



A HISTORY OF MIGRATION TO BANGALORE

H. Shashidhar *

Abstract

Population in Bangalore during the last 130 years has increased from 1.44 Million in 1871 to 5.68 million in 2001. The reasons for this is the increase in area of the city as seen in the enclosed map showing the major constituent units of Bangalore Urban Agglomeration in 2001 the reasons for this is due to (i) increase in fertility rate upto 80s (ii) decrease in mortality rates, (iii) increase in area of the City due to urbanisation of rural units around the city and further growth of the core city itself owing to the incorporation of the surrounding area on a continuous basis over the year and (iv) Immigration or Cityward migration to Bangalore. One of the contributing factors under discussion is migration to Bangalore and hence other factors are not discussed in this paper.

The volume of immigration to Bangalore is largely due to the industrialisation of Bangalore City since 1951 where the employment opportunities have been on the increase. Large scale construction activities, educational and employment opportunities, medical facilities, business and industrial activities, etc., available in Bangalore attracted large number of migrants.

Concept And Definition Of Migration

Changing of one's abode from one country or part of country to another temporarily / permanently is termed as migration. In other words migration throws light on

* H. Shashidhar, IAS is the Director of Census Operations, Karnataka

change of residence from place of origin to place of destination or place of new settlement. Migration within the country - Internal migrants, migration across the international border - External migration.

The study of migration has great significance in the field of population study. In Census 'migration' represents the movement of individual/family from village/town to another with the object of residing in that new village/town. This naturally causes a change in size and structure of the population of the affected place. Census is the only source that provides data on migration.

In Census a person is considered as a migrant by 'place of birth' - if the place in which he is enumerated during the Census is other than the place of his birth. Similarly a person is considered as a migrant by 'place of last residence' - if a person is enumerated in a place which is not his/her place of birth or had resided in another place immediately before settling in the place of enumeration.

The internal migration is classified into four types on the basis of area (i) rural to urban (ii) rural to rural (iii) urban to rural and (iv) urban to urban.

Consequences of Migration

The consequences affect all three social organisations, of the migration, area of the origin and area of the destination.

Migration affects the population of both village/town/city from which they have moved out and village/town/city where they have newly settled. This causes a change in size and structure of the population of the affected place. So migration is one of the major factors which affects the growth of the population of a place at any given point of time. Besides, migration has an impact on the socio-economic, development and demographic profile of the area. The other two factors which affect the growth of population are fertility and mortality.

Status of Bangalore

How Bangalore a tiny village in 12th century grew over the years to become one of fastest growing cities in the world in the 21st century is detailed in the box given below. Bangalore, a city of the past, present and future is unlike other cities in India. Yet it is very much an Indian City. It has a history of 465 years.

12th Century 1537	A tiny village Kempgowda I built the town of Bangalore on the western part of (in and around Krishnarajendra Market of today) the city
1809	Civil and Military Stations on the eastern side (in and around Ulsoor of today) were founded by the British
1862, March 27	Two Municipal Boards, one for the city and the other for the cantonment area were independently formed
1881	Bangalore City Municipality and Bangalore Civil and Military Station Municipality were independently formed
1949, December 8	The two municipalities were merged under the Bangalore City Corporation
1971	The concept of urban agglomeration in Census was introduced for the first time in 1971. Thus, Bangalore Urban Agglomeration was formed incorporating several constituent units such as Bangalore Municipal Corporation and CITB, BEL Township, Devarajeevanahalli, HMT Township, Jalahalli (excluding HMT Township), Kadugondanahalli, HAL Township, HAL Sanitary Board (excluding township) and ITI Notified Area (Durvaninagar)
1981	Baiyyappannahalli Manavarti Kaval, Hebbal, HMT Watch Factory Township, Kadenahalli (includes Ramamurthy Nagar), Kengeri, Krishnarajapura, Lingarajapura and Yelahanka were added to Bangalore Urban Agglomeration
1991	Baiyyappannahalli - Vimanapura, Banasa vadi, Benniganahalli, Byataguttepalya, Byatarayanapura (B.Narayanapura), Dasarahalli, Geddalahalli, Kacharakannahalli, Kammagondanahalli, Kaval Bairasandra, Koramangala, Laggere, Mahadevapura, Nagavara, Pinya, Saneguruvanahalli and Vijanapura were added to Bangalore Urban Agglomeration

2001

Herohalli, Pattanagere, Uttarahalli, Bommanahalli, Konankunte, Gottikere, Kothnur and Hunasamaranahalli have been added to Bangalore Urban Agglomeration

If geographical nomenclature of the unit such as Bangalore district or Bangalore Urban Agglomeration or Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore North and Bangalore South taluk etc., are not used, then Bangalore means Bangalore City or core area of the City or City Corporation limits to a layperson. In the context of Census Bangalore means Bangalore Urban Agglomeration with all its constituent units. Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or City Corporation is a constituent unit of the Bangalore Urban Agglomeration, which is a part of the Bangalore urban district.

The growth of population in Bangalore district (1901–2001), Bangalore Urban Agglomeration (1981–2001) and Bangalore City (1987–2001) are shown in statements 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

Bangalore's share is more than 10% (65 lakhs) of the State population (527 lakhs). Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka in 2001 is the 5th biggest City in India with a population of about 5.7 million. It was the 16th biggest in the Country in 1941 and grew rapidly to become 8th largest in 1951. Its geographical location in the heart of South India and salubrious climate have contributed to its growth and importance.

It may be mentioned that besides being the capital of the State, Bangalore is also famous the world over, as the 'Silicon Valley'. Consequent on this the inflow of population from different parts of the State and other parts of the country to Bangalore City and its surrounding areas has been on the increase.

Population in Bangalore during the last 130 years has increased from 1.44 lakh in 1871 to 56.86 lakhs in 2001. The reasons for this is the increase in area of the city as seen in the enclosed map showing the major constituent units of Bangalore Urban Agglomeration in 2001. The reasons for this is due to (i) increase in fertility rates upto 80s, (ii) decrease in mortality rates, (iii) increase in area of the City due to urbanisation of rural units around the city and further growth of the core city itself owing to the incorporation of the surrounding area on a continuous basis over the years and (iv) Inmigration or Cityward migration to Bangalore. One of the contributing factors under discussion is migration to Bangalore and hence other factors are not discussed in this paper.

The volume of inmigration to Bangalore is largely due to the industrialisation of Bangalore City since 1951 where the employment opportunities have been on the

Statement 1 Growth of Population of Bangalore District, 1901-2001

Category	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	*2001
Population	394794	428228	480675	590218	738393	1253542	1499333	2197347	3495566	4839162	6523110
Population Density	180	196	219	270	337	572	685	1003	1596	2210	2979
Sex Ratio Percentage	982	958	931	928	922	895	890	886	900	903	903
Decadal Growth Rate	-	8.47	12.25	22.79	25.11	69.77	19.61	46.55	59.08	38.44	34.80
Percentage of Urban Population	43.87	45.95	51.81	54.06	57.05	63.77	81.48	76.52	84.14	86.16	88.08

* Provisional

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka

**Statement 2 Growth of Bangalore City
During the last 130 years (1871 - 2001)**

Name of the City	Census Year	Area	Persons	Males	Females	Sex ratio	Density	0-6 Population	Literacy	Decadal Variation in %
Bangalore UA	1871	NA	144,479	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	..
	1881	NA	155,857	77,927	87,930	1,128	NA	NA	NA	7.88
	1891	NA	180,366	91,062	89,304	981	NA	NA	NA	15.73
	1901	NA	163,091	83,117	79,974	962	NA	NA	NA	-9.58
	1911	60.35	189,485	97,749	91,736	938	NA	NA	NA	16.18
	1921	NA	240,054	126,784	113,270	893	NA	NA	NA	26.69
	1931	NA	309,785	162,767	147,018	903	NA	NA	52,509	29.05
	1941	NA	410,967	216,340	194,627	900	NA	NA	156,212	32.66
	1951	NA	786,343	417,706	368,637	883	NA	8979*	335,597	91.34
	1961	501.21	1,206,961	644,047	562,914	874	2,408	NA	597,525	53.49
	1971	177.30	1,664,208	887,782	776,426	875	9,386	NA	908,143	37.88
1981	365.65	2,921,751	1,541,397	1,380,354	896	7,991	NA	1,856,322	75.56	
1991	445.91	4,130,288	2,170,985	1,959,303	902	9,263	578,560	2,820,323	41.36	
2001	531.00@	5,686,844	2,983,926	2,702,918	906	10710@	624,799	4,340,364	37.69	

@ Approximate

Note: The concept of Urban Agglomeration was introduced in 1971. For comparative purposes the aggregated population of the towns included in UA are given for the various censuses even before 1971.

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka.

* Population in the age group 0-4

**Statement 3 Growth of Population of Bangalore City
and Cantonment area**

Census year	Bangalore City	Cantonment Area	Total
1	2	3	4
1871	61,196	83,283	1,44,479
1881	62,606	95,708	1,58,314
1891	80,285	1,00,081	1,80,366
1901	69,447	89,599	1,59,046
1911	88,651	1,00,834	1,89,485
1921	1,18,556	1,18,940	2,37,496
1931	1,72,357	1,34,113	3,06,470
1941	2,48,334	1,58,426	4,06,760
1951	778,977	*	7,78,977
1961	1,093,798	-	10,93,798
1971	15,40,741	-	15,40,741
1981	24,76,355	-	24,76,355
1991	26,60,088	-	26,60,088
2001	42,92,223	-	42,92,223

* Cantonment area merged with Bangalore City
Source : Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka

increase. Large scale construction activities, educational and employment opportunities, medical facilities, business and industrial activities, etc., available in Bangalore attracted large number of migrants.

The emergence of Bangalore as an industrial hub since over 50 years, in fact, fuelled new type of economically motivated mass migration from rural areas, other towns and other states to Bangalore.

Improvement in agricultural practices and mechanisation of farming over the decades also rendered a large rural population surplus which now forms hard core of urban population of Bangalore.

Bangalore Urban Agglomeration consists of the core city of Bangalore and 7 City Municipal Councils, one Town Municipal Council besides 32 outgrowths that have come up around City Corporation / City Municipalities. It is the biggest urban complex of the state with a population of 56.86 lakhs in 2001 Census [provisional].

According to 1991 Census, there were 11.09 lakhs migrants in Bangalore Urban Agglomeration consisting 26.84 per cent of the total population. This excludes the migrants from within the district of Bangalore. Of the 11.09 lakhs migrants in the Bangalore Urban Agglomeration, 54.45 per cent alone have come from other districts of the state, another 44.04 percent from other states and Union Territories in India while 1.15 percent have had their last residence in foreign countries.

Statement 4 gives the data on migrants to Bangalore from 1951 to 1991 censuses. The total migrants in the district which stood at 2.91 lakhs in the 1951 Census has risen to 11.09 lakhs in 1991 i.e., a growth rate of 281.19 per cent.

It may be observed that the migrants from Tamil Nadu State [21.26 per cent] has the highest contribution among all the states of the country followed by Andhra Pradesh [7.59 per cent]. The migrants from the surrounding states viz., Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Goa together accounts 37 percent in 1991 and in 1951 it accounted for nearly 60 per cent showing a gradual fall in percentage migration.

On the other hand, the percentage of migration from other states has steadily rising. The percentage from other states [apart from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala and Goa] which accounted 2.62 in 1951 has gone up to 6.47 per cent in 1991 and I am sure the same trend will be reflected in 2001 Census also.

Another interesting fact that can be observed from the above table is that the migrants from other countries has declined from 5.00 per cent in 1951 to 1.15 per cent in 1991.

Statement 4 Migrants to Bangalore, 1951 to 1991

Place	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Migrants *	290824 100.00	474296 100.00	508930 100.00	873451 100.00	1108584 100.00
1.From other districts	30.92	45.55	46.3	48.85	54.45
2.Andhra Pradesh	0.75	8.62	8.55	8.84	7.59
3.Gujarath	0.05	0.42	0.61	0.59	0.54
4.Kerala	1.51	5.66	7.55	7.72	6.60
5.Maharashtra	1.83	1.36	2.64	2.30	2.04
6.Rajasthan	0.72	0.79	1.53	1.36	1.50
7.Tamil Nadu	57.07	33.07	26.17	26.10	21.26
8.Uttar Pradesh	0.44	0.65	1.19	0.67	0.91
9.Goa, Daman & Diu	-	0.04	0.09	0.06	0.07
Other States	1.41	1.51	4.15	2.66	3.53
Other Countries	5.00	1.96	1.22	0.85	1.15
Unclassified	0.30	0.37	-	-	0.36

* Excludes the migrants from within the district of Bangalore

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka

Reasons for Migration

"The literature on migration abound in indications that the migrant feels some kind of frustration, or inability to attain some level of aspiration in his original society, where he is unable to gratify all his... expectations or to fulfill the role of his desire. It is these feelings of frustration and inadequacy, whatever its cause, that motivates migration, and it is the existence of some objective opportunity that makes it possible to realise the aspiration to migrate. For this reason, immigrants also tend to develop

certain definite expectations in regard to the role that they will fulfill in their new country." (Eisentadt, S.N., *the Absorption of Immigrants*, London, 1954).

Generally no one likes to leave the place of his birth unless it is absolutely necessary. We find that people do migrate from one place to another. The rates of migration differs from place to place and from time to time. There can be both 'pull' as well as 'push' factors causing migration. Pull factors may include better educational and employment opportunities, better health and leisure facilities etc., whereas push factors include non-availability of jobs, accommodation etc.

The reasons for migration to Bangalore has been furnished for the 1991 Census in Statement 5. An analysis of the above statement indicates that out of the total migrants as many as 29.09 per cent have returned 'employment' as the reason for migration followed by 27.71 per cent citing 'family moved' as reasons for migration and 20.99 per cent reported 'marriage' as the reason for migration. The remaining 22.21 per cent have shared by the reasons such as 'business' [3.26 per cent], 'education' [4.63 per cent], 'natural calamities' [0.35 per cent] as the reason for migration.

Similarly, in case of males as much as 49.96 per cent of the migrants have returned 'employment' as the reason for migration. With this it can be seen easily inferred that Bangalore provides better opportunities for employment.

Further, while analyzing the data of the migrants from the neighbouring states viz., Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala which incidentally together contribute more than 35.35 per cent of migrant population to Bangalore. Tamil Nadu contributes a major share of 21.26 per cent of migrant population. Employment is returned as reason for migration by 30.55 per cent of them. In the case of Kerala which contributes 6.60 per cent of the total migrants to Bangalore 37.10 per cent of migrants have returned 'employment' as the reason for migration. In the same category 27.54 per cent is reported for Andhra Pradesh.

18.64 per cent of the migrants from Rajasthan have reported 'business' as the reason for the migration, while 13.33 per cent migrants from Goa have reported 'education' as the reason for migration. In the case of 'family moved' and 'marriage' cited as reasons for migration Uttar Pradesh [48.42 per cent] and Andhra Pradesh [22.16 per cent] occupies the top place respectively. Similarly while considering 'natural calamities' and 'others' as reasons for migration, the top place is occupied by Goa for both the reasons. However, while analyzing the data on reason for migration, it is emphasized that the contribution of migrants of the particular state to the total migration should be considered before drawing conclusions on reasons for migration.

Statement 5 Migrants by Place of Last Residence and Reason for Migration to Bangalore, 1991												
Place of last residence	Total Migrants	Employment			Business			Education				
		P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F		
Total Migrants *	1,108,584	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
In other districts of the State	603,634	29.09	49.96	6.40	3.26	5.60	0.70	4.63	6.72	2.36		
Other states	39,140	29.00	50.33	5.95	2.51	4.36	0.52	4.96	7.18	2.57		
Andhra Pradesh	84,130	22.15	36.25	6.02	3.24	5.51	0.66	10.32	16.67	3.07		
Tamil Nadu	235,680	27.54	47.92	5.93	3.33	5.77	0.73	4.86	7.74	1.81		
Kerala	73,200	30.55	53.49	6.62	3.20	5.46	0.84	2.08	3.08	1.04		
Maharashtra	22,640	37.10	58.79	9.66	4.47	7.43	0.71	5.64	6.46	4.61		
Goa	750	19.92	35.70	5.06	4.02	7.56	0.69	3.40	5.01	1.89		
Gujarath	6,010	21.33	33.33	3.33	1.33	2.22	0.00	13.33	13.33	13.33		
Rajasthan	16,580	16.64	28.34	3.83	11.31	20.38	1.39	4.99	7.96	1.74		
Uttar Pradesh	10,100	20.57	33.83	2.95	18.64	30.87	2.39	2.59	3.28	1.69		
Other countries	12,740	21.39	37.20	5.38	3.66	5.71	1.59	7.23	12.20	2.19		
Unclassifiable	3980	31.55	39.15	21.26	6.91	8.73	4.44	13.58	16.37	9.80		
		6.53	9.17	2.53	1.01	1.25	0.63	17.84	29.16	0.63		

Contd...

Statement 5 Migrants by Place of Last Residence and Reason for Migration to Bangalore, 1991															
Place of last residence	Total Migrants	Family moved			Marriage			Natural Calamities			Others				
		P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F		
Total Migrants *	1,108,584	27.71	22.34	33.55	20.99	1.00	42.72	0.35	0.45	0.25	13.97	19	20	21	
In other districts of the State	603,634	26.27	22.01	30.87	22.16	1.00	45.02	0.30	0.36	0.24	14.80	14.80	14.77	14.83	
Other states	39,140	42.51	29.31	57.61	10.14	0.96	20.65	0.15	0.19	0.11	11.47	11.47	11.11	11.88	
Andhra Pradesh	84,130	28.61	23.12	34.44	22.16	1.32	44.26	0.55	0.72	0.37	12.96	12.96	13.42	12.47	
Tamil Nadu	235,680	28.22	22.88	33.79	22.35	1.10	44.51	0.51	0.77	0.23	13.09	13.09	13.22	12.96	
Kerala	73,200	21.93	15.33	30.27	18.21	0.68	40.39	0.05	0.02	0.09	12.60	12.60	11.27	14.27	
Maharashtra	22,640	41.43	34.34	48.11	16.25	0.73	30.87	0.22	0.18	0.26	14.75	14.75	16.48	13.12	
Goa	750	34.67	26.67	46.67	8.00	0.00	20.00	1.33	2.22	0.00	20.00	20.00	22.22	16.67	
Gujarath	6,010	36.61	29.30	44.60	18.64	1.27	37.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.80	11.80	12.74	10.00	
Rajasthan	16,580	26.72	18.39	37.78	17.31	0.42	39.75	0.12	0.21	0.00	14.05	14.05	13.00	15.45	
Uttar Pradesh	10,100	48.42	33.86	63.15	9.41	0.39	18.53	0.20	0.39	0.00	9.70	9.70	10.24	9.16	
Other countries	12,740	24.49	18.28	32.90	6.44	1.23	13.49	1.73	1.50	2.03	15.31	15.31	14.73	16.08	
Unclassifiable	3980	15.58	11.25	22.15	7.54	1.25	17.09	0.50	0.41	0.63	51.01	51.01	47.50	56.33	

* Excludes the migrants from within the district of Bangalore

Source: Directorate of Census operations, Karnataka.

It is not surprising to note that the percentage of female migration is high in the category of 'family moved' [33.45 per cent] and 'marriage' [42.72 per cent] as the reason for migration.

Educational Levels of Migrants to Bangalore Urban Agglomeration, 1981 & 1991

Statement 6 provides educational levels of migrants to Bangalore for 1981 and 1991 Censuses.

It may be observed that a high percentage of migrants are illiterates which implies the fact that they are of unskilled persons mostly engaged in road and building constructions. Skilled labourers i.e., migrants having educational levels of Diploma, Graduate, Engineering, Medicine and other technical qualifications forms only 11.68 per cent and 16.47 per cent in 1981 and 1991 censuses respectively.

When we look at the literacy rates at the male and female migrants male migrants have a higher percentage of literacy both at the technical and non-technical levels.

Conclusion

Bangalore was built in 1537 by Kempegowda, a Chieftain in Vijayanagar Empire. References are there to show that for the first time migration of sizable population to Bangalore was during 1809, when South India's largest Cantonment was established at Ulsoor after the troops from Srirangapattana moved in after the fall of Tipu. It is only from 1951 and onwards that successive Censuses have been gathering and tabulating data on migration.

While concluding it may be stated that the migration to Bangalore has been on the increase. There were over 11 lakh migrants in 1991 and the number is likely to go up in 2001. The maximum number of migrants throughout the later half of the last century is from Tamil Nadu followed by Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Large scale construction activities, educational and employment opportunities, medical facilities, business and industrial activities available in Bangalore have been the major causes for increase in the number of migrants.

**STATEMENT 6 EDUCATIONAL LEVELS OF MIGRANTS TO BANGALORE
URBAN AGGLOMERATION 1981 AND 1991**

Educational Level 1	1981			1991		
	P	M	F	P	M	F
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total Migrants*	1099226	582287	516939	1185168	615975	569193
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Illiterate	30.11	21.02	40.35	25.97	18.25	34.32
Literate below Matric	34.65	34.93	34.34	31.50	30.69	32.38
Matric below Graduate	23.56	27.74	18.85	26.06	28.87	23.01
Technical Diploma or Certificate not equal to degree	1.89	2.88	0.77	2.30	3.92	0.56
Graduate & Post-Graduate Degree other than Technical Degree	7.61	10.05	4.87	10.96	13.42	8.31
Technical Degree or Diploma equal to Degree or Post-Graduate Degree	2.18	3.38	0.82	3.21	4.85	1.42

* Includes migrants from within the district of Bangalore

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka

The life in the constituent units of urban Bangalore, particularly the ones on the periphery, is essentially an extension of rural life. These units though being far away, have to inevitably depend for many things on the core city. Migration to Bangalore will continue as long as it provides opportunities to all grades of professionals, experts, technologists, labour force and others.

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