The Demographic Challenge in the Arab Gulf," in Pridhan, The Arab Gulf and the World, 1990, p. 138.

The total number of non-nationals living in these countries increased from 2.8 million in 1975 to 5.5 million in 1985, annual rate of increase of 7 percent. In 1975, well over half of the non-national population were in Saudi

Arabia, but their share had decline to 47 percent by 1985. It is partly a result of under recording. Table 4.3

The data reveals that the total non-national population has doubled more than four times during the past two decades. Kuwait absorbed half of the non-nationals in

Table 4.3  
Non-National Population in the West Asian  
Countries, 1975 and 1985

| Country | 1975 | Percentage | 1985 | Percentage |
|---------|------|------------|------|------------|
|---------|------|------------|------|------------|



|          |         |       |         |       |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| Bahrain  | 56000   | 2.0   | 149952  | 2.7   |
| Kuwait   | 502500  | 17.9  | 1015527 | 18.3  |
| Oman     | 132250  | 4.7   | 340170  | 6.1   |
| Qater    | 97000   | 3.5   | 73791   | 3.1   |
| Sau.Arab | 1565000 | 55.7  | 2605554 | 47.0  |
| UAE      | 456000  | 16.2  | 1258430 | 22.7  |
| -----    |         |       |         |       |
| Total    | 2808750 | 100.0 | 5543424 | 100.0 |
| -----    |         |       |         |       |

Source: J.S.Briks, "The Demograph Challenge in the Arab Gulf", in Pridhan, 1990, p. 138

the region in the 1970's and about two thirds in the 1960's. In the U.A.E, which has the second largest population of non-nationals, the percentage has increased from 7.5 percent to 35.5 percent during the past period 1960 to 1980. On the other hand, Oman and Bahrain both have low increase in non-national population due to economic factors and constructive development plans.

In 1975, the U.A.E. and Qatar followed by kuwait had its largest percentage of non-national labour. In 1975, non-nationals represented about two thirds of the total economically active population of the West Asian states and the fraction varied among the countries of the region. The C.A.R. of the nationals were low compare to non-nationals. This means that non-nationals who came to the countries are

economically active including males and females and members of the same family. However, by 1985, the world Bank study expected the number of migrant workers to increase to the U.A.E., Qatar, and Bahrain but decrease Kuwait and Oman.

J.S Briks (1990), the determinants of non-national population size and structure contrasts sharply with those of nationals. The starting point for analysis remains the inflow or outflow of non-national workers which although subject to growing political and social influence, can still usefully be viewed as essential to economic progress<sup>44</sup>. The proportion of non-nationals among the total population in Emirates is among the highest in the world in 1985, for example, it was estimated to be 74 percent. (ESWA-1987)<sup>45</sup>.

#### TRENDS OF LABOUR FORCES MIGRATION

The modern history of Labour Force Migration in the West Asian Region may be roughly divided into four phases.

The first phase prior to 1974: The population movement has continued since the early 50s and immigration has been an important factor in the population growth of these countries. During the 1950's and 1960's - inter Arab labour migration was largely of a long-term or permanent nature<sup>46</sup>. Particularly the migration by traders and villagers involved large scale movements. About 80 percent

immigrating workers were Arabs mainly Egyptians, Syrians, Yemenies, Palestinians, with high skill level of migrants (Richards and Waterbury, 1990)<sup>47</sup>.

In 1960s there were 150,000 foreigners in Saudi Arabia with an annual increase rate of 15 percent. There were 103,000 non-Saudies in four towns of Mecca, Jeddah, Medina and Taifs and the annual increase rate were 15 percent and the total raised to nearly 400,000 by 1965-70.<sup>48</sup> The 1968 census taken in the U.A.E. showed a total population of 179,000 of which 66,000 (37 per cent of the population) were immigrants. The estimate of the man power which came from other countries is about 57 percent<sup>49</sup>. The population of Kuwait increased from according to 1955 to 1970 census is 467,000 to 739,000 and the number of non-Kuwaitis increased from 220,000 to 347,000 therefore the growth rate of Kuwait population is the same as the non-Kuwaitis<sup>50</sup>. The disruption of oil supplies at the time of the Arab-Israeli war in 1973 precipitated a four fold rise in oil price<sup>51</sup>. Therefore, after 1973 there has been a great change in migration.

The Second phase began with the oil price increase of 1974. During this period, the absolute number of Arab immigrant workers rose dramatically.

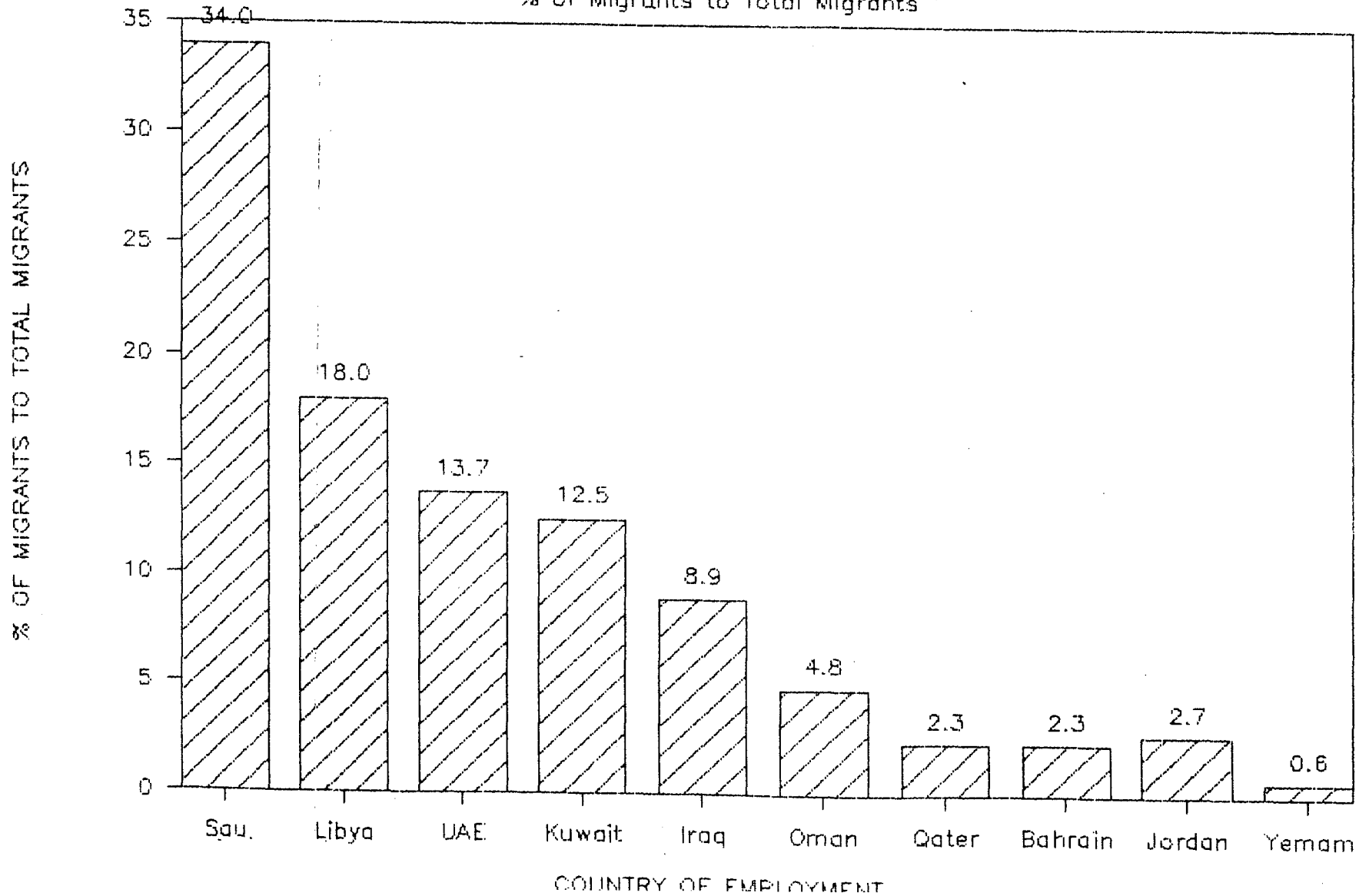
Table 4:4  
Migrant Workers in the West Asian Region by  
Country of Employment 1975 and 1980

| Country of<br>Employment<br>Rate (%) | 1975    |         | 1980    |         | Annual<br>Growth<br>1975-80 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
|                                      | Numbers | Percent | Numbers | Percent |                             |
| Sau, Arab                            | 773400  | 42.5    | 1023250 | 36.3    | 5.7                         |
| Libia                                | 332350  | 18.3    | 545500  | 19.3    | 10.4                        |
| UAE                                  | 251500  | 13.8    | 411000  | 14.6    | 10.3                        |
| Kuwait                               | 208001  | 11.4    | 378700  | 13.4    | 12.7                        |
| Qater                                | 53716   | 3.0     | 80250   | 2.8     | 8.3                         |
| Bharain                              | 29285   | 1.6     | 67720   | 2.4     | 18.2                        |
| Jordan                               | 32900   | 1.8     | 7600    | 2.7     | 18.2                        |
| Oman                                 | 70700   | 3.9     | 96800   | 3.4     | 6.5                         |
| Yeman                                | 2450    | 0.1     | 17000   | 0.6     | 47.3                        |
| Iraq                                 | 65700   | 3.6     | 125500  | 4.4     | 13.7                        |
| Total                                | 1820002 | 100.0   | 2821720 | 100.0   | 9.1                         |

Source: J.S. Birks and Sinclair, International Migration and Development in the Arab Region, Geneva, ILO, 1980, pp. 134-137

# MIGRANT WORKERS IN WEST ASIAN COUNTRIES

% of Migrants to Total Migrants



There was a massive flow of temporary labour into those countries initially from neighbouring Arab countries and increasingly from Asian Countries. Although there were insufficient data on volume, characteristics and timing of this flow, it is generally accepted that nearly 1.7 million foreign workers were employed in the eight major countries in 1975 and it has risen to some 2.7 million by 1980, representing a share of expertise of more than 30 percent of the total employment<sup>52</sup> in these countries.

While the level of migration rose sustainably during 1975-1980, the composition also changed significantly. The period of massive out migration from Arab supply states is now essentially over. Although the flow in each direction remained large the net outflow were low and the stock of Arab migration is probably stable<sup>53</sup>.

During this period over half of the population of Kuwait and U.A.E. are foreigners. In case of Kuwait about 40 percent of the population is from Jordan and Palestine<sup>54</sup>. The third phase covers the latter part of the 1970's and the 1980's. Further oil price increase in 1979 approximately doubled government revenue in a single year. This stimulated still more ambitious development plans. Yet more lavish projects, and even more generous social welfare programme. (Richards and Waterbury, 1990)<sup>55</sup> which enhanced more

migration of labourers. In addition to the increase in total number of workers two other trends stand out during the period. First the share of Arab migrant workers declined from about 43 percent in 1975 to about 37 percent in 1980 and demand for foreign works were from countries of South and East Asian countries. For instance, countries like India, Pakistan, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Rep. of Korea, Srilanka and Thailand were headed towards West-Asia Under temporary contracted arrangements. Workers virtually all skill levels from highly trained professional and managers to clerks, crafts men and construction workers are participating.

Table 4.5 Migrant Workers in the West Asian Countries by Origin and Employment in 1980  
(Numbers in '000)

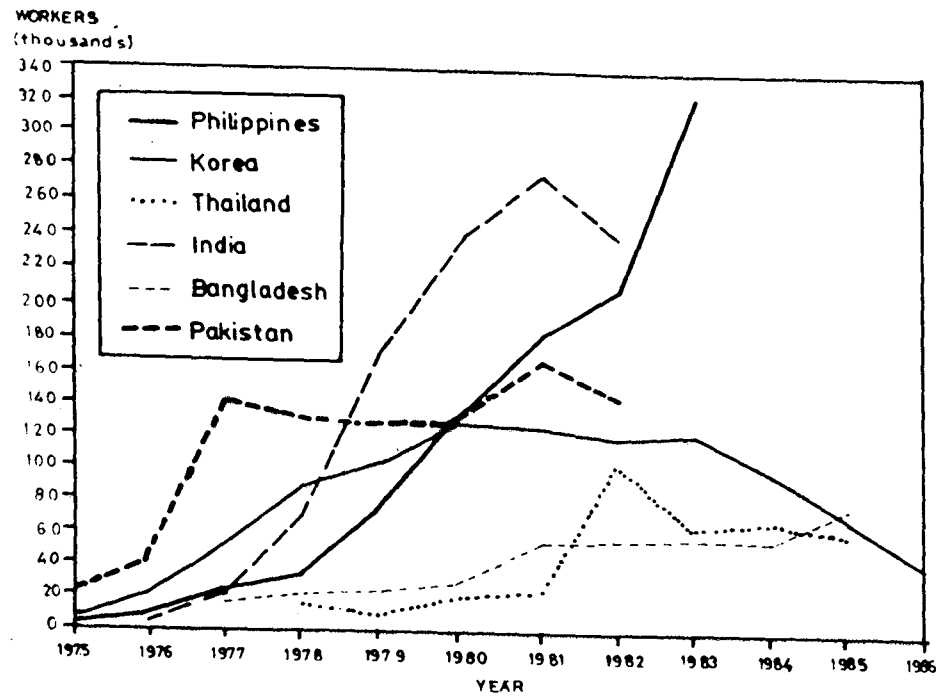
| Country of Origin | Sau Arab | Libya | UAE  | Kuwait | Iraq | Oman | Qater | Bahrain | Jordan | Yeman | Total  | Percentage Share |
|-------------------|----------|-------|------|--------|------|------|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|------------------|
| Egypt             | 155      | 250   | 18   | 82     | 223  | 5    | 6     | 3       | 56     | 4     | 803    | 26.7             |
| Yemen             | 325      | -     | 5    | 3      | -    | -    | 2     | 1       | -      | -     | 336    | 11.2             |
| Jordan            | 140      | 15    | 19   | 54     | 10   | 1    | 8     | 2       | -      | 2     | 251    | 8.3              |
| D.Y               | 65       | -     | 7    | 10     | -    | -    | 2     | 1       | -      | -     | 89     | 3.0              |
| Syria             | 25       | 15    | 6    | 35     | 5    | -    | 1     | -       | 4      | 1     | 89     | 3.0              |
| Lebanon           | 33       | 6     | 7    | 8      | 5    | 1    | 1     | -       | 1      | 1     | 62     | 2.1              |
| Sudan             | 56       | 21    | 2    | 6      | -    | 2    | 1     | 1       | 1      | 1     | 90     | 3.0              |
| Maghrib           | 1        | 65    | -    | -      | -    | -    | -     | -       | 1      | -     | 66     | 2.2              |
| Oman              | 10       | -     | 19   | 2      | -    | -    | 2     | 1       | 1      | -     | 34     | 1.1              |
| Iraq              | 3        | -     | 1    | 40     | -    | -    | -     | -       | 1      | 1     | 44     | 1.5              |
| Somalia           | 8        | 5     | 5    | 1      | -    | -    | -     | -       | 1      | 1     | 20     | 0.7              |
| All Arab          | 821      | 377   | 89   | 241    | 243  | 9    | 23    | 9       | 62     | 10    | 1881   | 62.5             |
| Pakistan          | 30       | 65    | 137  | 34     | 8    | 32   | 21    | 26      | 2      | 3     | 358    | 11.9             |
| India             | 29       | 26    | 110  | 45     | 2    | 85   | 12    | 12      | 4      | 2     | 327    | 10.9             |
| Other Asian       | 94       | 27    | 21   | 10     | 6    | 12   | 5     | 11      | 8      | 1     | 195    | 6.5              |
| All Asians        | 153      | 118   | 268  | 89     | 129  | 38   | 49    | 14      | 6      | 6     | 880    | 29.2             |
| OECD and Europe   | 30       | 15    | 12   | 5      | 3    | 4    | 1     | 6       | 3      | 1     | 80     | 2.7              |
| Africa and Others | 6        | 10    | 1    | 1      | 2    | 1    | 1     | 1       | 1      | 1     | 26     | 0.9              |
| Turkey            | 2        | 26    | -    | 1      | 2    | -    | -     | -       | -      | -     | 31     | 1.0              |
| Iran              | 11       | -     | 41   | 39     | -    | -    | 18    | 3       | -      | -     | 112    | 3.7              |
| Sub-Total         | 49       | 51    | 54   | 46     | 8    | 5    | 20    | 10      | 4      | 2     | 299    | 9.9              |
| TOTAL             | 1023     | 546   | 411  | 36     | 267  | 143  | 81    | 68      | 80     | 18    | 3010   | 100.00           |
| % Share           | 34.0     | 18.0  | 13.7 | 12.5   | 8.9  | 4.8  | 2.3   | 2.3     | 2.7    | 0.6   | 100.00 |                  |

Source: J.S. Birks and Others, "Who is Migrating Where?. An Over View of International Migration in the Arab World", in Richards and Martin, eds., Migration, Mechanization and Agricultural Labour Market in Egypt, 1983, pp. 103-110



By 1980 there was an estimated 1.8 million migrants from outside the region mainly from South Asia and Far East (Lawless, 1990, P.376). In the same period Indian and Pakistanis accounted for some 23 percent of the total immigrant labour markets and are now a fairly permanent element. Other Asians consisting of migrants from such countries as Malaysia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, increased at an annual rate of 62 per cent during 1975-1980, and account for some 6 per cent of the total immigrant labour market (Birks and Sinclair, 1981)<sup>56</sup>.

FLOWS OF TEMPORARY WORKERS TO  
WESTERN ASIA FROM SELECTED ASIAN  
COUNTRIES, 1975-86



From 1979 to 1982 the yearly number of India and Pakistan workers migrating to the region remained consistently above 300,000. For the Philippines, the number of workers leaving annually nearly quadrupled between 1973 and 1983, 323,000 and from the Republic of Korea. It is nearly doubled from 1978 to 1981 to reach 100,000. Similar trend could be observed from Thailand and Srilanka during the early 1980<sup>57</sup>. In 1983 there were an estimated 3.6 million Asian migrants employed in West Asia (ESCAP, 1983, P.13)<sup>58</sup>.

In contrast, even some labour exporting countries themselves became importers of labour force, because of manpower shortage. In 1979, there was an estimated 50,000 foreign workers in the Y.A.R. While Jordan in the early 1980's had more foreign workers than some of the oil states. These often described as 'replacement' migration (Lawless, 1990)<sup>59</sup>.

Secondly, the growth of demand for unskilled labour slowed as major infrastructural projects were completed, while that for skilled workers to operate the completed projects accelerated.

The fourth phase began with the decline of oil prices in late 1982. The fall in oil revenues curtailed some development projects in the region. In turn the growth of demand for foreign workers slowed down in some countries,

while the trend, towards a shift in the composition of demand toward more skilled workers and away from the unskilled continues. This trend has very recently got accelerated. The value of construction contracts in the region fell by 25 per cent from 1986 to 1987 (South, Sep. 1987, P.65). The estimate for 1985 suggest that the immigrant labour force is now probably in excess of 4.3 million some 28 per cent of the total work force (Trevor 1988)<sup>61</sup>.

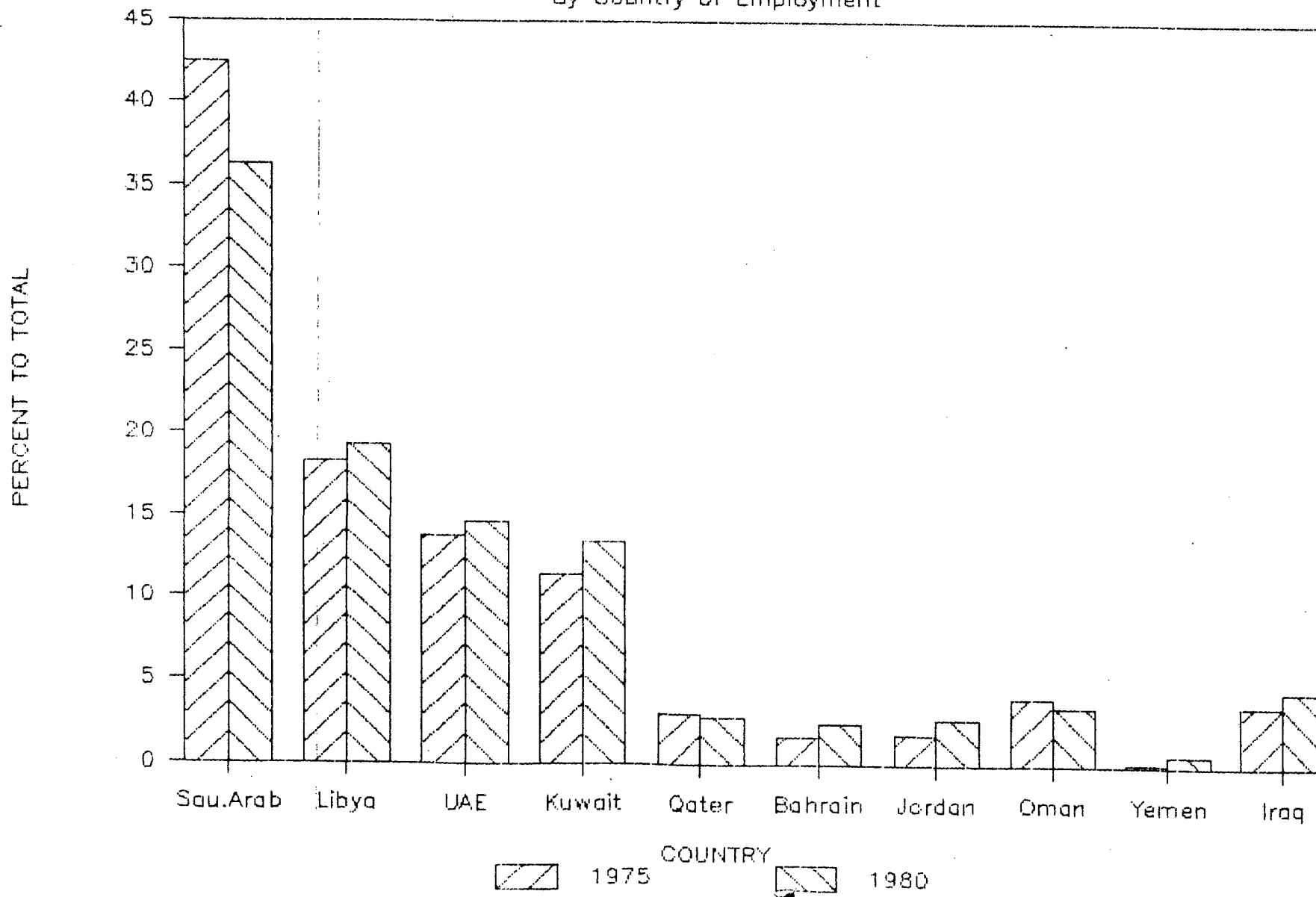
Table 4.7  
Foreign Labour Force in West Asian Countries  
By Country Origin: 1985 (in '000)

| Countries | Total  |         | Egypt  |         | Jordan |         | Yeman AR |         | Yeman PDR |         | Others |         |
|-----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|
|           | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number   | Percent | Number    | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Bahrain   | 85     | 2.28    | 4      | 0.54    | 4      | 1.50    | 5        | 6.25    | 2         | 2.00    | 70     | 3.85    |
| Kuwait    | 430    | 11.53   | 137    | 18.34   | 70     | 26.22   | 24       | 30.00   | 11        | 11.00   | 188    | 10.35   |
| Oman      | 145    | 3.89    | 7      | 0.94    | 7      | 2.62    | 3        | 3.75    | 1         | 1.00    | 127    | 6.99    |
| Qater     | 108    | 2.90    | 16     | 2.14    | 8      | 3.00    | 8        | 10.00   | 3         | 3.00    | 73     | 4.02    |
| Sau.Arab  | 2500   | 67.02   | 500    | 66.93   | 158    | 59.18   | 720      | 900.00  | 75        | 75.00   | 1047   | 57.65   |
| UAE       | 462    | 12.39   | 83     | 11.11   | 20     | 7.49    | 40       | 50.00   | 8         | 8.00    | 311    | 17.13   |
| Total     | 3730   | 100.00  | 747    | 100.00  | 267    | 100.00  | 80       | 100.00  | 100       | 100.00  | 1816   | 100.00  |

Source: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, "Study on Impacts of Returning Migration in Settled Countries of the ESCWA Regions", DPP/86/14, United

# MIGRANT WORKERS IN WEST ASIAN REGION

By Country of Employment



An estimation of the number of migrants in 1985 is represented in table 4.7. There is little sign of decreased immigration into Saudi Arabia, the largest importer of labor. Indeed the stock of workers in the Kingdom rose about 1 million from 1980 to 1985. Some (e.g. ILO) argue that the stock of workers in Saudi Arabia rose by less than 200,000 from 1980 to 1985. The number of workers in Kuwait increased, but only very slightly, from about 380,000 in 1980 to perhaps 430,000 in 1985; the number of new work permits in Kuwait fell over 59 percent from 1983 to 1985. (Economist Sept. 6, 1986 p. 67<sup>62</sup>. However, the recent study of the foreign labour force in Kuwait revealed that, although the new economic climate did indeed dampen the inflow of migrant workers, its effect on the size of the labour force was relatively minor as a growing proportion of foreign workers, opted to remain in Kuwait after the completion of their initial contracts.

In addition the labour force will very probably grow faster than the demand for immigrant labour in the oil exporting countries or in the industrialised countries. Before, the sharp decline in oil prices the World Bank (Sharbiny, 1984) estimated that the annual demand for

immigrant labour of all types in Saudi Arabia would expand at 2.9 between 1985 and 1990<sup>63</sup>. The growth of demand for labour in the oil exporting countries' will not absorb as large as a percentage of the region's labour force in the 1990s as it did during the past fifteen years.

Relationship between economy and urban levels countries falling into high medium and low categories of urbanization 1990, classified by 1988 GDP./capita

Table 4.8

Relationship Between Economy and Urban Level

| Levels of Urbanization 1990 | GDP/Per capita income, 1988 |                          |                              |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
|                             | High (\$ 3000)              | Medium (\$2999 - \$1000) | Low (\$ 999)                 |
| High (80% plus)             | Baharain<br>Israel          |                          | Kuwait<br>Qatar              |
| Medium (40% - 80%)          | U.A.E.<br>S.A.              | Iraq<br>Jordan           | Yemen (D)<br>Cyprus<br>Syria |
| Low (below 40%)             | Oman                        |                          | Yemen                        |

Source: 1. Urbanization - Prospects of Urbanization 1990.  
2. Per capita income - World Bank - Indicators, 1990

The above table 4.8 divulged the relationship between the percapita income and the level of urbanization in the West Asian countries. According to their percapita



income and their level of urbanization is grouped into three separate categories like percapita income, High (above 3000 \$), Medium (2999-1000\$) and Low (below 999\$), as well as urbanization level divided into (below 40 percent) low level, medium level (between above 40 percent and below 80 percent) and a high level above 80 percent of urbanization for this present analysis.

In the first group, falling into the high categories of percapita income and level of urbanization are Bahrain, Kuwait, Israel and Qatar. As a result, they have mostly depended on foreign labour force to implement development activities, mainly in construction and service sectors.

Recently these countries, plans and policies focusing on diversified migration stream from rural areas and encouraging redistribution of urban population. Established new settlement in sub urban areas and created oil related industries and construction activities provided employment and other life facilities in order to resolve problem of urban crowding. Also, promoting rural development activities there by retaining population in these areas. This may be partially the reason for the medium level of urbanization though these countries are having higher level of percapita incomes.

It is much more plausible that increased urbanization and raising percapita income are both the result of economic growth process and especially of industrialisation. In the past many attempts to 'explain' rapid urban growth have relied heavily upon the apparently clear cut links between the level of gross national products (GNP) percapita and the urban proportion of total population.

The relationship between percapita income, level of urbanization and urban growth rate can be seen from these table 4.8.

Table 4.8  
 Relationship Between Economy and  
 Urban Level in the West Asian Countries

| Country   | Per capita<br>Income (\$) 1988 | Urban<br>Popula<br>tion<br>1990 (%) | Average<br>Growth<br>Rate of<br>Urban<br>Populat.<br>1985-90 (%) |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Bahrain   | 6340                           | 83.0                                | 3.97   |
| Cyprus    | 6260                           | 52.0                                | 2.35   |
| D. Yemen  | 640                            | 43.3                                | 4.68   |
| Iraq      | 2410 (1984)                    | 71.3                                | 4.06   |
| Israel    | 8650                           | 91.6                                | 1.96   |
| Jordan    | 1500                           | 68.0                                | 4.39   |
| Kuwait    | 13400                          | 95.6                                | 3.80   |
| Lebanon   | 810 (1983)                     | 23.7                                | 1.05   |
| Oman      | 5000                           | 10.6                                | 7.45   |
| Qatar     | 9930                           | 89.5                                | 4.49   |
| Sau. Arab | 6200                           | 77.3                                | 5.11   |
| UAE       | 15770                          | 77.8                                | 3.26   |
| Syria     | 1680                           | 50.4                                | 4.46   |
| Yemen     | 430                            | 25.0                                | 8.15   |

For the present analyse, West Asian countries are divided into three groups according to their percapita income in 1980 countries like Bahrain, Qatar, Omen, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Israel and UAE enjoying with high level of percapita income (above \$ 3000). In mediumlevel of percapita income (\$ 2999 - 1000) countries are Syria, Jordan and Iraq, where as the low level of percapita income countries are Yemen and Lebanon (below \$ 999). In the same, urban growth in the West Asian cuntries divided as high (above 5 percent), medium (below 5 per cent to 2 percent and low level (below 2 percent).

The above table attempt to highlight some important points. The relationship between these phenomena has differed from country to country in the West Asian countries. In general, most of the West Asian countries irrespective of their level of urbanization and their percapita income, they marked between medium level of urban growth rates, as above 2 to below 5 percent in 1985-1990. In the high percapita income countries in the West Asian region, Israel is the only 'capital rich' country, enjoying the high level of percapita income and high level of urbanisation (91.6 per cent in 1990) to associate with low level or urban growth (below 2 percent) which is quite very low level of growth rate compared to other 'capital rich

countries in this region. However, Oman though achieved high level of percapita income accompanied with low level of urbanization (10.6 per cent in 1990) holding a high growth rate of urban population about 7.1 percent. It is higher among the high level of percapita income caountries. In the capital poor countries, yemen has marked one of the highest urban growth rate (8.1 per cent) compared to the West Asian countries as a whole, and along with low level of per capita income and urbanization (25 percent in 1990). Whereas inthe same level of percapita income with high level of urbanization (83.7 percent) in Lebanon possessed a low level of urban growth rate only one percent in 1985-1990. Therefore evidences show that there is a causal relationship between the percapita income and the annual growth rate of urban population. It is believed that unless these countries attain high level of urbanization, this trend will continue in the future.

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CHAPTER V

CONSEQUENCES OF URBAN GROWTH  
GROWTH AND URBAN POLICIES IN WEST ASIA

## CONSEQUENCES OF URBAN GROWTH AND URBAN POLICIES IN WEST ASIA

In the West Asian region, the reality seems to be a polarised growth pattern of the urban system with the background of an increasing regional imbalance. Particularly, it has distorted the traditional network and hierarchy of settlement. This is due to imbalance between the supply and the demand of labour. The fact that the first generation Arab nations development plans, and many of the second generation failed to direct adequate attention to the importance of the rise in the volume of employment as an objective. The oversight betrayed a series of economic and social lapse, and has had grave economic and social implications. These go beyond the damage which unemployment causes to the volume of production, and to purchasing power and welfare, to threaten stability and cohesiveness in society.

Imbalance is that between the country side and the urban centres. The neglect manifest itself in the relatively meagre attention given to agriculture and to rural society in the way of projects, funds, schools, health care and social recreational facilities. In contrast, the towns and cities, particularly larger ones have received an

unduly larger proportion of the resources and remarkable development or otherwise, it led to over concentration in all services, industries, cultural and educational facilities and other public amenities within a small radius.

In addition, the imbalance among social groups within each country, manifest in large, and widening gaps in the possession of productive assets and in income distribution.

The very divergence in income per capita cannot be bridged effectively in the foreseeable future.

Lastly, the ethnic imbalance which reflected in the high proportion of non-nationals who reside in these cities is very striking. The social and political implications of such ethnic imbalance in the demographic composition of the population are apparent.

This imbalance has led to large scale demographic shifts which have resulted in the draining away of an important component of the rural population and the overcrowding of the cities and generally feeding of alienation and marginality among the rural folk.

#### **HOUSING PROBLEMS:**

United Nation (1959) ... problems have arisen through prolonged unplanned and uncontrolled growth which

has resulted in increased over crowding exaggerated metropolitan concentration, industrial over-concentration, urban sprawl, administrative confusion, and various difficulties attendant upon the provision of facilities to keep pace with the rapid growth of the city and its periphery.<sup>2</sup>

The West Asian countries today facing an unprecedented urban crisis of grave proportions. The grotesque manifestations of such a crisis at all levels - physical, political, social, economical and psychic are becoming increasingly apparent<sup>3</sup>.(Shamir Khalaf, 1984).

The continuous influx of population from rural to urban areas, leading to high rate of urban population growth puts excessive pressure upon existing resources of the urban areas creating problems like housing shortages, lack of water supply, unemployment, inadequacy of sanitary services, environmental pollution and lack of transport facilities etc.<sup>4</sup>

The government concerned are overburdened with the problems of providing the necessary services for the inflow of the non-national labour force required for the massive

development projects and new corporations, in addition to maintenance of the current social services eg. hospitalisation, education, housing, traffic, recreational outlets etc.<sup>5</sup> However, many cities have not provided even the bare necessities to life amenities to many of their new residents.

In fact the establishment of new industrial enterprises inevitably attract both skilled and unskilled workers the provision of housing, water, transportation, education, and health services have only partially met the growing demand.

Unfortunately much of urban planning in the West Asian countries reinforces rather than subverting the conditions of suffering. For example, in Lebanon, as elsewhere in the West Asian countries, expressed concern about the hazardous traffic congestions, violation of construction ordinances and, lighted shanty towns<sup>6</sup>.

For the real planning problems of the rapidly growing primate cities are related to their size, complexity and increasing social polarization<sup>7</sup> is obvious fact in West Asian countries.

Urban population has increased four times over the last forty years; by the year 2000 it is likely to be twenty times what it was in 1920. The task of housing in current generation and even more the generations to follow, presents a momental challenges.

In West Asian Region, the most obvious result of rapid urbanisation has been a chronic and growing housing shortage in urban areas. Inadequacy of housing and community facilities with the attendant(s) evils, has been major element in the deterioration of the urban environment.

The rural to urban migration has been the chief factor responsible for the mushrooming of uncontrolled settlements on the urban fringe. The high birth rate, the declining death rate, the attraction of oil and construction industries, the political events resulting in refugees and displaced persons all of these have added to the pressure of urban<sup>s</sup> problems of housing and no country is exempted.

In congested urban areas, the development of an urban infrastructure and housing units has not kept pace with the fast growth of cities and urban-industrial agglomerations during the last two decades. The growing chronic housing shortages and adequate utilities and public services are common problem in most of the West Asian countries.

New migrants build all types of housing everywhere, without official approval, and resist later efforts to move than somewhere because of poor planning and the inadequate involvement of the private sector in building and construction. Most countries have been unable to .pl63 provide adequate housing for all urban dwellers. For instance, Kuwait has been more successful in this than any other nations. Partly through a greater participation of the private sector in constructing new housing between 1980 and 1984, Kuwait planed to build more than half a million new dwellings to meet its growing housing needs<sup>9</sup>

Investment in low-cost housing is commonly considered to be a waste of resources bringing in a few immediate returns, particularly in comparison with investment is seen a social overhead which is wholly resource absorbing rather than resource productivity (Smith, 1980). In Syria 20,000 additional dwelling units are needed each year to keep pace with population growth and physical deterioration, but only 7000 are constructed.

Jordan estimates its annual housing requirements to be 16,000 units for the next ten years with about 50 per cent to low income groups. Yet the present five year plan provides for only 31,000 units instead of 80,000 units.<sup>11</sup> The Iraqi government estimates that more than 100,000



housing units will be needed in the country each year for the next 20 years. But, while the problems and future needs are generally well stated, the policy to tackle them is ambiguous.<sup>12</sup>

The urban housing shortage in Iraq has reached catastrophic proportions especially in the low-income category. The situation become worse annually as the rate of provision of adequate housing lags far behind urban expansion resulting from immigration and natural population increases.<sup>13</sup>

The crux of the problem, however, relates to housing. Not only is there an absolute deficit of housing units but also much of the existing stock, whether it be in old inner-city locations or in peripheral areas such as shanty towns, lack minimum standards and need to be redeveloped, rehabilitated or provided with basic amenities. Inadequate housing is not a new phenomenon, but what is of growing concern to the planners is the scale of the problem<sup>14</sup> in the West Asian countries.

Throughout the region there appears to be both inadequate planning and provision of a wide range of facilities. This particularly applies to housing although severe difficulties are being experienced as a result of inadequate sewage and piped water systems, the lack of

health and welfare facilities. Many recent studies have shown that the distribution of existing facilities strengthens the divide between different social groups<sup>15</sup>.

Therefore, in generally, adequate resources is not allocated enough to urban housing which induces squatter settlements grow fast.

#### SLUM AND SQUATTERS SETTLEMENT PROBLMES

The information of slum and squatter settlements that is available at present is inadequate, not only for the purposes of planning but also simply for understanding the nature and scope of urban problems in these countries. This could be avoided if field work is possible. In many cases official figures on slum and squatter settlements are underestimates and even casual observation of urban areas (in some of the West Asian countries) reveals the growth of squatter settlements and number of people who are homeless are living in crowded conditions.

Squatter settlements are mainly uncontrolled low income residential areas with an ambiguous legal status regarding land occupation; they are to a long extent built

by the inhabitants themselves using their own means and are usually poorly equipped with public utilities and community services<sup>16</sup>.

In fact, the rapid expansion of population, speculation in real estate, exorbitant rents, inadequate municipal or government rent control and lack of house-cost or low income subsidized housing schemes compel the people to live in slums and squatter settlements, undesirable both from the point of view of public health and hygiene and from that of comfort and decent levels of living. In other words, slums and uncontrolled settlements, which result from the increased concentration of population in the cities and a consequent over crowding and shortage of suitable living condition accommodation which create pressures on all community facilities and services, threatening the survival of the existing core.

Squatting began as far as back in the 1920s in some cities, such as Rabf-Sale and Baghdad such as rabbit sale and Baghdad. In the latter the proportion living in Sarifa settlements reached almost one-third of the total population by the late 1950s. As in most cities, however, the main period of growth has been during the third quarter of the present century.<sup>17</sup>.

Shanty town populations, by and large, have turned out to be fairly responsible urban dwellers (Nelson, 1979)<sup>18</sup> The slum dwellers are located in the inner city, in old decaying substandard housing, much of which may be condemned and is certainly unsafe to inhabit.

The residents may be second or third generation migrants or trading and crafts people long-standing in the city, where only the poor services are offered to them by the municipality; the broken sewers, crowded schools, collapsed buildings, and mounds of refuse that often make these quarters forbidding than that of the shanty towns<sup>19</sup>.

Apart from internal migration and the international migration, Arab Asian, European and African comprising over 60 nationalities legal and illegal immigration contributed to the growth of slum areas.<sup>20</sup> In addition, ofcourse, there have been the war refugees and Palestinian migrants who have added to the squatter population in Beirut, Damascus and Amman. The living conditions in quarter settlements are poor. Make shift and impermanent materials are used to construct small huts generally over crowded. The tin-can house settlements are uncontrolled, unplanned and lack basic services<sup>21</sup>.

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It is not surprising that, surveys shows, considerable members of squatters worked in formal sector activities, such as factory or white collar occupations. This has been confirmed for Baghdad.

However, the urban squatter houses are rented for very high prices many surveys indicate that large number of squatters rent their dwellers from squatter landlord or purchase complete units built by petty entrepreneurs<sup>22</sup>.

Countries have tried to control the location and form that shanty development takes by allocating land and providing minimum facilities. In some countries shanty settlements have been bulldozed away and the occupants forcibly moved. This tends to shift problem to a new location rather than resolving it. In other instances low-cost housing has been provided but rents are often so high that displaced cannot afford them.

The wholesale demolition and the clearance involve political risks so that only a few occasions have such actions occurred on a large scale. However, small scale clearance take place frequently as a consequence of various municipal projects such as road improvements and/or the construction of public buildings. Alternative accomodation

or compensation is rarely offered to the affected families who are reabsorbed in the remaining slum or squatter communities<sup>23</sup>.

Of the large cities in the region only Baghdad and to a certain extent Damascus, currently has large areas of land under government control and it is not surprising that some of the major attempts at clearance and reallocation have occurred there. In 1963, many Sarifa dwellers were relocated outside the city at Madinat al-thawara and their huts were destroyed.

#### **WATER PROBLEM**

At present, water scarcity is one of the crucial problems faced by the West Asian countries over last 50 years or so. Especially since the second world war, water source in these countries have been faced with the twin problems of rapidly rising urban population numbers and as the result of increasing standards of living, a marked growth in the per capita domestic consumption of water. This result has been a desperate struggle to obtain new sources of water to meet these ever growing demands. Inevitably it has meant that water has to be transported over greater distances towards the growing urban centres. (Beaumont, 1974)<sup>24</sup>.

In many cases drinking water was obtained from ground water sources by well or ganant and so water quality was often high,<sup>25</sup> but whereas, the surface water sources often polluted by the entry of domestic sewage effluents.

The level of access to satisfactory water supplies by many urban residents is still unsatisfactory in many parts of the region. The poorest towns from this respect tend to be the smaller regional centres which have not benefited to the same extent from the infrastructured investment that has often gone into the capital cities and other larger cities. New desalination plants are to be built on both the Red sea and Gulf coasts. However, when the current desalination programme is complete almost tow-thirds of the water production capacity will be located on the Gulf coasts.

Although water supply has always played a big role in urban development, the disposal of human wastes has been almost totally neglected. The result is that only the most of rudimentary sewar systems have existed until recently in many of the region's urban areas. At the same time all the rivers passing through the industrial and urban areas were often severely polluted by effluents.



To cope with these increasing problems it was felt necessary to construct a major new sewage treatment facility to handle the urban and industrial effluents. The scarcity of water in the region led to consider various ways in which the treated sewage effluents could be used for beneficial purposes. Suggested uses include irrigation of crops, fish-farming and even complete reclamation and recycling for drinking water purposes.

Many experts however, have expressed worry about the re-use of waste waters for drinking water supply as the result of our lack of knowledge of the long term effect of their usage. But Israelis have expressed the interest in the re-use of sewage effluents, eventhough they have not yet embarked upon any major projects. For instance, Amman has become a large metropolis where 50 per cent of Jordan's population lives in problems related to water supply and is inadequate sewage dispersal systems<sup>26</sup>.

## POVERTY AND OTHER ISSUES

Most of the West Asian countries facing another grave problem i.e. 'absolute poverty', especially in the capital poor countries. The evidences indicate the

percentage of the poverty in total population of these countries are Turkey (30 per cent), PDR Yemen (24 percent), Jordan (21 per cent), Y.A.R. (14 per cent) and Iraq (13 per cent).

The World Bank guessed that about 80 per cent of total Middle East poverty was in the countryside (Kavalsky (1980)<sup>27</sup>. In Turkey, about 40 per cent are unskilled laborers with artisans in the informal sector constituting another one-third. Interestingly, nearly one-fifth of government employees are poor and over half of all unskilled laborers and one third of all artisans are poor (Dervis and Robinson (1980)<sup>28</sup>.

This data should remind that the categories of "the poor" and the "informal sector" are not the same. Probably, an increasing incidence of poverty, among their lower ranks. Observers guessed that the percentage of absolute poor people has declined over time in Y.A.R., Jordan, Syria and Iraq.

Poverty is partly a function of demography. If an entire family of six depends on one male unskilled labourer for its consumption, that family, will almost certainly be poor in any country in the West Asian Region.

All the cities are full of people who in fact are rootless or if organised, and so in ways that enjoys no respect or legitimacy beggars, prostitutes dope pushers, scavengers, drifters, and derelicts. Time and again, political protest draws in the lumpen elements, and organised confrontation may degenerate into random looting. Few observers in the last decade or so have failed to not the striking presence of the very young in all forms of urban violence. These are preadolescent or early adolescent street urchans, kid playing books, runaways, orphans, and beggars (Richards and Waterbury 1990).

#### INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION POLICIES

While regard to international migration policies, with declining oil revenues and the end of the construction boom, the Governments of many countries in the West Asian Region which previously received large number of foreign workers are now attempting to employ local workforce in the jobs the expatriates had been performing. This is partially out of a desire to be more self sufficient, but due to the also desire that less money should go abroad in the form of remittances. Therefore many of this countries have established targets and new restriction or laws for reducing

the number of foreign workers. But without good demographic data, it is difficult to evaluate the impact of the policies on reducing total number of migrants.

International migration is active in West Asian countries where strong pull or push factors induce cohorts of professionals, skilled and unskilled workers to seek opportunities in other countries. Governments have a great stake in the size and direction of such migratory movements.

Until 1970s the capital rich countries in the West Asian region maintain a *Laissez faire*<sup>31</sup> position with respect to their labour shortages, allowing migrant workers from neighbouring Arab countries to enter with a minimum control. By the mid and late 1970s the receiving countries needed ever larger supplies of labour which they found in a number of Asian countries. India and Pakistan have generally entered the West Asian countries labour market through national and third-country contracting firms that have brought in labour for their project's settled them in work camps and repatriated them enmasse. During the same period, the labour importing countries began to recruit workers from South East Asia, who worked for competitive wages, were racially different (and thus easily distinguishable), and were repatriated when their contracts expired.

Once the workers are transported to the host country, a typical project operates at high efficiency, with intensification of working houses, work discipline and rapid rotation of the labour force, for eighteen months. The foreign workers are physically separated from the host societies in camps that actually have "no entry" signs and that workers are not generally allowed to leave. Basic necessities from housing to food are provided by the employers, thus minimizing contact with the local population<sup>31</sup>.

Most of the receiving countries now restrict family immigration and make naturalization nearly impossible, thereby preventing the likelihood of either assimilation or integration. The labour receiving countries in recent years have tended to adopt measures that more strictly regulate immigration and labour recruitment, discourage the immigration of family dependents and enforce, as much as possible to the rotation of labour. This measures include the promotion of such novel labour importing mechanisms as the so called "Turnkey project" by means of which a foreign company contracted to carryout a certain project, provides every input including the manpower together with the new forms of labour migration.

The future of the large number of foreign workers who remaining the receiving countries remains uncertain. They are unlikely to be repatriated en masse in the immediate future. However, there are likely to be smaller increases in their incomes, strict control over their spare-time activities, and an over all deterioration of their current precarious economic and social situation.

The policies of the labour exporting countries focus largely on recruitment, although they cover a broad range of approaches, from the highly organised "project package" approach to simple manpower export<sup>32</sup>. For instance the Government of Republic of Korea, has developed highly organised approach to labour migration, which involves supplying total project (from design to execution) to the West Asian countries markets.

A number of countries, encourage migration of professionals and skilled workers and labourers to the oil rich countries in the region because of the sizeable remittances from emigrants.

Sadik (1991) pointed out that the sending countries have incurred one risk. As they become increasingly dependent on remittances from emigrants, their economies can be adversely affected by change in the policy or the economic strength of the receiving countries<sup>35</sup>.

However, despite contemporary concern with international migration for employment there has not yet been any regional or unified approach to what is acknowledged to be a challenging issue. Even national policies have been slow to evolve beyond a short term and ad hoc basis.

As a result, government action in the Arab world directed towards the movement of labour has been pragmatic, challengeable, inconsistent, and often contradictory. The only characteristic that policies have shared is their relatively ineffective application<sup>36</sup>.

#### IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION POLICIES

Cyprus immigration policy is aiming at raising the level of immigration in the future, including students abroad to return but at the same time encouraging their own population emigration. The governments emigration policy objectives is to maintain the minimum level of emigration. Its present level is considered significant and satisfactory.

In Democratic Yemen, there is no known policy concerning immigration while in the past emigration was encouraged, because of the substantial remittance it could generate. However official policy is to limit emigration by

enacting laws which tries to limit or intensely restrict such movements. The Bahrain, emigration policy aims to reduce the future outward flow of migrants. As with immigration, no quantitative targets have been set in regard to reducing the need for skilled foreign labour. In Bahrain, the government perceived immigration rates are to be significant and too high. Emigration levels are viewed as not significant and satisfactory.

In Qatar, immigration policy divulged that, more than half of the total population are immigration of foreign workers and their dependents. For the increasing numbers of undocumented or illegal immigrants, government policies giving emphasis to the replacement of expatriate workers with nationals would eventually to reduce the dependence on foreign labour and immigration. The primary reason for strictly following the immigration rules because of the concern, country's security. Therefore, in 1985, laws were introduced limiting the activities of non-national population in trade and industry.

The U.A.E. government has established a policy to reduce immigration and to restrict it to those immigrants with essential skills. The entry of the dependents of migrants with work permits is still permitted. Nationals who have emigrated are often offered incentive to return, such as receiving assistance in finding high paying



employment<sup>37</sup>. The Oman, government immigration policy is promoting the reduction of the significant non-national labour force, which has been estimated to be about two-thirds of the total labour force. Since 1987, the employment of non-nationals in certain occupations have been restricted. However, both the countries of UAE and Oman, the level of immigration is to be unsatisfactory and too high, while the emigration is insignificant and satisfactory.

Syrian, immigration policy concern, is not an active one given its in significant level. Emigration, however, is an area of active policy. Until 1970's emigration was unrestricted, but the government's recent views concern over the departure of skilled workers has placed restriction on emigration.<sup>38</sup>.

Yemen, immigration policy encourage as immigrant workers. Because of substantial out migration, the country has depends heavily on the immigration of unskilled workers to compensate for its labour deficit. In addition, it is dependent upon expatriates to fill many professional positions.

The government seeks the return of qualified Yemenis, although no measures to encourage their return have been specified. While the emigration policy promotes

emigration of Yemenis, because they gain a major source of income through their remittances. Iraq implemented measures to reduce the emigration of skilled personnel and its encourages the repatriation of Iraqis living abroad. In over all, levels and trends of immigration are considered to be not significant and satisfactory. Even, the emigration is also in the similar position, although some concern is expressed with regard to the brain drain.

The Isreal, Government policy advocates boosting the levels of immigration, which in recent years has fallen sharply. The Government cites the decrease in the Jewish diaspora as the reason for the reduced immigration<sup>39</sup>. It aims to integrate immigrants and refugees into the country's culture and economy. Although the Government does not have an emigration policy, series concern has been expressed over the significant level of out-migration. Isreal's immigration levels and trends are viewed as not significant and too low. Emigration is considered significant and too high.

Jordan, Government wishes to keep the level of immigration more or less constant and reduce the level of emigration. The level of immigration is considered

satisfactory, while the level of emigration is too high. Although accurate data on the emigration of Jordan and the immigration of foreign workers are not available.

In Kuwait, immigration policy is to maintain the inflow of labour resources to alleviate shortages but to reduce the level in the future. The policy favours the migration of males, while discouraging the entry of dependents. Concern emigration, there is a desire to prevent the braindrain by restricting migrant labour with important skills and expertise. The Government is determined to develop the nationals indigenous labour resources in order to reduce its dependence on foreign-born labour. The five year plan for 1986-1990 aims to reduce the expatriate population by 600,000 in 1990.

#### **URBANIZATION/SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION POLICIES**

The International Conference on Population held at Amman, Jordan from 25 to 29 March, 1984, the delegations from the West Asian countries <sup>42</sup>, emphasised the importance of achieving a geographical distribution of population. The Governments recommended that population distribution strategies should be adopted with a view to dispersing centres of production to cities that were for removed from

existing population centres, with the long-term goal at achieving a better distribution of population within the border geographical territory of the Arab countries.

Also, strategies include policies and measures designed to promote integrated rural development with aim of achieving population stability and increasing THE potential small and medium size urban centres.

Bahrain, spatial policy focuses on decentralization to reduce excessive population concentration in largest cities or urban areas like Mahama and Muharraq. A number of steps have been taken to divert the concentration, such as by establishing low-cost satellite houses in sub-urban areas or less densely populated towns and improvement in public transport and communication system, could be possible for the redistribution of population.

Cyprus has a policy to decelerate rural to urban migration. The Government's strategy is promoting rural development to raise rural incomes there by retaining population in those areas. The measures include the provision of housing and social services, human resources investments and job training, public investment subsidies and

development grants, loans, and tax incentives to new industries in rural areas and irrigation projects, price subsidies for certain crops.<sup>43</sup>

A policy is expected to promote urbanisation in D. Yemen, by creating more small and immediate cities, but without depopulating rural regions. Therefore, increasing housing in urban areas and provide public utilities in municipalities, job training and the extension of transportation and communication net works. There are projects to settle the nomadic population and integrated bodiams into the mainstream of reforms for instance to relocate the scattered rural population into settlements of atleast 100 house hold and farming population in 54 centres.

Iraq, spatial distribution is considered somewhat unsatisfactory, because excessive rural to metropolitan immigration. Therefore in 1978, the government reported its plan for industrialisation in third order urban centres, the development of medium size regional towns and market centres and the implementation of agricultural reforms. In Isreal, the policy is to reduce international migration and to disperse population to specified regions. Policy objectives include reducing regional inequalities, creating balanced urban hierarchy, and improving urban/rural linkages.

Primarily, national security is an objective in regard to the dispersal of population to border and occupied territories.

Jordan spatial distribution policies main goals are; to increase in-migration into rural areas, decrease in-migration into Amman, the capital and other largest metropolitan areas, but encourage out migration from the large metropolitan areas, and decrease out-migration from rural areas. To stimulate economic activity and stem migration, the Government announced that it would spend over \$ 1 billion on housing, education and public works projects and initiated a comprehensive socio economic development programme, for instance, Jordan Valley Authorities.

Kuwait Governments policy is to influence directly the pattern of urban settlement in order to resolve problems of urban overcrowding. The policy aims to redistribute urban population by promoting the small towns and intermediate cities, supplemented by creation of new towns. Whereas, Saudi Arabia has designed a series of measures to organise regional development at metropolitan, second and third order urban centres and rural areas to settle nomadic population through agricultural development and to establish industrial zones in different regions. The objective is to provide urban level services to rural settlements that

involve as little displacement as possible. For instance, Jubila new city under construction is expected to have 300,000 inhabitants by 1995<sup>44</sup>.

In Oman, regarding the area of spatial distribution of the population, the Government wishes to maintain and develop the existing area of population concentration, while reducing immigration and rural to urban migration. The policy for the development of secondary urban centres and aims to bring down the gaps in the standard of living between different regions.

The Government of Qatar, in order to improve spatial distribution of the population programmes created that are in effect to stimulate industrial growth in second-order urban centres, encouraging nomades and to settle and concentrate dispersed rural population. Also exacted a development programme with all the necessary facilities such as health centres, education institution, social services and youth welfare aiming to encourage settlement in outside urban areas.

Syrian Government policies are in place to reduce to-urban migration by improving public services such as education and overall living conditions in rural areas. In the case of Yemen, to reduce migration to the largest metropolitan centres, and other urban areas, the Government

seeks to improve the provision of basic needs and the quality of life in rural areas, strength of agricultural sector, develop a more balanced regional infrastructure and establish more educational opportunities in small towns measure undertaken include, soil improvement, road construction<sup>45</sup>, potable water, electrification, telecommunication and soon.

#### **FUTURE URBAN STRATEGIES**

The diverse urban conditions in the West Asian countries pose tremendous challenges to urban planners and policy makers. The urban policies and priorities must be linked with the national goals and objectives. In this context national distribution of population, land use policies, and the establishment of new industries must provide the basis for long term solution to the current urban problems. Future urbanisation should be linked with socio-economic development plans and created urban centres around industrial schemes with basic services should be developed near rural settlements with the objectives of the decentralization of services and redistribution of the population <sup>47</sup>.

Urban planning must develop alternative strategies to respond to future needs so that ameliorative intervention, can occur when problems become too severe.



For that, Gans, 1968 and Berry, 1973, emphasised a decision making system that is responsive to current and sensitive to future problems<sup>48</sup>.

Different priorities and strategies should need to be formulated and employed in the planning of different urban areas. Further more, planning for a particular city or urban areas should be developed as a part of single planning zone, where administrative decisions can be made and implemented.

Resulted in large squatter settlements living under appalling conditions in many major urban centres in West Asian countries. Therefore it is necessary to take a positive action to deal with the millions of workers from the countryside and settledown in major urban centres continuously. However, uncontrolled migration will be disastrous, as it will paralyse the effective functioning of major urban centres.

This crisis can be averted if the squatter areas are provided with certain minimum infrastructure facilities and the new migrants can identify with and actively participate in the affairs of the own local communities with economic development, a corresponding more equitable distribution of income and assets. Rural sectors should

give special attention to make it more economically attractive, would help to reduce the people will in future migrate tot he urban areas or primate cities.

Action should be taken to induce and direct the rural migrants to smaller centres. Fiscal incentives for new industries and deliberate investment on infrastructure in smaller or urban centres need to generate better opportunities. Hopefully, this will attract more migrants to these centres.

However, stringent legislation to control migration to some of the major urban centres is necessary.

The staggering urban housing situation cannot be resolved without the efforts, co-operation and initiative of the masses. Multi dimensional approach must be made to detract the population from major urban centres, such as construction of new satellite towns, disincentives for industries and extensive rural development.

Above all, it is important to create public awareness of the magnitude and consequences of these problem. (Khalaf, 1984)<sup>49</sup>.

In addition large number of urban residents have not been systematically and fully documented, which has affected the countries' urban planning for providing urban services and facilities. Because sufficient data should be needed for any kind of policies. For example, a housing policy required data on total population, population density, family size, income and the number of existing dwelling units.

Relevant criteria for the classification of urban settlement in each country should be periodically revived. Such classifications are essential in studying functional relationship among population distribution, social structural changes and economic activities - an important step in urban planning (Singh, 1984)<sup>50</sup>.

Therefore, the development of small and medium sized town should be seriously considered. Countries with limited capacities to develop their agricultural economies should diversify and decentralise their industrial and commercial sectors, and they should locate away from large cities.

However, it is obvious that the difference among the countries of the West Asia in total population, proportion of population living in urban areas, size and location of cities, economic resources available land and

the level of industrialisation would not permit a single universal approach to urban planning applicable to all of them. (Singh, 1984) The subsequent changes in the economy with more opportunities may initiate population movements at the inter intra country level that will affect urban development and urban policy frame to resolve many of the urban issues in the future. There is a need of a regular review in the context of emerging realities.

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**CONCLUSION**

## CONCLUSION

The analysis of the dissertation reveals that colonial impact, rural-urban migration and natural increase have been a combined force in the process of urbanization in the Third World countries. The rate of growth as well as the number of urban agglomerations are increasing rapidly. The emergence of medium cities is also a trend in the Third World now. In the Latin American countries the level of urbanization is high but the rate of growth is declining whereas in West Asian countries the rate of growth is higher and in Afro-Asian countries the rate of growth is the highest but with a very low level of urbanization. This shows that the urbanization in African and Asian countries will be higher in future.

Even though the evolution of cities in the West Asian countries started very early in history but only in the past four decades the urbanization has gained a higher momentum. In Kuwait, Baharain, Isreal, Lebanon, Qatar and Saudi Arabia the level of urbanization is more than 80 per cent. Yemen and Oman have very low of the same. The higher order cities have higher level of population concentration but at the same time the middle order cities are increasing number. Turkey is the only country where the primate cities are well distributed which is the sign of urban primacy. Whereas in other countries the primacy rate is very high which will lead to socio economic imbalance. As the migration of international labour declines, the rural-urban migration and natural increase have become the predominant factor



of urbanization.

The discovery of oil in the West Asian countries has been a pivotal point in their urbanization. The oil related industries and economic activities have enhanced this modernization process and development. The need for professional, skilled and semi-skilled labour in the West Asian countries enabled the migration of international labour (both from Arab countries and from the neighbouring Asian countries) which in turn pushed the urbanization process faster. From the Arab world the migration of in labour into West Asian countries was higher till 1978. Thereafter it is declining. Whereas the migration of Asian labour force started from 1973 to 1980 but from 1985 it is declining. There is a gap in the rate of urbanization between non-oil Arab countries and the oil-rich ones. If there is yet another oil boom in the future the level of urbanization in the non-oil Arab countries will suffer further (for instance Jordan where the economy is based on the export of labour). Higher per capita income in these countries has led to high level of urbanization.

Even though the standard of living of the people goes higher because of urbanization but it has led to various socio-economic problems too. Housing, slums, squatter settlement, poverty, water problem, pollution, crime etc. are increasing phenomenally. These problems have compelled the governments to implement various legislations and policies, for immigration and emmigration international migration and spatial distribution.

The present evidences show that there is a causal relationship between the per capita income and the annual growth rate of urban population. It is believed that unless these countries attain high level of urbanization, this trend will continue in the future. The non-availability of adequate data has hampered the full justice to the study till now and thus the future studies on the topic make the availability of new data a prerequisite.

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1725