
MIGRANT TURKMEN OF LABOUR MARKET: IRAQI TURKMEN LIVING IN ANKARA

Yusuf Can ÇALIŞIR^{1*}, Cihan Serhat KART¹⁺

¹Lecturer at Ankara University

*Corresponding author: Yusufcan Çalışır

+Speaker: Cihan Serhat Kart

Presentation/Paper Type: Oral/ Full Paper

Abstract- Migration mobility which has been existing since the beginning of human history increased after extraordinary developments such as wars, natural disasters and etc. Due to its geographical location, Turkey has been an important stop for the migration movements through out history. In parallel with the crisis in the neighbouring countries, Turkey has become one of the most experienced countries in recent years on the migration mobility especially after “open door policy” implementation. In this context, the main aim of the study is to present the migration processes of Iraqi Turkmen who have migrated to Turkey as a result of the political developments and the developments in this process. As part of these developments, it is aimed to examine how forced migrants are involved in the labour market. In this context “narrative research”, a kind of qualitative research method was used in this research. As a result of the analyses, it has been concluded that migration activity is usually carried out through informal channels. In addition, traditional structures have come to the fore both in terms of transition to a settled order and inclusion in the labour markets.

Keywords- Migration, Forced Migration, Labour Market

Introduction

Humanity has encountered the forced or voluntary migration movement throughout history. The phenomenon of migration can be defined as population mobility, which is caused by crossing an international border or by the voluntary or involuntary displacement of people in a national structure. In general, the phenomenon of migration, which can be considered as a purely geographical displacement, is an issue that needs to be examined together with its reasons and consequences. Because the effects on the individual and society can lead to positive or negative situations.

It is possible to collect the causes of migration in four groups: natural causes, political and religious causes, social and cultural causes and economic causes. Migration comes in various forms and is generally based on volunteerism. However, migration can also occur as a necessity when the conditions of the environment in which a person lives begin to force his or her life. Especially in recent years, the fact that the developments in the political field have taken place in other areas leads individuals to forced migration mobility in masses. Turkey has taken its share of this movement both because of its geographical position and policies and because it has an important location in the face of the migration route. Since the conflict and instability in the Middle East in recent years have intensified, it can be said that the Iraqi Turkmen have been a remarkable community in Ankara. In this context, the main purpose of the study is to examine the migration processes of those who have forced to migrate to Turkey. At the same time, this process was also intended to be analyzed in terms of labour market. In this context, firstly, the conceptual framework on the subject was tried to be included. Migration phenomenon has been evaluated in terms of labour markets. Then, the study was finalized by taking into consideration the results of the analysis of the narrative survey conducted with forced migrants.

Literature Review

Migration is the movement of persons from place to place for economic, religious, political and social reasons. This movement is called “internal migration” if it is within the country, “external migration” or “international migration” if it is between countries (Kaypak ve Bimay, 2016: 88). According to the definition of the United Nations Population Office, migration means the move of person from his / her origin location to his / her permanent residence and thus to change his / her residence (UNHCR, 2017). Therefore, going elsewhere for a short period of time, is not counted as migration. The General Directorate of migration administration of the Ministry of Interior defines migration as “crossing an international border or changing places within a state”

(www.goc.gov.tr). Migration is a phenomenon that is intertwined with political, economic, social and cultural life. However, it also causes different problems in both national and international contexts. The scope of the impact of international migration has been growing more in recent years as it affects more than one state (Arslan, Bozgeyik ve Alancıoğlu, 2016: 130).

The relationship between labour markets and migration is based on economic reasons. Among the attractive factors, economic reasons like the goal of increasing the income level and getting a better place in social life (Cerev ve Yenihan, 2016: 136). Migration is defined as the transport of unemployment to the urban areas where supply is not sufficient in labour market (Gerşil ve Temel, 2015: 415). Turkey applied “open door policy” to the people who fled from civil wars in Syria and Iraq. It is understood that Syrian and Iraqi asylum seekers will stay in Turkey for a long time or that a significant part of them will continue their lives in Turkey (TİSK, 2015: 5). The presence of many asylum seekers in Turkey, and lack of Turkey’s capacity in the field of economy, social and cultural integration, health, education, housing as well as employment will affect the Turkey deeply (Lordoğlu, 2015: 32).

Methodology

migration process of Iraqi Turkmen who immigrated to Turkey and their involvement in labour markets, was analyzed narrative research which is a way of qualitative research. The universe of this research was defined as the Iraqi Turkmen who were engaged in various works in the Ulus district of Ankara. The sample of the study was limited to 15 people. Focusing on 4 main questions expected to serve the purpose of the research, various questions were managed according to the answers given by the interviewers.

Results and conclusion

interviewees' age is at range which has differed between the 18-30 age and all interviewees are male. Moreover, it is observed that all interviewees did not remain in education after secondary school. In terms of family size, it is understood that the interviewees are members of the wider family, except for one interviewee. when we look at why and how the interviewees came to Turkey, it is seen that the responses received are interpreted through war and the migration process is achieved through informal channels. On the other hand, in addition to the emphasis like nobility, brothers and sisters, “only Turkey accepted us” comments were encountered.

All interviewees used informal ways for immigration to Turkey. The most used way was to pay to smugglers for crossing the boarder. Family relations were used for settling in Turkey and taking place in the labour market. On the other hand, only 4 of the interviewees want to return to their native country. Another problem is that Turkmen who works in daily various jobs are generally satisfied with their work.

Bibliography

- Arslan, İ., Bozgeyik, Y., & Alancıoğlu, E. (2016). Göçün Ekonomik ve Toplumsal Yansımaları: Gaziantep'teki Suriyeli Göçmenler Örneği. *İlahiyat Akademisi Dergisi (Gaziantep Üniversitesi İlahiyat Fakültesi)*, 3 (4), 129-148.
- Cerev, G.& Yenihan, B. (2016). Göçün İşgücü Piyasalarına Etkisi Üzerine Bir İnceleme: Elazığ İli Örneği, 2. Uluslararası Uygulamalı Bilimler Kongresi, Konya, 135-141.
- Gerşil, G. & Temel H. (2015). Türkiye’de İşgücü Piyasaları Açısından Göç Olgusu. *Siyaset, Ekonomi ve Yönetim Araştırmaları Dergisi*, 16. *Çalışma Ekonomisi ve Endüstri İlişkileri Kongresi Özel Sayısı*, 413-428.
- Kaypak, Ş., & Bimay, M. (2016). Suriye Savaşı Nedeniyle Yaşanan Göçün Ekonomik ve Sosyo-Kültürel Etkileri: Batman Örneği. *Yaşam Bilimleri Dergisi*, 6(1), 84-110.
- Lordoğlu, K. (2015). Türkiye’ye Yönelen Düzensiz Göç ve İşgücü Piyasalarına Bazı Yansımalar. *Çalışma ve Toplum*, 1(44), 29-44.
- TİSK (2015). *Türk İş Dünyasının Türkiye’deki Suriyeliler Konusundaki Görüş, Beklenti Ve Önerileri*. Yayın No: 353.
- UNHCR (2017). *International Migration Report*. ISBN: 978-92-1-151554-1
<http://www.goc.gov.tr/> Erişim Tarihi (24.06.2018).