THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION UPON FAMILY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING IN JAVA

by

Ekawati Sri Wahyuni

A thesis submitted for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy
in The University of Adelaide

Department of Geographical and Environmental Studies

March 2000
# Table of Contents

**Title Page**
Page i

**Table of Contents**
Page iii

**List of Tables**
Page vii

**List of Figures**
Page xii

**List of Plates**
Page xvi

**Abstract**
Page xvii

**Declaration**
Page xix

**Acknowledgements**
Page xx

## Chapter One

1.1. Introduction
Page 1

1.2. Study Objectives
Page 7

1.3. Literature Summary
Page 9

1.3.1. The Importance of Family in Migration Study
Page 9

1.3.2. Migration as a Family Strategy: A Conceptual Approach
Page 10

1.3.3. Migration as a Family Strategy: Cross-National Findings
Page 13

  a. Household’s Socio-Economic Condition as a Migration Factor
Page 13

  b. Family Structure as a Migration Factor
Page 16

1.4. Indonesia: The Setting of the Study
Page 20

1.4.1. Geography
Page 20

1.4.2. Demography
Page 22

1.4.3. Economy
Page 26

1.5. Structure of the Thesis
Page 31

1.6. Conclusion
Page 33

## Chapter Two: Methodology

2.1. Introduction
Page 35

2.2. Approach to the Study
Page 36

2.3. The Micro Approach
Page 39

  2.3.1. The Macro Study in Origin Area
Page 39

    a. Selection of the Research Location
Page 39

    b. Data Collection Methods
Page 44

    c. Some Methodological Considerations
Page 55

  2.3.2. Primary Research in the Destination Area
Page 58

    a. Selection of the Research Location
Page 58

    b. Data Collection Methods
Page 64

2.4. The Macro-scale Research
Page 67

  2.4.1. Introduction
Page 67

  2.4.2. Some Considerations in Data Analysis
Page 68

    a. The Life-time Migration Approach
Page 68

    b. Migration Classification
Page 71

    c. Household Structure Classification
Page 72

2.5. Definition of Concepts
Page 79

  2.5.1. Temporary and Permanent Migration
Page 79

  2.5.2. Family and Household
Page 81

2.6. Conclusion
Page 83
9.5. Policy Implications 404
9.6. Conclusion 407

GLOSSARY 410

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Village Questionnaire 412
Appendix B: Household Questionnaire 416
Appendix C: Interview Guide in 'tracing survey' 426
Appendix D: Migration in West Java Province Based on SUPAS 1995 429
Appendix E: Photos in Origin and Destination Areas 437

BIBLIOGRAPHY 444
ABSTRACT

This study was based on a case study with integrated macro and micro approaches to investigate some effects of the development and industrialisation processes in Indonesia. The macro information, such as population censuses, used to investigate the macro changes in migration and family structure. The micro approach was conducted in an origin village in Central Java and in Bandung, West Java as the destination area. The micro-analysis was based on survey data from 270 households and some qualitative information used 'tracing survey' in destination area.

The main objective of the present study is to clarify the nature and strength of the relationship between migration and changes in family structure and functioning and their implications for family welfare in Java. The flow and volume of internal migration in Indonesia is determined by the economic development policy of the government that biased to Java. Migration, inter or intra-provincial and international, has become common solution for working age population from rural or less developed areas to be employed. Better transportation and communication systems between places in Indonesia and the increase in education level of the working age population have accelerated migration. Migration will become more important in the future because not all areas in Indonesia are able to provide enough employment opportunities for its growing labour force and it would be unwise to prevent people from migrating elsewhere.

The decision to migrate is usually made by the individual migrant while the family facilitate the migration process. Both male and female migrants occasionally sent a remittance to their family of orientation but it has become routine to their family of procreation. Migration commonly starts as temporary migration before
migrants establish themselves in the city as permanent migrants, although it may change in the future. Many migrants prefer to circulate between city and origin village for a length of time than to bring their family to the city. The individual life-cycle is very important in determining their migration status.

In destination areas migration has increased the number of non-familial and single person households and reduced the overall household size. Migration has created more female-headed households both in destination and origin areas. Migration also created a split of nuclear family into two or more households dispersed geographically between origin and destination areas, such as circular households leave their family at home and migrant mothers leave their children in the village.

Thorough investigation is needed to study the impact of migration on the welfare of children and elderly left behind, the economic strategy of female-headed households of circular migrant in the village of origin and a strategy to make use of remittances to reduce the pace of migration, also the process of people adjusting to migration and fast economic and social changes in the destination village. Migration should be treated as a way to the labor force and the employment opportunity, either in Indonesia or abroad. The granting of greater autonomy to local government is hoped to change the migration patterns, a regulation to protect overseas workers is urgently needed to reduce the negative effect of international labor migration, migration status of households needs to be included in family data collection, and it is urgent for each factory that employs female workers to provide child care facilities.