



**FEMALE LABOUR MIGRATION TO BEKASI:
CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES**

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Abstract

This thesis is a study of the causes and consequences of female labour migration to Bekasi, Indonesia with particular attention being focused on migrant women who work in factories, especially in so called off shore industries. The present study uses macroanalytic and microanalytic approaches to attempt to obtain a better understanding of the complexity of female labour migration in Indonesia. The study also analyses this migration in the light of some major theories of migration. The study is based upon analysis of a range of secondary information, a small scale survey of 608 randomly selected female labour migrants and some selected non-migrant key persons from four selected villages within two selected sub-districts of kabupaten Bekasi and families of female migrants in the areas of origin through a tracer survey.

The first chapter describes the significance of female migration in the context of population mobility in Indonesia and gives a brief review of the major important dimensions of female migration which have been given little attention in the existing literature. These gaps in the existing literature represent a justification for the present study. This chapter also outlines the aims and objective of the study. Chapter Two assesses critically the major dimensions of female migration in Indonesia and examines the scale and significance of such movement in contemporary Indonesia. In Chapter Three the focus is to examine critically the sources available for the study, and the sampling procedure and methods of data collection used in the present study, while Chapter Four discusses the conceptualisation of migration commonly used in Indonesia and its shortcomings and attempts to justify the definition used in the present study. The context of the

study area is presented in Chapter Five. Chapters Six, Seven, and Eight include the main empirical analysis of the study. Chapter Six identifies the migration patterns and socio-demographic characteristics of the survey migrants. In Chapter Seven the focus is upon examining critically some of the existing theories on causes of migration in the context of female labour migration to Bekasi. This chapter gives a review of the existing theory and identifies the main factors contributing to the movement of the survey migrants to Bekasi. Chapter Eight assesses the consequences of migration for the social and economic aspects of the survey migrants, especially with regard to economic and employment status and living conditions. The final chapter is the conclusion of the study. This chapter summarises the findings of the study and its implications for theory and discusses the research agenda as well as alternative policies.

The study finds that female labour migration is multi-dimensional. In the micro context, economic motivations such as looking for a job, improving career, and wage differentials associated with education level and age characteristics are dominant among the migrants following the assumptions of micro-analytical perspectives such as push-pull and neo-classical equilibrium models. In the macro context, factors such as limited job opportunities in the non-agricultural sector in the area of origin, improvement of female educational attainment, changing social perceptions and the expansion of off-shore industry to the destination area are significantly associated with migration to Bekasi. Moreover, even though migration has improved in role and status of the migrants, the migrants still have great problems regarding their living conditions and future lives. Comprehensive research and adequate policy on these issues should be a priority to improve the

social and economic welfare of the migrants in particular and female workers in general.

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text.

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Glossary

List of abbreviations used in the text

BAPPEDA	Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah (Local Development Planning Board)
BOTABEK	Bogor, Tangerang, Bekasi region
BPS	Biro Pusat Statistik (Central Bureau of Statistic)
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistic
DEPNAKER	Departemen Tenaga Kerja (Department of Manpower)
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
GDRP	Gross Domestic Regional Product
JABOTABEK	Jakarta, Bogor, Tangerang, Bekasi region
LDCs	Less Developed Countries
MDCs	More Developed Countries
NGO	Non Government Organisation
PEMDA	Pemerintah Daerah (Local Government)
RI	Republik Indonesia (Republic of Indonesia)
RT	Rukun Tetangga (Neighbourhood Group)
SUPAS	Survey Penduduk Antar Sensus (Intercensal Survey)