University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

CENTER FOR MIGRATION STUDIES

EXPERIENCES OF GHANAIAN RETURN MIGRANTS FROM THE GULF STATES: A CASE STUDY OF NIMA

BY

TERRY TEMING-AMOAKO

(10637644)

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF ARTS IN MIGRATION STUDIES

JULY, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

DECLARATION

I, Terry Teming-Amoako, hereby declare that, except for references to other people's work, which have been duly acknowledged, this thesis is the outcome of my independent research conducted at the Center for Migration Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, under the supervision of Dr. Mary B. Setrana. I, therefore, declare that this dissertation has neither in part nor in whole been presented to any other institution for an academic award.

…… .....

TERRY TEMING-AMOAKO **DATE**

(STUDENT)

THE RESEARCH WAS TAKEN UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

…… .....

DR. MARY B. SETRANA **DATE**

(SUPERVISOR)

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to God and my family. My mum Monica Eva Inkoom, my dad KwesiTeming-Amoako and my three siblings, Berthold Winkler Teming-Amoako, MaameEfuaKwakyewaTeming-Amoako and BenunaiTeming-Amoako, God bless you all for your patience and constant encouragement.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

ACKNOWLEGDMENT

To God be the Glory great things He has done. May His name be praised for bringing me this far. My sincere gratitude goes to my supervisor, Dr. Mary B. Setrana. Thank you for your careful critique, advice and insightful comments that have seen this work through to completion. I have learnt a lot through you and I am most grateful. God richly bless you. I also thank Lionel Sakyi and George Fiifi Botchey, both Research Assistants at the Center for Migration Studies, for their support and encouragement throughout my study. I also thank all the lecturers and non-teaching staff at the Center for Migration Studies. I also appreciate the support of Miss Maame Adjoa Nyame Sam, a service person at the Department. Special thanks to Sahadatu Ali for her assistance and support. Finally, I thank all my mates, especially Philimond Kusi and Bismark Sarfo and all my mates of the 2017/18 MA year group at the Center for Migration Studies. God bless you all.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION i
DEDICATION ii
ACKNOWLEGDMENT iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS iv
LIST OF FIGURES vii
LIST OF TABLES viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS x
ABSTRACT xi

CHAPTER ONE 1
INTRODUCTION 1
1.0 Background to the study 1
1.2 Problem Statement 5
1.3 Objectives of the study 7
1.5 Rationale for the Study 7
1.6 Organisation of the study 8

CHAPTER TWO 9
LITERATURE REVIEW 9
2.0 Introduction 9
2.1 Migration process 9
2.2 Types of Migrant workers 10
2.3 Migration history in Ghana 12
2.3.1 Historical development of emigration 12
2.4 History of migration flow into the Gulf 14
2.5 The Kafala system as a labour migration management 16
2.6 Experiences of labour migrants in the Gulf 17
2.7 EMERGING DESTINATIONS OF GHANAIAN MIGRANTS 18
2.8 Return migration 18
2.8.1 Factors associated with return migration 20
2.8.2 Return migration to Ghana 21
2.8.3 Challenges of return migration in Ghana 21
2.9 Theoretical perspectives on return migration 22
2.10 Summary of Chapter 24

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER THREE **26**
STUDY AREA AND METHODOLOGY **26**
3.1 Introduction 26
3.2 The study area 26
3.3 Research Design 27
3.4 Target population and Sampling technique 28
3.5 Sources of Data 29
3.5.1 Mode of Primary Data Collection 29
3.5.2 Questionnaire Survey 29
3.7 Data Analysis 32
3.7.1 Quantitative data analysis 32
3.7.2 Qualitative data analysis 32
3.8 Ethical Consideration 33
3.9 Limitations 33

CHAPTER FOUR **34**
SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERSITICS AND MIGRATION PROCESSES OF THE RETURNEES **34**
4.0 Introduction 34
4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics 34
4.1.1 Sex Characteristics of Respondents 34
4.1.2 Ethnic Background of Respondents 35
4.1.3 Age of Respondents before and after migration 35
4.1.4 Religious affiliation of respondents before and after migration 36
4.1.5 Educational status before and after migration 38
4.1.6 Marital status of respondents before and after migration 39
4.1.7 Respondent's occupation before and after migration 40
4.1.9 Sources of information prior to migration on GULF regions 41
4.2 Sources of migration assistance before migration 43
4.2.1 Did you receive training before migration? 45
4.2.2 Payment for Training prior to migration? 46
4.2.3 Amount charged for training services prior to migration 47
4.2.4 Funding of migration to the destination 48
4.2.5 Mode of transport by respondents 49
4.2.5 Respondents' destination countries 50
4.2.6 Reasons for choice of country by sex of respondents 51

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

4.2.7 Reasons for migration 52
4.3 Duration spent at the destination by sex 56

CHAPTER FIVE 58
EXPERIENCES AT DESTINATION AND REINTEGRATION AFTER RETURN. 58
5.0 Introduction 58
5.1.1 Type of employers respondents work for 58
5.1.2 Type of abuses encountered by type of employers worked for by respondents 59
5.1.3 Amount received monthly at the destination by the type of employers worked for 60
5.1.5 Nature of work assigned to respondents by amount received monthly at the destination 61
5.1.6 Type of contract and its content 62
5.1.7 Custodian of travel documents 64
5.1.8 Type of abuses encountered by respondents 65
5.1.9 Appropriate authorities in charge of abuse incidence 67
5.2 Percent distribution of other challenges faced at the destination by sex of respondent 68
5.2.1 Other challenges faced at the destination by the type of employer worked for 69
5.2.2 Return patterns and strategies adopted by return migrants 70
5.2.3 Family reception of return migrants 71
5.2.4Reintegration challenges after return. 71

CHAPTER SIX 73
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 73
6.0 Introduction 73
6.1 Summary of findings 73
6.2 Conclusions 75
6.3 Recommendations 76

REFERENCES 78
APPENDIX 1 87
APPENDIX 2 94

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4.1.1: Did you receive training before migration 46

Figure 4.1.2: Do you pay for training services 47

Figure 4.1.3: Mode of transport by respondents 50

Figure 5.1.1: Type of employers respondents worked for 58

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Emerging destinations of Ghanaian workers 18

Table 4.1: Socio-demographic Characteristics 35

Table 4.2: Age of respondents before and after migration 36

Table 4.3: Religious affiliation before and after migration 37

Table 4.4: Educational level before and after migration 39

Table 4.5: Marital status before and after migration 40

Table 4.6: Respondent's occupation before and after migration 41

Table 4.7: Number of children of respondents before and after migration 41

Table 4.8: Sources of information on Gulf Regions 42

Table 4.9: Sources of assistance to the Gulf region 43

Table 4.9.1: Amount charged for training services 48

Table 4.9.2 Funding of Migration to the destination 49

Table 4.9.3: Respondents destination country 51

Table 4.9.4: Reasons for choice of country by sex of respondents 52

Table 4.9.5: Reasons for migration 53

Table 4.9.7: Choice of destination by reasons for migration 56

Table 4.9.8: Duration spent at the destination by sex 57

Table 5.1: Type of abuses encountered by type of employers worked for by respondents 59

Table 5.2: Amount received monthly at destination by the type of employer worked for 60

Table 5.3: Nature of work at the destination 61

Table 5.4: Nature of work assigned to respondent by amount received monthly at destination 62

Table 5.5: Type of contract and it content 63

Table 5.6: Custodian of travel documents 65

Table 5.7: Type of abuses encountered by respondents 66

Table 5.8: Appropriate authorities in charge of abuse incidence 67

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 5.9: Percent distribution of other challenges faced at the destination by sex of respondents 68

Table 5.9.1: Other challenges faced at the destination by the type of employer worked for ..70

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

GCC	Gulf Co-operation Council
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
HRW	Human Right Watch
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
UAE	United Arab Emirates
NELM	New economic of labour migration

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

ABSTRACT

There is a dearth of literature on return migrants from the Gulf region and their migration experiences while abroad. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the experiences of migrants from the Gulf region have been characterised by a lot of abuses and inhumane treatment on the part of the employers of these migrants. Therefore, the objective of the study was to explore the migration experiences of return migrants from the Gulf region. The research design that was adopted for the study was the mixed methods design. The sample size was made up of 50 respondents selected through the snowball sampling technique. Instruments used for the study were semi-structured questionnaires and in-depth interview guide. The quantitative data was analysed using SPSS version 20 and the qualitative through the use of thematic analysis. The results show that more than half of the returnees prior to migration seek for assistance from travel agencies with funding of migration done by migrants and their immediate families (spouse and sibling). The findings indicated that, after migration, three-quarters of the respondents spent 1 to 3 years at the destination, depending on the type of contract signed. Again, it was evidential that abuses such as denial of food and unpaid extra allowance for extra work done were the immediate abuses encountered which were more associated with family and company employers. The type of work at the destination that came with good salary was domestic work (household chores), ranging from 1100 to 1600 Ghana Cedis. In spite of the negative perception about migration to the Gulf region, some of the respondents' status improved economically. It is concluded that return migrants came back to their origin country unprepared with no significant funds, and this had effect on their ability to reintegrate economically and socially.The study concludes that the negative experiences of migrants while abroad pose challenges to returnees upon coming to the home country. This supports Cassarino's (2008) explanation of the structural approach which suggests that a social, economic and political condition at destination determines the migrants' ability to mobilise both tangible and intangible resources for final sojourn. Recommendations are made for governments and other stakeholders to create awareness about the dangers of domestic work in the Gulf region and the need to seek the right information at the appropriate quarters.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background to the study

Migration has become a global topical issue due to the unprecedented increase in the flow of human capital across borders (O'Neil, 2007). For some years now, migration has been a matter of great concern among various stakeholders in the society, namely the academic community, policy makers and virtually every member of the society (Kofman, 2014). Though globalisation is spreading at a fast pace, some parts of the world are yet to benefit from this trend. This has created a disparity among nations in terms of their socio-economic status thereby causing people to aspire to migrate to nations with better economic opportunities. In some cases, people just migrate to escape conflicts, exploitations and other climate-induced reasons (Imerion, 2017;Modarres, 2010) Thus, inequalities in wealth, income as well as security all serve as both push and pull factors in migration.

Return migration is a central part of the on-going migration process in this development, implying that it is no longer seen as the closure of the migration cycle, but rather as one of many steps within a continued movement (King, 2000). Migrants returning home could be as a result of either being forced or returning voluntarily. Raveinstein (1885), over a century ago, observed that every migration stream generates a counter-stream, which suggests that return migration is taken for granted with any migration. This may explain the initial silence over the issue in the literature until the global economic crisis of 1973 (Ammassari and Black, 2001).

An International Labour Organisation (ILO) document, for instance, indicated how in late October 1990, amid the Gulf Crisis, thousands of Yemenis began to return home from Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia had placed new restrictions on Yemenis residing in the kingdom, which

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

triggered this mass exodus. Although the exact number of Yemenis who returned from Saudi Arabia is not known, it has been estimated to be approximately 800,000 (ILO, 1991).

Also as result of the political and economic climate that changed in Yemen due to the discovery of oil and the prospects for employment that this would bring to Yemen, 4.5 percent of migrants returned. Another 38.1 percent returned because their work ended, and 56.9 percent stated other reasons (ILO, 1991). These reasons fall into On-Jook's(1980) category of "affective" reasons for a migrant family returning back to one's country. It can be argued that what these reasons really represent are the majority who actually did not plan out their return, but who on a visit home decided to stay there.

Migration is not merely the movement of people from one country to another; rather, it is an unending process which entails a series of decision-making between the migrants and their families during the pre-migration, migration and post-migration process. There are several categories of migrants, including refugees, academic and economic migrants, and these categories of migrants are affected differently by the migration process. Thus, economic migrants have a peculiar experience in terms of the migration process compared to a refugee or academic migrant (Jamie&Tsega, 2016; Kofman, 2014). Accordingto the IOM World Report 2018, there has been an increase in international migration from 222 million in 2010 to 243 million in 2015(representing a third of the world (UN, 2016). This number further increased to 258 million in 2017 (World Migration Report, 2018).

Migration provides socio-economic benefits such as improvement in standards of living, better jobs for better incomes, access to quality education among others. There has been increasing movements of both documented and undocumented migrants to developing countries due to the perceived benefits of migration (Adepoju, 2006b). The United Nations (2009) reported that about 210 million of the world's population, representing three percent,

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

live outside their countries of origin or birth (United Nations, 2009). However, migration still comes with some challenges in terms of legal and undocumented status. A lot of these challenges stem from the demand for cheap labour that is often done by undocumented migrants in these industrialised nations (Helleiner, 2013).

Despite the diversity that exists in the types of migration, West Africa remains an under researched region in migration studies, especially as regards return migration (Tenkorang, 2014). However, in recent times, there has been a substantial return of migrants to many West African countries as the political and economic climate has changed. Since the mid -1990s, there has been some evidence of return migration to Ghana. This has been attributed partly to the improvement in the Ghanaian economy vis-à-vis the economies of the neighbouring countries that once attracted Ghanaians (World Bank 1994) as well as restrictions on Ghanaians travelling abroad (for instance, those travelling to EU countries) and repatriation of those without valid documents. Nonetheless, a second generation of Ghanaians living abroad is also growing, often settling there, but maintaining links and identifying with Ghana. Data from the Ghana Immigration Service also indicate that more than 2,000 Ghanaians were deported from 58 countries around the world in 1993(Van Hear, 1998, p.206-207). Among the countries destination, the largest number came from Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Italy which, between them, accounted for over two thirds of deportations of Ghanaians that year. It is also estimated that of the two million people deported from Nigeria in 1983, between 900,000 and 1.2 million were Ghanaians (Adeku, 1995). The Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS) also provides information on whether individuals are migrants or not, based on whether they are living outside their place of birth, or have lived outside their place of birth for more than one year. It allows an estimate of the total number of residents who have lived abroad and then returned.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Internal migration research conducted by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS, 1995) has documented that two scenarios of return migration may occur. The first one is where the migrants fail to adjust to the way of life in the urban area. This happens when the pull factor to the village and the push factor from the urban area are strong. Caldwell and Caldwell (1987) found that in Ghana, the strongest rural pull was a reluctance to break close family ties with family and the village. This was reinforced by the fact that for most rural Ghanaian towns and villages, life was still alien and somewhat frightening. The situation has undergone change, however, and today most migrants only return permanently when they die and are sent home for burial. Another situation that leads to return migration is when the migrant returns home after retirement probably because living in an alien environment without regular income becomes a little unbearable.

In recent times, Ghana has seen a reversal of migration where people are more emigrating than entering (Awumbilla et al., 2008). Since the early 1990s, there have been more Ghanaians returning due to favourable conditions such as political stability, economic improvement and the discovery of oil (Awumbilla et al., 2011). However, events and situations at both destination and origin can have an effect on return migrants' ability to reintegrate into the society. If returnees meet situations in their homes that are not favourable and, therefore, make it very difficult for them to reintegrate, they may decide to move back again.

A significant rate of the workforce of countries in the Gulf prefers working in the public sector due to the attractive packages such as pension scheme among others as compared to the private sector. Even at the private sector, they are found at the executive positions. Thus Gulf countries like Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates all have that population dynamism. This leads to increase in the demand for cheap labour to fill up sectors such as services and construction, and that is where the Asian and

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

African countries step in. These countries depend on remittances and, therefore, fill up the void left by the citizens in the Gulf countries.

The precise number of African workers currently in the GCC a region is very difficult to estimate due to the unregulated ways in which most of the migration occurs. Most data are gained from large surveys (Awumbilla et al, 2014).

According to Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2008), Ghanaian migrants can be found in more than 33 countries around the world. Aside West African countries, the most important countries of destination for Ghanaian emigrants are the United States (7.3%) and the United Kingdom (5.9%). Ghanaian emigrants range from approximately 1.5 million to 3 million (Black et al., 2005: TwumBaah, 2005). In Ghana, there has been a change in the emerging countries of destination; a lot of Ghanaians are now migrating to GCC states and other Asian countries (Awumbilla et al., 2014). A report by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has indicated that Ghana has the highest emigration rates for highly skilled emigrants with almost 34 percent of emigrants living in an OECD country (OECD, 2018). Yet, there is also another section of emigrants who have moved to the GCC for employment. These Ghanaians who migrate to the gulf regions suffer abuse either verbally, psychologically or physically in the hands of employers. Reports have indicated that in 2015, more than 2000 women who had migrated to the GCC states have been abused by their employers (www.ghanaweb.com).

1.2 Problem Statement

Return migration is one of the important areas in the study of migration as it plays a crucial role in the development of a country. Attention has, therefore, been paid to the link between return migration and development. There are now various differing forms of migration ranging from labour migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, economic migrants, migrants who

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

move for studies among others(Cassarino, 2004). The type of migration will determine the type of returnee and how it impacts on their return. Thus, refugees or labour migrants returning to their place of origin will have varying impact on their home. Return migration has become more important, especially if the issue of brain drain and brain gain is to be considered.

Preston (1993) argues that upon return from a chosen destination, the migrant needs to be reintegrated into the original society as it will be unrealistic to assume that the social and economic milieu to which migrants returned, had not changed since they left their communities (Potter 2005; Preston 1993). There is also the need to appreciate the different social settings of the two destinations in question. Several factors determine the extent to which migrants would be estranged upon their return home. These, according to N'Laoire (2007), include the age of the migrant prior to leaving home, the length of time spent abroad, the nature of contact with family members and friends back home, and the level of engagement in transnational activities.

In Ghana, there have been studies that have examined various aspects of return migration. For instance, Anarfi et al. (2010) examined the demographic composition of return migrants in the early years of emigration in Ghana. There have been other studies that have explored other aspects of migration including returnees' integration (Dako-Gyeke and Baffo, 2017;Mensah, 2017; Setrana and Tonah, 2014) However, the various researches mentioned above concentrated more on return migration from Europe with only one on migrants from Libya. There is a dearth of literature on return migrants from the Gulf region. Not much work has been done on the issue of return migrants from the Gulf and their migration experiences as well as how they impact on their return and their ability to reintegrate in the communities.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

It is in this view that this study has sought to examine the migration experiences of return migrants from the Gulf regions.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The main objective of the study is to explore the migration experiences of return migrants from the Gulf States to Ghana. The specific objectives are

- To find out the socio-demographic characteristics of the Ghanaian return migrants from the Gulf States.
- To explore the migration processes of the Ghanaian return migrants from the Gulf States
- To examine the migration experiences of the Ghanaian return migrants while abroad
- To understand how the return migrants reintegrate into the Ghanaian society.

1.4 Research Questions

- How is the migration process of the Ghanaian return migrants from the Gulf States?
- How do migration experiences influence the return and reintegration processes of the return migrants from the Gulf States?
- What are the reintegration challenges of the return migrants from the Gulf States and how can they be resolved?

1.5 Rationale for the Study

The study provides empirical evidence on experiences of domestic workers in the Gulf States. It is a good source of information to relevant stakeholders working with the Government of Ghana to ratify the ILO Convention 189 on domestic work. Within this convention, the rights and protection for these migrants are critical.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Also, the findings from the study contribute to the knowledge gap in the literature on migration experiences of Ghanaians from the Gulf and return migration. The study provides information on the socio-demographic backgrounds, migration processes and return migration which also contributes to the scanty literature on who moves, means of migration and the reasons for migration among these groups of migrant workers

1.6 Organisation of the study

The following outline how this dissertation has been structured:

The study is structured into six chapters. Chapter one comprises the background, where literatures of the study and topic areas are introduced. Also included are problem statement, objectives of the study, rationale for the study and how the study has been organised. Chapter two has an in-depth literature review of both the study and topic areas. Themes reviewed included overview of migration process, drivers of migration, return migration, historical overview of migration in the Arab states, the Kafala system, legal framework for the protection of labour migrants, migration history in Ghana and return migration. Chapter three contains the study area, research design, target population and sampling technique, sources of data, data analysis, ethical considerations and limitations. Chapter four contains the analysis and presentation of the data collected from the field, and interpretation of the study. It specifically looks at the socio-demographic characteristics of returnees and their migration process. Chapter five examines the findings of the study highlighting migration experience and return pattern of Ghanaian migrants. Chapter six discusses the summary, conclusion and recommendation of the study

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews relevant studies and debates on migration trends and patterns from Ghana to other countries and continents and the experiences both abroad and on return.

2.1 Migration process

Migration is a complex phenomenon which has many characteristics and therefore requires multi-directional approach in studying and understanding it. These different aspects include the distance travelled in both emigrating and immigrating, borders crossed, duration of migration, degree of return (forced or voluntary), reasons or motivation for migration among others (Kabeer, 2007).

Distance covered can define the extent to which people migrate; people migrate either too far or too near, which is complicated by the different types of environments these migrants are exposed to. Distance can also affect the types of borders being crossed and the frequency of migrants' return to their home country (ibid). Thus, distance is one aspect of migration that can impact migrants' experiences of migration.

Another aspect of migration is the duration of migration. The duration of migration has an implication on the kind of social network and ties migrants maintain with the country of origin as well as how they assimilate in their new environment. Thus, there are scholars who advocate optimal duration of time and experiences abroad to ensure that migrants have the opportunity to maximise their profits and invest upon their return to their home countries (Cassarino, 2008).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

In terms of motivation for migration, people migrate to seek for better opportunities in terms of work, family reunification and marriage. Others also migrate to flee conflict or political persecution at home and environmental degradation (Kabeer, 2007) the motivation for migration, return and remigration varies across different groups, which also leads to them having different experiences of migration.

Another aspect of migration which has generated a lot of attention is the differentiating of voluntary from involuntary form of migration. According to Hennink and Simkhada(2003), the difference between voluntary and involuntary migration is centred on the question of whether migrants migrated by their own will, were deceived to migrate or forced into migration. Thus, while voluntary movements of documented migrants who go through the legal process constitute one aspect of voluntary movement there is another type of migrants who are undocumented and rely on agents or middlemen who have much control over the process with the extent of sometimes seizing passports (Kabeer, 2007). These different processes can invariably affect their migration experience and cycles differently. For instance, research has shown that people who migrate or travel with proper documentation are more likely to return back home out of poverty as compared to those who migrate without formal documents. They are more likely to be poor and remain poor upon their return to their home countries (Wheeler et al., 2007).

This is an indication of how the different processes of migration and migration policies can put migrants in different experiences.

2.2 Types of Migrant workers

With migrant workers making up the majority of the population in the gulf countries, two main types of migrant workers are found in those countries. These are the “low-to mid-skilled workers in construction and low-tech industries and services, and mid-to high-skilled workers

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

in high valued services" (Roper &Barria, 2014). At the beginning of the influx of migrants to the Gulf countries, the pattern of migration was dominated by Arabs. However, this pattern has changed with more Asians and African migrants being recruited into that region (Kapiszewski, 2001;Roper&Barria, 2014). Asian countries like the Philippines have made it official in the sense that their governments are most of the time involved in the recruitment and placements of the migrants into the low-tech industries (Fernandez, 2011). Apart from the segmentation of the labour sector, one factor that also led to more categorisation of the labour sector is the issue of less representation of women in the labour market (Fernandez, 2011). For instance, it is well documented how, in Saudi Arabia, certain laws lead to constraining women in working in certain areas of the labour market (Doumato and Posuney, 2003).

Another group of migrant workers found in the Gulf countries is the domestic workers. South Asia countries have been sending their workers to the Gulf countries for decades before it became a phenomenon in Africa. For instance, in 2000, it was estimated that 20 percent of the about 6 million migrant labourers were domestic workers (Schubert, 1999). However, these few years have seen a growing number of low-skilled African domestic workers entering into the frame, with domestic workers from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and Egypt all working in the Gulf (Jamie and Tsega, 2016).

Ethiopian domestic workers were among the first African domestic workers to migrate to the gulf countries. They first moved to Lebanon between 1999 and 2002 (Fernandez, 2011). However, Fernandez (2011) explained that since 2008, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have become the preferred destination for Ethiopian migrants with 94 percent found in those two countries. Other African labour migrants have also migrated to a broader range of Gulf countries such as Bahrain, UAE, Lebanon, and Kuwait among others (Kifleyesus, 2012).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

With foreign workers outnumbering the nationals in the various Gulf countries, many concerns were raised among these states. According to Roper and Baria (2014), one concern had to do with the fact that some of the migrant workers were now occupying law enforcement positions, thus perceiving it as an issue of national security. Another genuine concern was the belief that migrant workers who could be found mainly in the private sector were crowding-out the nationals (Roper and Baria, 2014). The gendered and structured nature of the labour sector has exerted pressure on the Gulf countries; the pressure was exacerbated when their economies were restructured to put more emphasis on privatisation and reduce public sector labour force (Pfeifer and Posusney, 2003). This has had a negative impact on the nationals particularly the women whom after maybe losing their jobs at the public sector are also unable to work in the private sector due to the various laws hindering women in the Gulf regions (Fernandez, 2011). In order to control the inflow of migrant labour force, the various governments in the Gulf regions instituted the *kafala* system.

2.3 Migration history in Ghana

Africa is one of the regions well known for its penchant for migration movement and remains one of the most important demographic features of Africa (Anarfi, 1982). Ghana has a long history in international migration, a phenomenon which intensified after the economic crisis (Piel, 1970; Anarfi et al, 2003).

2.3.1 Historical development of emigration

According to Anarfi et al. (2003), Ghana was among the top ten sending countries to the UK in 1996, and in a decade (1990–2001), about 21,485 Ghanaians entered the UK. Meanwhile, North America has also become increasingly dominant as a destination for Ghanaians. He classified the international history of emigration from Ghana into four distinct phases.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The first period is the period where international movement from Ghana was at its minimal. This was due to the strong economic prosperity of the country; thus most of those who moved during that period were students and professionals who migrated to other parts of Europe to school or work (Anarfi, Awusabo-Asare et al., 2000). Even at that time, a lot of the international movements were within other parts of Africa including the Gambia, Botswana and Sierra Leone; especially at parts of these areas where fishing was mostly done. (Odotei, 2000).

The second phase of emigration is described by Anarfi et al. (2000) as happening after the economic crisis of Ghana in the 1960s. There was growing unemployment and agitations in the country making it less attractive to foreigners and even Ghanaians in general. This economic decline caused many Ghanaians to migrate outside the country to better their lives. At that phase of emigration, there was a mass exodus of teachers, lawyers and administrators to outside Ghana for better opportunities. (Anarfi, 2003).

However, at the third phase there was a large scale of emigration of both professionals and the unskilled to other countries for better opportunities. Emigration out of Ghana was made worse due to the high demand for the labour of professionals like nurses and teachers, and also the fact that the economy at that time was doing poorly. Ghanaians saw migration as an opportunity to escape the hardship (Anarfi, 1982). The movement of Ghanaians to other countries was high number. For instance, Anarfi et al. (2003) estimate that about 150,000 Ghanaians had registered with the Ghana High Commission in Lagos and this led to Ghana losing its workforce or brain drain. The formation of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which ensured the free movement of West Africans, also facilitated the emigration of Ghanaians into the neighbouring countries (Anarfi, 1982).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The last phase of emigration in Ghana was characterised by what Anarfi et al. (2003) term as the "diasporisation" of the migrants. From the 1990s, there have been movements of migrants into other countries but what is different this time is they have been immigrating into major cities. There has been a large number of Ghanaians immigrating into cities such as London, Amsterdam, Hamburg and New York (Black, Tiemoko et al., 2003). By 2001, there were about 115,000 Ghanaians living in both the USA and Canada (Anarfi et al., 2003). By 1993, about 2000 Ghanaians had been deported back to Ghana (Van Hear, 1998). Since that time, there have been people returning to Ghana. Many factors have attributed to this return migration.

2.4 History of migration flow into the Gulf

Historically, migration and the general movement of people have been an integral story in the Arabian Gulf. Migration in the Gulf region can be classified into three main periods. The first period can be traced back to the eras of pre-historical records where the Arab region was establishing itself as the port city and centre of businesses between the Europeans and the Asians. From the journals of Palgrave (1866), these port cities were made up of merchants, traders, labourers and businessmen with different demographic characteristics who had migrated to the cities. Traders in the region prospered by importing things such as cloth, rice and other foodstuffs from the Indian region and export pearl-which was Arabian gulf's strongest commodity-back to the Indian region (Gardner, 2011;Palgrave, 1866)

The second historical period was during the colonial era where there was a lot of chain migration of South Asians who migrated to the gulf regions due to administrative work by the British government who were then the colonial masters. The discovery of petroleum during that period also pulled people to migrate to that region (Gardner, 2011).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The final period in the migration history of the gulf started in the 1970s, when the discovery of oil in the region and the high demand for it led to the states gaining dividends from the sales. Some factors facilitated the increase of labour migration in the region during that period which has continued to this present day. One of such factors is the fact that the discovery of oil and the continuous demand for it led to these states prospering and prosperity brought with it the need for infrastructural development. However, the Gulf States were short of both skilled and unskilled labour and this attracted labourers from other parts of the world. Thus, by the end of the 20th century, the Gulf region, which was noted for its trade in pearls with its typical migrants being merchants and traders, had changed. The majority of the migrants were now labour migrants who were either skilled or unskilled (Gardner, 2011; 2014). Since then, the population has been growing; for instance, it had grown from 4 million in 1950 to around 39 million in 2008, which is very significant (Unit, 2009).

The significant proportion of the population in the Gulf region is made up of migrants. These labour migrants mostly come from South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa as well as Egypt, and they occupy most of the unskilled jobs (Gardner, 2011). All the countries in the gulf have a population in which migrants outnumber the nationals. In the UAE, for instance, there was an increase in the migrant workers from 2.11 million to 4.07 million over a time period of just one year [(2007-2008; Hamza, 2014]. This population increase has somehow led to a situation where nationals are marginalised and therefore do not have access to employment in the country. To resolve this, most of the governments in the gulf have reserved some jobs to its citizens; this has eventually led to the segregation of nationalities between sectors of the economy (Central intelligence Agency, 2013; Hamza, 2014), where the majority of these migrants are in the unskilled labour sector. This number continues to increase. For example, foreign nationals in the GCC countries comprise 52% of the population in Bahrain, 69.4% in Kuwait, 45.5% in Oman, 89.9% in Qatar, 32.7% in Saudi Arabia and 88.5% in UAE (Gulf

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Labour Market and Migration, 2016). Most of the nationals in the gulf prefer to work in the public sector due to incentives such as attractive incomes and good retirement package, thus leaving the private sector to the migrants ((Al-Waqfi&Forstenlechner, 2012).

2.5 The Kafala system as a labour migration management

The kafala system is a sponsorship system of recruitment between the employer and the foreign worker. The main purpose of the kafala system was to protect the rights of both the employers and the labour migrants (Malaeb, 2015). The kafala system serves as the framework managing labour migration in the Gulf, thus all labour migrants are affected by this system (Khan and Harroff-Travel, 2011). It is, therefore, the institution that defines who a migrant labour is, what his or her rights are and also the obligations of employers (Malaeb, 2015).

Malaeb (2015) explains that the main tenet of the system is that any migrant who wishes to acquire entry visa and resident permit to work in the Gulf States is required to have a sponsor whom the migrant would work for. The sponsor is called a 'kafeel' and they can legally obtain permission to sponsor migrant workers and a resident permit issued on the basis of having a sponsor (Fernandez, 2011). Thus, the ability of a migrant to obtain visa and resident permit is correlated with having a sponsor; without a sponsor, it would be difficult to get a visa and resident permit. They would only receive an entry visa and a resident permit if they agree to work for their sponsor or employer. Accordingly, so long as the labour migrants live in the host country, they are exclusive to their sponsors; they cannot make decisions regarding change of jobs or even leaving the host country without the approval of the sponsor (Malaeb, 2015). If they decide to leave their sponsors, these migrants will be required to pay huge penalties as well as leave the country by using their own money instead of being covered by the sponsor (Murray, 2013).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The Kafala system, therefore, establishes power imbalance between the nationals and immigrants. Studies have shown that the Kafala system creates discrimination among nationals and immigrants, contributes to the exploitation of migrant workers, and also leads to physical and psychological abuse which eventually impacts the health of migrant workers (Hangzo and Cook, 2012;Malaeb, 2011;Sönmez et al, 2011)

2.6 Experiences of labour migrants in the Gulf

The experiences of labour migrants are filled with abuses from their sponsors. Due to the power vested in the sponsors of migrant workers, many of them abuse such power. There are instances where a number of employers seize their passports to prevent migrant workers from returning to their home countries or finding other jobs. According to Human Right Watch report, many migrant workers have had their passports confiscated and unable to work; others had to endure sexual abuses at the hands of their employers or household members (Motaparthy, 2010).

According to a report by the International Traders Union Confederation in 2011, migrant workers in the Gulf suffer from poor accommodation and living conditions. Amnesty report on Qatar posits of situations where workers sleep on cement floors or even in shifts due to the unavailability of space (Amnesty International, 2013). Most migrant workers are faced with the problem of unpaid wages and even when paid, it is non-regular. Some states sometimes withhold wages to prevent migrant workers from quitting their jobs (HRW, 2012).

Kenyan nationals who joined the Gulf States bandwagon reported cases of abuse, which led to the Kenyan government restricting Kenyans from working as domestic workers in the Gulf States (ILO, 2013). Similarly, there has been much research on Ethiopian domestic workers in the gulf complaining of long working hours, non-payment of salaries among others (Jamie and Tsegah, 2016).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

2.7 EMERGING DESTINATIONS OF GHANAIAN MIGRANTS

According to the migration report of 2017, international migration in Ghana increased from 1.0 percent in 2000 to 1.4 percent in 2017. According to Quartey (2009), the total number of Ghanaians living outside Ghana is estimated to be about 1.5 million, with about 70% living within the ECOWAS region and with the US, Italy, Germany and the UK as other destinations.

However, recent data has shown that there is a considerable number of Ghanaians, especially labour migrants, migrating to the Gulf regions. According to the labour department of Ghana, the most emerging destination for labour migrants was Saudi Arabia with 1, 606 migrants having moved there in 2016. This was an increase compared to the 822 recorded in 2015. Below is a breakdown of emerging destinations of Ghanaian workers.

Table 2.1: Emerging destinations of Ghanaian workers

Destination	**2015**			**2016**		
	Male	Female	**Both**	Male	Female	**Both**
Saudi Arabia	746	76	**822**	345	1 261	**1 606**
United Arab Emirates	219	86	**305**	265	0	**265**
Qatar	292	0	**292**	441	15	**456**
Kuwait	0	31	**31**	18	2	**20**
Jordan	0	0	**0**	0	25	**25**
Total	1 357	193	1 550	1 069	1 303	2 372

Source: Labour Department, Ghana 2016.

2.8 Return migration

Although there is no universal definition of return migration, the IOM defines it as the act of going back to a place of origin, whether within the territorial boundaries of a country or from a host country to an origin country (IOM, 2007). Even this definition has attracted many critiques due to the fact that it excluded many aspects. Cassarino (2008), citing the European

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Council, defines return migration as "the process of going back to one's country of origin, transit or another country" (p.98).

Return migration could be either voluntary or involuntary. Literature makes a distinction between assisted voluntary return and the broader voluntary return. Voluntary return is made up of assisted or independent return to the country of origin, transit or another third country based on the free will of the returnee (European Commission, 2005). An example of assisted voluntary return is IOM's programmes which provide assistance to migrants stranded in the host countries. They provide assistance to migrants who are unwilling to stay in the host country and would like to return voluntarily to their country of origin (Hart et al., 2015). Thus, voluntary return and assisted voluntary return connotes different meanings and each elicits different experiences on the part of the migrants.

Involuntary return, according to Van Houte and Davis (2008), is a forced deportation or repatriation of labour migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. It could also refer to a situation whereby the temporary status of people as refugees or asylum seekers has been revoked and they are, therefore, are compelled to return home.

Thus, according to the IOM, return migration has been categorised into three. The first type of return occurs when migrants voluntarily without compulsion decide to return home. The second one can be deemed as voluntary but under compulsion or duress when migrants are not allowed to stay probably due to expiration of their permits and decide to come at their own will. The third one is the involuntary return. There are also those who return with the intention of staying for a short term, those returnees who only come back home seasonally; temporary returnees with the intention of staying for a period of time but may emigrate again and permanent returnees who have the intention of settling down permanently (King, 2000).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The type of return migration determines the extent of reintegration of the return migrant. The nature of the migrant worker's experience in the Gulf country be it good or bad has impact on the success or failure of return. It is in the interest of this study to explore the migration experiences of the Ghanaian returnees from the Gulf and analyse how those experiences influenced their return processes.

2.8.1 Factors associated with return migration

Piotrowski and Tong (2010) in their study involve not only one factor in their return migration but sometimes a combination of several factors. Migrants' decision to return home involves both professional and personal decision at both places of origin and destination. Hirvonen and Lilleør (2015), in their study of return migrants in rural Tanzania, stated that factors such as social and family play an important role in motivating migrants to return home. Multiple factors such as marriage, parenthood, old age as well as obligation to look after parents may cause migrants to return home (Pitriowski and Tong, 2010). Decisions to return home are made after individuals measure their options in terms of their careers and the political as well as the economic environment in both place of origin and destination (Rozario and Guo, 2003). A study of African migrants in London and Paris also indicated family as one of the outstanding reasons for return to home countries (Tiemoko, 2004).

One factor that stimulates return migration, especially in international migration, is deportation. All countries have laws and regulations governing the movement of people within and outside the country. They can refuse entry of people into the country or deport migrants. Thus, the way a host country reacts to migrants can influence migrants' decision to continue staying or move back to their place of origin (Rajulton, 1991).

Another factor that could account for return migration is economic hardship in the host country. This economic hardship could be recession or unemployment leading to the point

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

where migrants feel obliged to return to their place of origin (Wong, 2014). Thus, a successful social integration and economic integration in the destination may play a factor in migrants' decision to return.

2.8.2 Return migration to Ghana

Since the early 1990s, there has been a continuous return of migrants to Ghana partly due to the stability in the political environment, improvement in the economy and the discovery of oil (Awumbila et al., 2011). There is not much recent data on return migration; however, available data from the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS) show that about 50,000 return migrants were living in Ghana as at 1999 (GSS, 1999). In a study by Anarfi (2003) on return migrants in Ghana, there was evidence that return migrants transfer their skills back to Ghana. The study also indicated that more than half of the skilled and less-skilled return with the intention of applying what they learnt, with more than 50 percent becoming self-employed on their return.

Another study by Setrana and Tonah (2014) examined the experiences of return migrants and the factors that influence their return and reintegration in Ghana. The findings indicate that some factors such as being tired of the current jobs, frustration and inability to cope with weather all influenced their decision to return to Ghana. Thus, 'events at home country, events in the host country and age of respondents' were all determinants of respondents' decision to return home (Setrana and Tonah, 2014, p. 122).

2.8.3 Challenges of return migration in Ghana

The circumstances under which a migrant returns can either be beneficial or disadvantageous (Manuh, 2005). If the circumstances of a migrant's return are that of involuntary, then their return become that of unpreparedness which can in turn influence their reintegration in the

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

home country, whereas migrants who return under a favourable condition are more likely to reintegrate well in the home country (Cassarino, 2008).

In Setrana and Tonah's (2014) study of return migrants and their reintegration pattern in Ghana, some of the challenges they mentioned was meeting the high expectations of relatives and community members. When migrants return, they are received warmly based on their contributions and remittances towards family members. It, however, becomes a challenge when they are expected to make contributions and do not have the funds to do so. In communities where there are a lot of expectations regarding the economic contributions of migrants to the households, the shame of coming empty-handed can be unbearable and they will, therefore, decide not to return to Ghana (Kleist & Bob-Milliar, 2013). The level of bottlenecks return migrants encounter upon their return when they decide to set up business is a major challenge that sometimes deters them from returning to Ghana (Setrana and Tonah, 2014).

2.9 Theoretical perspectives on return migration

Three main theoretical perspectives underpin and conceptualise the process of return migration. These three theories are the neo-classical, the New Economics of Labour Migration (NELM) and structural approach. This study is explained within the context of these three theoretical approaches to return migration.

Neoclassical Perspective

The neoclassical perspective explains migration as being motivated by wage differentials between origin and place of destination (Massey et al, 1998). Thus, in order to maximise their wages, migrants extend their stay until they achieve their targets. This theory postulates that migrants only return to their place of origin if they derive the expected benefit of higher

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

wages (Cassarino, 2004). This perspective views return migrants as a failure of the migration experience due to wrong assumptions or miscalculations.

Earlier studies conducted on labour migrants in countries such as Greece, Algeria and former Yugoslavia found that return workers were less enterprising and could not endure or cope with the demands in the host country and therefore had to return (Kayser, 1967; Trebous, 1970). Labour migrants who had less inclination to return to their home countries were those who had better position in their workplace (Penninx, 1982).

The New Economic Labour Migration

While the neoclassical theory argues that return migration is a failure and could not maximise their profits, the NELM views return migration as the result of specific plans put together by the migrants before migrating from their place of origin (Stark, 1991). Thus, the original plan of the migrants is to return home after maximising their resources. As Cassarino (2004) explains, potential returning migrants, since knowing they will return home one day, are highly motivated to gain more skills to maximise their savings. The NELM perspectives, therefore, see return migration as the ultimate after their successful migration and acknowledge the importance of remittances in migration.

In a study by Constant and Massey (2002), it was found that migrants who had families in the home country and had a high rate of employment are more likely to return. Another study also indicated remittances as being perceived as an indicator of migrants' attachment to their home country (Çağlar, 2006).

Both the neoclassical and NELM provide insights into reasons why people migrate and return. However, there are some shortcomings which make it difficult to explain the whole process of return migration. One of the shortcomings is that these two theories overlook

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

social, political and other factors that are not necessarily related to economics but could impact return migration. Also it does not examine remigration and factors causing that (Kunuroglu, 2016).

The structural Approach

The structural approach postulates that return migration is a matter of context. It places more importance on the "social and institutional factors" in the countries of origin (Cassarino, 2004). Thus, the political, economic and social conditions in the place of origin play an important role in the reintegration of these migrants. The structural approach is more concerned about the ability of return migrants to make use of the resources they acquired in their migration (Cassarino, 2004). Structural theories argue that the ability of returning migrants to utilise their skills and resources after they return largely depends on the operation of background factors specific to the areas and countries that they return to.

This study sought to understand return migrants' experiences in the Gulf and how those experiences impact on their ability to integrate in their communities.

2.10 Summary of Chapter

Migration flow into the Gulf States has been on the increase due to oil boom leading to infrastructural expansion which also demanded the need for labour. This, coupled with demographic disparities, has led to the demand for labour migrants in the Gulf States. This chapter also looked at the Kafala system which is one of the labour migration management systems that perpetuate abuse against labour migrants. Many labour migrants experience abuses ranging from sexual, physical and psychological at the hands of their employers. In Ghana, Saudi Arabia and Qatar are the emerging destinations for Ghanaian labour migrants who move to the Gulf. Return migrants are also faced with challenges when they return to

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

their home country. The study employed the neoclassical, NELM and the structural theory as theoretical perspectives in understanding the experiences of return migrants.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER THREE

STUDY AREA AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter begins with the methodology which was used to explore the specific objectives of the study, namely the socio-demographic characteristics of Ghanaian returnees, their migration processes as well as return migrants reintegration. The chapter focuses on the study area where the research took place explaining the methodological design adopted, sampling employed and the data analysis as well as ethical issues essential for the study. The chapter concludes with challenges encountered as limitations.

3.2 The study area

The study area was limited to Nima, the capital of the Ayawaso East Municipality. . Nima is situated approximately 5 miles North of Accra Central and shares boundaries with Ring road (south) and the Odaw drain westward (Owusu, Agyei-Mensah and Lund, 2008). Although administratively it is split into Nima East and Nima West, the estimated population is about 55,830 in the 2000 population and housing census report (GSS, 2000).

The major ethnic groups in Nima include Akan, Mole-dagbani, Ewe and Ga-dangme with majority groups being Akan and Mole-dangbani. The migration from different parts of the country makes Nima a low class residential area for migrants. In terms of religious affiliation, Nima is of diverse religious denominations. A vast majority of the population are primarily Muslims due to their Northern ethnic background with a reasonable percentage being Christians.

In terms of occupation and economic status, the study area is one of the impoverished towns in Accra and suffers from inadequate provisions of basic facilities such as housing, drainage

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

systems, electricity, and water pipes amongst others. A greater number of the population in Nima(54%) are economically active but are engaged in informal activities such as petty trading, butchering, and construction works due to the pace of infrastructural development surfacing at the area which increases the likelihood of migration to the Gulf region. Again, 30 percent of the same population distribution is spread across the public sector with those engaged in the formal private sector constituting one percent (GSS, 2000).

This study area was chosen primarily because the population is Islamic in nature and the likelihood of migrating to the Gulf region is high due to common religious affiliations.

3.3 Research Design

Mouton (2001) defines research design as a plan or blueprint of someone intending to conduct research .A research design includes an outline of what the investigator will do from untying the hypothesis or research questions, and their operational implications to the final analysis of data (Pilot& Becker, 2006).It involves how the researcher has planned to carry out the research. The research design for this study among other things concentrates on the type of study, the approach to study and the strategy.

The mixed method approach was employed for this study as the research could not be addressed by just focusing on either quantitative or qualitative method. The quantitative approach is not good for explanations of experiences and motivation and that of qualitative cannot be generalised. This has paved way for the use of mixed methods. The use of the mixed method provides better understanding of the research problem. (Creswell, 2009; Teye 2012) . In the study, the quantitative approach focused on a wider response for purposes of generalisation while the qualitative approach sought to gain detailed understanding of respondents' context, emotions and experiences in the Gulf region. Thus, each approach

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

complements the strength and weakness of the other thereby increasing the validity of the research findings (Teye, 2012; Creswell, 2009).

3.4 Target population and Sampling technique

The target population for the study were returnees from the major Gulf regions. Thus any returnee from the Gulf region, voluntary or involuntary for at least one year at the destination, is included in the study. Although snowballing is a non-probability technique, it helps in identifying rare or hidden population (Heckathorn, 2002)). In spite of its weaknesses such as oversampling a particular network of peers and difficulty in determining the actual pattern of distribution of the population, it was the best for this study. Respondents were selected after using different nodes for selecting other respondents. As Sandelowski (1995) pointed out, in determining adequate sample size qualitatively using non-probability sampling technique, it depends on a matter of judgement and experiences in evaluating the quality of information. It is in this vein that the sampling of respondents in the study area continued until sample saturation was reached with fifth (50) respondents. This saturation was key since it helped in avoiding repetitive information from informants. Hence sample size of 50 was used for the quantitative study.

Also from the same population, the purposive sampling technique was used in identifying returnees from the sample frame for an in-depth interview. This was as a result of their rich experiences and information received during the administering of the questionnaires. This is in line with Addo's (2012) report on in-depth interview as a powerful approach to enter the mental world of individual in order to capture an idea in the individual's own world. Therefore, 5 returnees were interviewed using in-depth interview guide based on their consent giving as it was indicated on the form and also based on their unique experiences and their age and gender. This was important since much depth and understanding as well as

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

explanations were solicited to know their migration process, networks relied on prior to migrating as well as their return strategies adopted into their country of origin.

3.5 Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary data were gathered for this research. Primary data focused on questionnaires and interviews collected by the researcher while secondary data sources included existing literature from books journals and other scholarly sites such as google scholar, Wikipedia, yahoo search among other internet sources. This aided the researcher in the initial stage of the study. It also helped in the construction of questionnaires and interview guide.

3.5.1 Mode of Primary Data Collection

Prior to the administration of the instrument, pre-testing was done in Accra Central. This enabled the researcher to check the appropriateness of both questionnaires and interview guide to minimise the likeliness of the respondents not understanding or answering questions correctly. Again, the pre-test was used to predict the amount of time to allocate to each respondent and the number of interviews the researcher would be able to carry out in a day in order to organise the schedule of activities.

3.5.2 Questionnaire Survey

A combination of structured and semi-structured questionnaire was used in this research to solicit relevant responses from the return migrants. Questionnaires are relatively quick and easy to understand by using codes. Besides, the researcher contacted quite a number of respondents quickly, easily and efficiently using a questionnaire, once the targeted group has been identified. Also, a questionnaire is easy to standardise. For example, every respondent is asked the same question in the same way. This feature of a questionnaire makes it a very reliable method of data collection. It is easier to quantify and make statistical inferences with

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

it. The use of questionnaires also allows respondents to provide candid opinions and anonymity is assured.

The snowball sampling technique was used to select thirty five return migrants to provide responses to the quantitative data which was made up of both open and close ended semi structured questionnaires. The questionnaire was structured in line with the research objectives. The first section of the questionnaire was designed to collect information on the social demographic characteristics of the respondents. Respondents' age, ethnic background, amongst other demographic details were inquired of. The second section was structured to collect information on the migration process of respondents and the last section designed to collect information on the migration experiences of respondents. With the questions, respondents were given a range of options to select the most appropriate answer from.

3.5.3 In-depth Interview

Face-to-Face interview is the most commonly used technique for conducting a systematic inquiry and most social researchers regard it as a window on the world (Holstein and Gubrium, 1999**).**The essence of a face-to-face interaction is also to create an enabling environment for the respondent to fully participate and express concerns about the subject matter. The purposive sampling technique was used to select fifteen return migrants to provide responses for the qualitative analysis. With respect to the qualitative data, an in-depth interview guide was used to collect data from the return migrants from the Gulf region who were selected purposively due to their vast knowledge on the issue under study. This paved way for the researcher to get more information in lengthy conversations with respondents to further explore their migration network, factors that help in their reintegration among others. One demerit of the in-depth interview is that its findings cannot be generalised. The interview guides also focused on:

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

- Exploring returnees 'migration experiences while at the destination.
- Highlighting issues that had not surfaced during the administration of questionnaires which had to do with return patterns and reintegration processes adopted by return migrants.

3.6 Data Collection Procedure

Questionnaire

After selecting and finalising the tools for data collection, the researcher visited the study area under investigation personally for collecting the necessary data. Subsequently, the investigator discussed his investigation in detail with each of the respondents and sought their permission before collecting the necessary data. In the first phase, good rapport with each of the respondents was established to enable them feel at ease and answer the questionnaire carefully. The questionnaire was assigned and explained to each respondent. The procedure of filling out the questionnaire was made clear to each of them as well. Respondents who were having problems with the questionnaire were guided by the researcher who further explained questions and repeated them until they were well understood by respondents. They would then proceed to ticking their answers as appropriate on the questionnaire. The investigator was able to collect all the administered questionnaires and thanked respondents for their cooperation.

In-depth interviews

In the second phase, in-depth interviews were conducted using the interview guides. Before the administration of the interview guides, necessary steps were followed and appropriate precautions were taken. The interview sessions were conducted at various convenient places

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

and times selected by participants. This was normally done on weekends and after work hours. Each session of interview with a respondent lasted for an hour and a half.

Before each interview began, consent was sought to record some of the interviews for transcription. Each question on the interview guide was then explained to respondents who could neither read nor write. The interview schedule allowed for probing when certain explanations were not understood. The interview helped to tap into the experiences of the return migrants. Interviews were conducted in English and in the local language due to the educational level of the respondents. Most of the interviewees were more comfortable in English than any other local language. Each session of the interview ended with a vote of thanks to the respondent.

3.7 Data Analysis

3.7.1 Quantitative data analysis

After a questionnaire administered to respondents was obtained, each questionnaire was coded and analysed using the SPSS. This provided the basis for descriptive statistics in the form of tables, charts as well as cross tabulation.

3.7.2 Qualitative data analysis

In-depth interviews were recorded using audio recorder and all interviews were carried out in English and Twi as those were the common languages both researcher and respondents could communicate in. Hence it was easy to transcribe without altering most of the meanings to the responses given by the respondents. The interviews were then coded, put into themes by referring to the objectives of the study. Some of the themes included mode of return, prior preparation before return and reintegration challenges among others.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

3.8 Ethical Consideration

Ethical considerations are essential in any research work. Respondents are informed about the intent of the research study as well as the benefits from participating in the research. The researcher obtained an introductory letter from the Center for Migration Studies. This, together with his student identity card, was presented to each respondent before questionnaires were administered in order for them to appreciate the genuineness of the research for academic work. They were again informed about the use of audio recorders and the publishing of the interviews. The respondents were made to know that at any given point in time, they could discontinue with the process if they so wished since their participatory was voluntary. Nevertheless, respondents' anonymity was assured, hence all names were referenced with pseudonyms.

3.9 Limitations

During the administration of the questionnaire and the conduct of the interviews, there were some limitations worth stating. This is consistent with a report by Marshall and Rossman (1999) that researchers encounter some challenges during data collection. Since the study sought to identify personal life experiences, migration process and detailed return strategies adopted by returnees, some respondents were reluctant in taking part in the study or sharing some information. The researcher had to reassure them continuously that any information given will be treated confidential and was for only academic purposes.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERSITICS AND MIGRATION PROCESSES OF THE RETURNEES

4.0 Introduction

This chapter addresses the following objectives: the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents before and after returning, and the migration processes of Ghanaian return migrants from the Gulf region.

In order to understand the migration processes of the respondents before migration, it is essential to identify some of the socio-demographic characteristics of the sampled population. These characteristics include sex, age and other social factors consisting of religion, education, occupation among others.

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics

This section describes in detail the socio-demographic characteristics of the returnees from the Gulf regions which include sex, age, ethnicity and religion. Other features such as marital status, education and occupation of respondents are also presented in the tables. The Table 1 gives a summary of the socio-demographic characteristics of the returnees from the Gulf region.

4.1.1 Sex Characteristics of Respondents

Implication of one's sex and its influence on the migration trajectory has received a lot of substance in the migration literature (De Haan, 2000). Table 1 shows that out of the total respondents (of 50), 20(40.0%) were males while 30(60%) were females. This shows that females formed the majority among returnees from the study area. The sex distribution supports earlier empirical evidence elsewhere that the available jobs in the Gulf are women induced jobs (Tayah&Assaf, 2018).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

4.1.2 Ethnic Background of Respondents

The ethnic backgrounds of the respondents were explored in the study area. A careful observation of the table indicates that the majority of the respondents (60.0%) were Muslims while 20 percent of the total respondents constituted Akans, made up of Ashanti, Fanti, Akyem among other Twi speaking dialects. The rest of the ethnic groups were insignificant as Ewe was 4.0%, Mole-Dagbani 4.0%, among others.

Table 4.1: Socio-demographic Characteristics

Socio-demographic characteristics		Frequency (n=50)	Percent
Sex	Male	20	40.0
	Female	30	60.0
Total		50	100
Ethnicity	Akan	10	20.0
	Mole-Dagbani	2	4.0
	Ewe	2	4.0
	Muslims	30	60.0
	Ga-Adangbe	5	10.0
	Others	1	2.0
	Total	50	100

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.3 Age of Respondents before and after migration

As shown in table 4.2, prior to migration two-fifth (40.0%) of the respondents were within the age category of 20 to 24 years as compared to the returnees of the same category constituting close to half (48.0%) of the respondents. Similarly, with respect to age 30 to 34years, those who returned had a percentage of6 (24.0% - 18.0%) more than those who migrated at that time. Again, those aged between 40 years and above before and after

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

migration were less than 10 percent of the total population. The general implication is that the returnees were mostly youthful before migrating, which is consistent with Piracha and Saraogi's (2013) report that there is the propensity for the youth to migrate than aged.

Table 4.2: Age of respondents before and after migration

Variables		**Frequency**	**Percent**
Current Age	20-24	20	40.0
	25-29	12	24.0
	30-34	9	18.0
	35-39	3	6.0
	40-44	2	4.0
	45+	4	8.0
Total		**50**	**100**
Current age	20-24	24	48.0
	25-29	10	20.0
	30-34	12	24.0
	35-39	2	4.0
	40-44	1	2.0
	45+	1	2.0
Total		**50**	**100**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.4 Religious affiliation of respondents before and after migration

In terms of religious affiliations, Muslims form the majority before and after migration, representing 66.0 percent. However, Christians were little over a fourth (26.0%) reduced by 2 percent (24.0%) after migration. The reason could be that a percentage of the Christians might have converted to the Islamic faith at the destination. This conforms to Khashan(2016),

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

who reveals that the major religion in the Gulf States is Islam. The overall implication is that a high percentage of Muslims could be attributed to the destinations' dominant religion, which was a common access in integrating properly at the destination.

Table 4.3: Religious affiliation before and after migration

Variables		Frequency	Percent
Religion before migration	No religion	2	4.0
	Christian	13	26.0
	Muslim	33	66.0
	Traditionalist	2	4.0
Total		**50**	**100**
Religion after migration	No religion	4	8.0
	Christian	12	24.0
	Muslim	33	66.0
	Traditionalist	1	2.0
Total		**50**	**100**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.5 Educational status of respondents before migration

Educational levels of respondents prior to their migration were ascertained. Out of the sample total (50), close to half (48.0%) of the respondents had education up to the primary level with JHS/JSS and SSS/SHS as educational qualification representing 18.0 percent of the total responses. The rest of the levels of education of respondents were less than 5 percent. The general educational level of the respondents before migration was low and could motivate respondents to migrate since acquisition of high income job in Ghana without qualification is difficult. The educational level of respondents conforms to the study by Ehuron (2016),

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

which reveals that secular acquisition of education is not a priority of most Muslims as against the acquisition of knowledge from their "madrasa" which is prevalent in the Nima Community.

Table (4.4): Educational level before migration

Educational level	Frequency	Percent
No education	3	6.0
Primary	24	48.0
JHS/JSS	9	18.0
Middle	1	2.0
SSS/SHS	9	18.0
Voc/Comm/Tech	2	4.0
Tertiary	2	4.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.5 Educational status before and after migration

The table shows that among the respondents, the majority had had formal education, ranging from primary (48%); JHS/JSS (18%), Middle School (2.0%); SSS/SHS (18%); Voc/Tech (4%) and Tertiary (4.0%). The percentages demonstrate that a significant proportion of the respondents had at least attained some educational level which could influence their migration decision making. From the table, the highest levels of education attained by respondents prior to their migration and after returning were explored. It was evidential that for those who had had primary education, 50.0% of them had no change in their educational qualification during migration. Among such categories were primary (25.0%), JHS/JSS, middle and SSS/SHS (25.0%) Through the interviews, some of these respondents explained

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

that while abroad they had some money to further their education while others also upgraded their educational qualification after return to Ghana.

Table 4.4: Educational level after migration

Educational status	Educational qualification changed since migration		Total
	Yes	No	
No education	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.5%)	3 (6.0)
Primary	1 (25.0%)	23 (50.0%)	24 (48.0%)
JHS/JSS	1 (25.0%)	8 (17.4%)	9 (18.0%)
Middle	1 (25.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
SSS/SHS	1 (25.0%)	8 (17.4%)	9 (18.0%)
Voc/Comm/Tech	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.3%)	2 (4.0%)
Tertiary	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.3%)	2 (4.0%)
Total	**4 (100%)**	**46 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.6 Marital status of respondents before and after migration

Information on marital status was ascertained since it has influence when it comes to the likelihood to migrate. Studies have shown that individual persons are likely to migrate than married persons (Jacoben and Levin, 2000). This was consistent with the findings on the marital status of the returnees. The current marital status of the respondents show that more than half (60.0%) of them were never married. A little over a fourth (26.0%) were married with the rest of the respondents being people in consensual union (4%), separated (6%) and widowed (4).

With regard to those whose marital status changed after migration, only one respondent was widowed, representing 100 percent. However, the rest of the marital status remained unchanged and were high among never married respondents (61.0%) than married (26.5%).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

The reason is that prior to migration single persons are likely to migrate than those in union. This is consistent with Jacoben and Levins' (2000) assertion on individual marital status and their likelihood to migrate at the expense of married individuals. The little change could be due to the fact that respondents still had the desire to re-migrate.

Table 4.5: Marital status before and after migration

Marital status	Marital status changed since migration		Total
	Yes	No	
Married	0 (0.0%)	13 (26.5%)	13 (26.0%)
Consensual union	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.1%)	2 (4.0%)
Separated	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.1%)	3 (6.0%)
Widowed	1 (100.0%)	1 (2.0%)	2 (4.0%)
Never married	0 (0.0%)	30 (61.2%)	30 (60.0%)
Total	**1 (100%)**	**49 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.7 Respondent's occupation before and after migration

With respect to the economic activities of the respondents before and after migration,3 out of the total number of respondents responded a yes to a change in occupation. 2 respondents were petty traders and 1 respondent was a farmer and had changed jobs at the destination countries. 47 respondents responded a no to a change in occupation. Those who maintained the same job at the destination were higher among petty traders (48.0%), followed by other jobs (19.1%) such as painting, tiling, household chores and technicians representing 17.0 percent. The likelihood effect is that many of the respondents continued with their old occupation at the destination countries.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.6: Respondent's occupation before and after migration

Occupation of respondents	Occupation changed since migration		Total
	Yes	No	
Petty trader	2 (66.7%)	23 (48.9%)	25 (50.0%)
Technician	0 (0.0%)	8 (17.0%)	8 (16.0%)
Service and sales worker	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.4%)	3 (6.0%)
Farmer	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
Craft and related trade work	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.5%)	4 (8.0%)
Others	0 (0.0%)	9 (19.1%)	9 (18.0%)
Total	**3 (100%)**	**47 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field data, 2018

4.1.9 Sources of information prior to migration on GULF regions

In contemporary times, sources of information are available as a result of mass communication and technology (Dominick, 2010*).* In Table 2, about a quarter (36.0%) of the respondents accessed information on the Gulf region through friends and posters pasted at strategic places in the study area and beyond. Media advertisement on Gulf region constituted 14 percent while those who relied on family members as a source of information were one in every 9 respondents (12.0%). The implication is that a significant proportion rely on information from any source without due diligence of its authenticity.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.7: Sources of information on Gulf Regions

Sources of information	Frequency	Percent
Friends	18	36.0
Family member	6	12.0
Media	7	14.0
Posters	18	36.0
Others	1	2.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

The in-depth interviews conducted with some respondents also confirmed return migrants' source of information before migration. The respondents indicated that their first point of contact or information about the migration was through their friends. Many of the respondents indicated having first made contact to an agent or even entertaining of travelling to the gulf. Below are some comments from respondents:

> All I know is that it is my friend who came to tell me about it. He, therefore, took me to meet one guy who was the agent. So we went to Lapaz and he then introduced me to a Saudi guy. At a later date, I went with the guy to do my visa. After getting the visa, I paid the agent the money and he informed me of my departure time on Monday [Ayishetu, Nima, 27th June, 2018]

> I was just hanging around the house and the neighbourhood doing nothing so a friend came by one day and asked if we wanted to travel and make money since we were

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

already jobless. We responded that we would go if we had the opportunity, so they linked us to an agent. That is how it happened [Yakubu, Nima, 27th June, 2018]

4.2 Sources of migration assistance before migration

Respondents, in their quest to migrate, seek assistance which includes prayers, cash, advice among others from people deemed relevant to them. Prior to migration, out of the total number of respondents for this study, a little more than half (54.0%) of the respondents relied on travel agencies for assistance, 26.0% used the services of intermediaries such as registered, partial registered and non-registered. The rest of the sources of assistance were less than 10 percent. The patronage of the travel agencies could be attributed to the high publicity on issues of travel and acquisition of visas for prospective clients.

Table 4.8: Sources of migration assistance to the Gulf region

Sources of Assistance	Frequency	Percent
Myself	4	8.0
A return migrant	3	6.0
A religious leader	1	2.0
An intermediary	13	26.0
Travel agency	27	54.0
Others	2	4.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

The qualitative aspect of the interviews also revealed the same pattern of source of assistance in terms of migrating to the gulf region. However, some of the respondents indicated having

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

different forms of assistance at some stage of their migration process. One respondent indicated having received support from both the intermediary and agent. Other respondents indicated having received support from both their company and the natives in their destination whereas another respondent indicated having financing his own travels. The support included facilitation of free medicals, payment of visa fees among others.

Habib, had this to say:

> He was the one who introduced me to the agent. After I went to the agent and did all the medicals for free and I did all the things needed, he told me that the man wanted to see me himself. So he showed me the location and I went to meet the man. After that, he took me to the place where visas were processed and we did it. He did the visa for free. I was told that we would leave on Monday of the following week.

Habib, Nima, 27th June 2018

> What was done was that before leaving, the Arabians had to pay for everything. If I were to pay something, there was no way I could afford because I didn't have money. The Arabians paid for everything for me so I went there for free.

Ayishetu, Nima, 27th June, 2018

Yakubu shared his story:

> I met him and then we talked about how to get there. He charged me and I said I would pay. We concluded that I would pay him the money when my visa and ticket were ready. I gave him a copy of my passport. I did not give him the original

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

passport copy. I gave him a coloured copy. After 2 months, I had a call one Sunday morning that my things were set and so I had to leave Ghana. I met him at Kotoka so I took the Visa and the ticket and I went to a counter inside the departure hall to confirm that everything was correct before I came out and then paid him GH₵2,500 in cash.

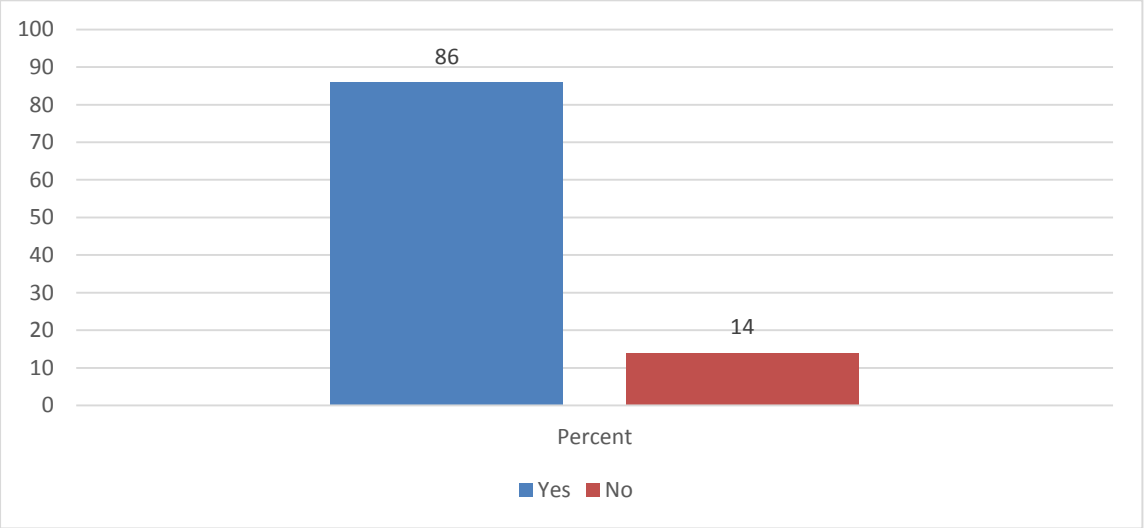
Yakubu, Nima, 27th June, 2018

4.2.1 Did you receive training before migration?

Figure 4.1.1 presents information on training services organised for would-be migrants prior to their migration to the Gulf regions. The outcomes on the figure indicate that the majority (86.0%) received training while the rest did not partake in any such training**.** The in-depth-interviews indicated that the training helps them to acquire personal skills in the kind of work they will be engaging in at the destination.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Figure 4.1.1: Did you receive training before migration?



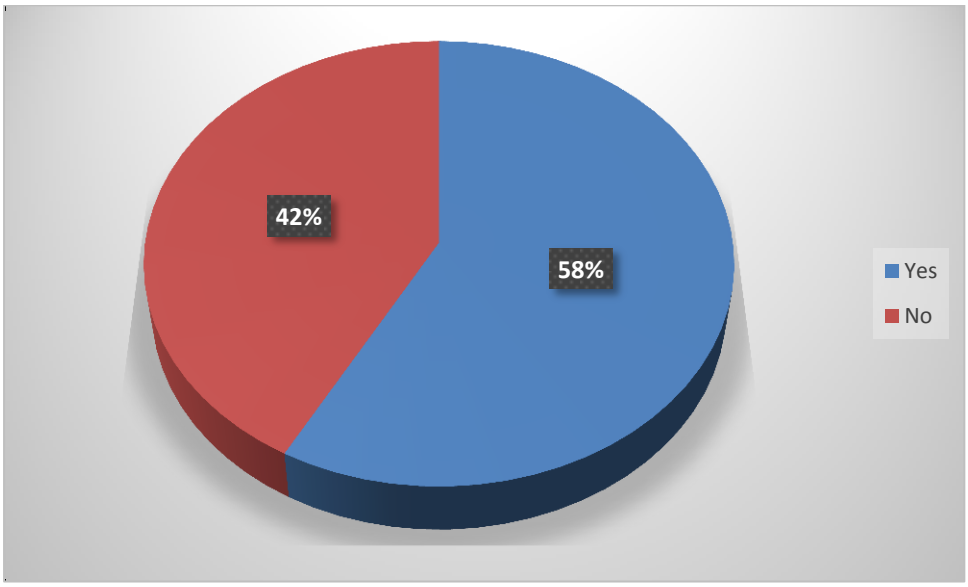
Source: Field data, 2018

4.2.2 Payment for Training prior to migration?

Prior to the destination areas, most recruitment agencies organise training for their clients in terms of important skills and knowledge about the things they need to acquire before traveling. It is in this vein that respondents were asked whether they paid for such services. Out of the population, more than half (58.0%) responded yes to such payment which include how to do household chores using equipment instead of bare hands. These equipment were complicated to respondents hence it was the responsibility of these recruitment agencies to offer training on them especially the usage dish washer, washing machines among others. Two respondents in every five (42.0%) answered no to such payment. The implication is that a marginal number of would-be-migrants pay for such services and the payment are made prior to migration and are compulsory for all domestic workers.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Figure 4.1.2: Do you pay for training services?



Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.3 Amount charged for training services prior to migration

Table 4.9.1 presents information on the amount spent in acquiring training prior to migration. Two-fifth (40.0%) of the respondents maintained that they acquired the training freely while a little close to a third (32.0%) paid amounts ranging from 500 to 1000 Ghana cedis. Again those who paid more than 2,300 Ghana cedi (GH¢ 2,300) were only 14 percent. This means that only a section of the population pay for training services prior to the migration.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.1: Amount charged for training services

Amount	Frequency	Percent
No amount paid	20	40.0
500-1000	16	32.0
1001-1600	5	10.0
1601-2200	2	4.0
2201+	7	14.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.4 Funding of migration to the destination

Contemporary migration comes with a cost and so some studies have expounded that it is the wealthy that migrate (Scott, 2006).It is in this regard that funding for migration by respondents was explored. It was evident from the findings that close to half (48.0%) did self-funding while 24percent relied on their spouses for help. A fraction of the contribution from recruitment agencies towards their clients' migration constituted 12% of the total responses. The reasons emanating from the finding is that respondents are likely to terminate contracts upon arrival, which makes recruitment agencies incur losses hence their disinterest in funding potential migrants.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.2 Funding of Migration to the destination

Funding of migration	Frequency	Percent
Self	24	48.0
My spouse	12	24.0
My sibling	7	14.0
An extended family member	2	4.0
Loan from a friend at destination	1	2.0
Recruitment agency	4	8.0
Total	**50**	**100**

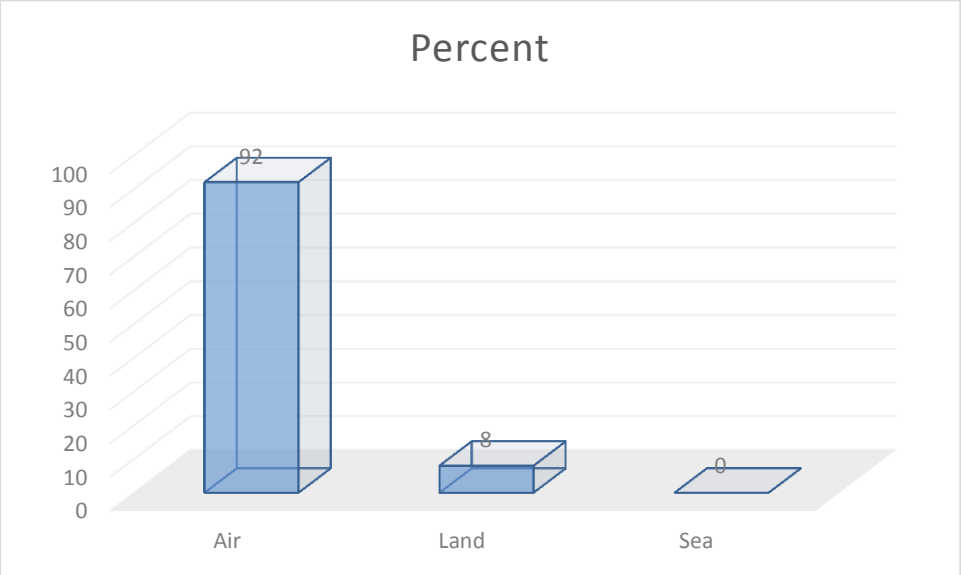
Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.5 Mode of transport by respondents

Means of transportation by respondents were ascertained which indicated that an overwhelming majority patronised air as traveling option whereas only a few (8.0%) preferred traveling by land. This mode of travel accounted for their involvement with travel agencies and the amounts paid since most of the journeys are in transition.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Figure 4.1.3: Mode of transport by respondents



Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.5 Respondents' destination countries

Although workers are needed in all these countries, respondents had their own reservation about the choice of country of interest. Out of the population, more than half (66.0%) preferred Saudi Arabia to any other Gulf countries, which recorded less than 20 percent of the total responses.

The reasons emanating from the in depth-interviews are that the majority use Saudi Arabia in order to participate in the Hajj pilgrimage. Again Saudi Arabia was the favourite choice for many due to its rich religious heritage as compared to the other countries.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.3: Respondents' destination country

Destination country	Frequency	Percent
Qatar	5	10.0
Saudi Arabia	33	66.0
UAE	4	8.0
Kuwait	5	10.0
Jordan	3	6.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.6 Reasons for choice of country by sex of respondents

Table 4.9.4 presents the views expressed by respondents for their choice of destination. The result indicates that males' view in choosing a destination randomly was 8 times (35.0%-26.7%) more in terms of percentages than that of the females. In terms of recruiters' preferred destination, males were 8 times (45.0%-53.3%) less than females in that regard. However, on the reliance on social networks the female gave a higher response. The overall implication is that males preferred choosing their destination in addition to availability of work while the females rely on recruitment agencies for destination choice. The results from a cross tabulation clearly shows that there is no significant relationship between choice of destination and one's sex, thus, one's sex does not play a role in choosing a destination but rather the opportunities available.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.4: Reasons for choice of country by sex of respondents

Reasons for choice of country	Sex of respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
Random decision	7(35.0%)	8(26.7%)	15(30.0)
Recruiters preferred destination	9(45.0%)	16(53.3%)	25(50.0%)
Type of work Available	4(20.0%)	5(16.7%)	9(18.0%)
Availability of social Network	0(0.0%)	1(3.3%)	1(2.0%)
Total	**20(100%)**	**30(100%)**	**50(100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.7 Reasons for migration

Globally, reasons for migration traverse from micro to macro level when individuals decide to migrate (Morawska, 2007). Respondents' motivation drivers for migrating were explored from the study area and was evident that half (50.0%) of the respondents interestingly mentioned better job opportunities and wage differentials as the key pull factors to the destination. On the other hand, education and family reunion were not as important to motivate people to the destination. This assertion could be attributed to increasing unemployment rate coupled with family pressure.

The results of the study confirm the findings of Tenkorang (2014) who, in a study, revealed that economic factors are the leading motivation for migration. .

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.5: Reasons for migration

Reasons for migration	Frequency	Percent
Better job opportunity	25	50.0
Huge wage differential	25	50.0
Education	0	0.0
Family reunion	0	0.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2 Reasons for migration by sex of respondents

With respect to reasons for migration, more than a half (55.0%) of the male population migrated because of high wage differential while 45.0 percent of the same population cited better job opportunities as their reasons for migrating. However, the findings portray a similar picture for the female population but higher percentage for those citing job opportunities (53.3%) than wage differentials (46.7%). Again education and family reunion were insignificant as reasons for migration. The cross tabulation showed no significant relationship between reasons for migration and sex. The implication is that reasons for migration are more associated with the destination than one's sex.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table (4.9.6): Reasons for migration by sex of respondents

Reasons for migration	Sex of respondent		Total
	Male	Female	
Better job opportunities	9 (45.0%)	16 (53.3%)	25 (50.0%)
Huge wage differentials	11 (55.0%)	14 (46.7%)	25 (50.0%)
Education	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Family reunion	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Total	**20 (100%)**	**30 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.8 Choice of destination by sex of respondents

Respondents' choices of destination with respect to the Gulf region were asked. Out of the male respondent population, close to three-quarters (70.0%) preferred Saudi Arabia as their destination country. The females were also unanimous on Saudi Arabia as their choice of country, representing more than half (63.3%) of the female population. The reason for Saudi Arabia by both males and females could be as a result of common religious denomination aiding to integration and the proximity of any part of the country to participate in Hajj pilgrimage if it is one's destination. Again, 10% of the males chose Qatar and UAE as their next preferred destinations aside Saudi Arabia while the female were enticed to Kuwait due to the high demand of workers especially in domestic works. The reason is that other factors such as jobs and availability of networks may have influenced their choice of destination rather than sex.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.7: Choice of destination by sex of respondents

Choice of destination	Sex of respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
Qatar	2 (10.0%)	3 (10.0%)	5 (10.0%)
Saudi Arabia	14 (70.0%)	19 (63.3%)	33 (66.0%)
UAE	2 (10.0%)	2 (6.7%)	4 (8.0%)
Kuwait	1 (5 .0%)	4 (13.3%)	5 (10.0%)
Jordan	1 (5.0%)	2 (6.7%)	3 (6.0%)
Total	**20 (100%)**	**30 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.2.9 Choice of destination by reasons for migration

Table 4.9.8 presents information on choice of destination as a result of reasons to migrate. With respect to better job opportunities, most of the respondents preferred Saudi Arabia (48.0%) and Kuwait (16.0%) in ranked order. Conversely, on the issue of high wage differentials, the outcome portrayed a similar picture for Saudi Arabia (84.0%) but shifted from Kuwait to Qatar with 8% of the total responses. Jordan was not a destination choice for respondents in terms of wage differentials. The reason for Saudi Arabia being the preferred destination is that aside its religious heritage, economic prospects coupled with high remuneration for work done serve as pull factors to that country. However, these pull factors (better job opportunities and high wage differentials) as reason for migration had no significant relationship with choice of destination from the result of the cross tabulation. The implication is that reasons for migration are not only economical but could be social to include education and family reunion.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.8: Choice of destination by reasons for migration

Choice of destination	Reasons for migration			Total
	Better job opportunities	High wage differentials	Educational opportunities	
Qatar	3 (12.0%)	2 (8.0%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (10.0%)
Saudi Arabia	12 (48.0%)	21 (84.0%)	0 (0.0%)	33 (66.0%)
UAE	3 (12.0%)	1 (4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.0%)
Kuwait	4 (16.0%)	1 (4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (10.0%)
Jordan	3 (12.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.0 %)
Total	**25 (100%)**	**25 (100%)**	**0 (0.0%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

4.3 Duration spent at the destination by sex

The numbers of years spent at the destination were ascertained from the perspective of one's sex. The outcome indicated that among the males, the majority (70.0%) remained at the destination for about 1 to 3 years with just one-fourth (25.0%) spending 4 to 6 years. Females' perspectives were not different since close to three-quarters (73.3%) responded positive to 1 to 3 years. The reason for the short stay at the destination according to the in depth interviews is that most of the contract durations are for 2 years subject to renewal but many do not extend it due to the inhumane treatment received from their employers. There was no statistical evidence between duration spent and one's sex. It was, however, revealed through the qualitative analysis that duration of stay depended on the conditions at the destination and the type of employer one worked for.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 4.9.8: Duration spent at the destination by sex

Duration spent at the destination (years)	Sex by respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
1-3	14 (70.0%)	22 (73.3%)	36 (72.0%)
4-6	4 (20.0%)	6 (20.0%)	10 (20.0%)
7+	2 (10.0%)	2 (6.7%)	4 (8.0 %)
Total	20 (100%)	30 (100%)	50 (100%)

Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER FIVE

EXPERIENCES AT DESTINATION AND REINTEGRATION AFTER RETURN.

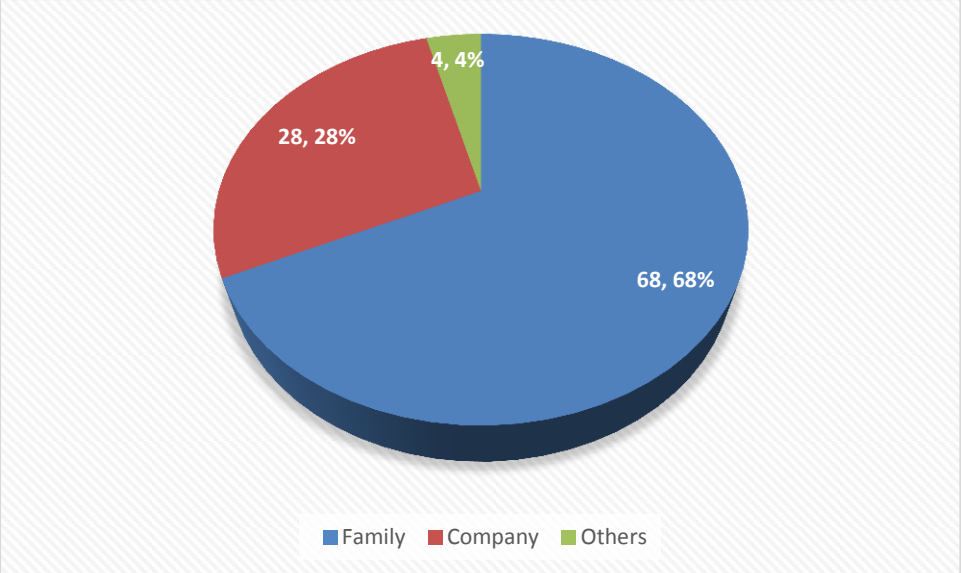
5.0 Introduction

This section looks at the following objectives: examining the migration experiences of Ghanaian return migrants while abroad and why the migrants return to Ghana. The chapter discusses first the type of employers respondents worked for, the type of abuses encountered by the respondents, nature of work at the destination among others.

5.1.1 Type of employers respondents work for

The survey sought to find out from respondents the type of employers they worked for at the destination. From figure 3, the majority worked for individual families while 28 percent had the opportunity to work with companies mostly in the construction field. The significant response to family employers was as a result of abundance of household chores as the available work at the destination for migrants.

Figure 5.1.1 Type of employers respondents worked for



Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.1.2 Type of abuses encountered by type of employers worked for by respondents

Type of employers respondents worked for at the destination were categorised into family, company and others. With respect to family employers, the most common abuses meted out to respondents in ranked other were extra unpaid allowances (41.2%) and denial of food (32.4%). On the other hand, company employers' inability to settle extra unpaid allowances was high (57.1%) with threatening behaviour such as deportation constituting 14.3 percent. In terms of respondents with no abuse incidence, those working in the companies were 7times (21.4% - 14.7%) more than their counterparts in family employment. The outcome also showed that other employers such as individual private jobs abuse half of the respondents working for them without paying their extra allowances. The general implication is that irrespective of one's employment, one is likely to receive abuses with greater percentage in unpaid extra work done. The results from respondentsindicate that forms of abuses encountered at the destination do not depend on specific employer and can occur at any time provided one works for any of the employers.

Table 5.1: Type of abuses encountered by type of employers worked for by respondents

Type of abuses encountered	Type of employers			Total
	Family	Company	Others	
No such abuses	5 (14.7%)	3 (21.4%)	1 (50.0%)	9 (18.0%)
Caning	2 (5.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.0%)
Denial of food	11 (32.4%)	1 (7.1%)	0 (0.0%)	12 (24.0%)
Extra unpaid allowance	14 (41.2%)	8 (57.1%)	1 (50.0%)	23 (46.0%)
Threatening behaviour (Threat of deportation)	2 (5.9%)	2 (14.3%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.0%)
Total	**34 (100%)**	**14 (100%)**	**2 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.1.3 Amount received monthly at the destination by the type of employers worked for

Amount paid for work done monthly were ascertained with regard to employers respondents worked for. Within family employers, more than a third (38.2%) paid respondents ranging from GH¢ 500 to GH¢1000 Ghana cedis representing 29.4 percent. The rest of the amount paid workers ranged fromGH¢1,700 to GH¢2,300 or more, representing less than 20 percent. On the other hand, company employers' highest monthly salary (42.9%) ranges from GH¢1700 to GH¢ 2,200 Ghana cedis followed by GH¢1,100 to GH¢1600. The least paid by companies was just 7.1 percent ranging from GH¢500 to GH¢1000. . Other employers such as individual private jobs paid from GH¢ 1,100 to GH¢23,000 and more representing half of the total response. The general implication is that one's salary does not depend on the type of employer and the nature of work assigned. This assertion is confirmed by the results from the cross table between amount received monthly and the type of employer worked for by a respondent.

Table 5.2: Amount received monthly at destination by the type of employer worked for

Amount	**Type of employer worked for**			
1Gh = 3.5$	**Family**	**Company**	**Others**	**Total**
500-1000	10 (29.4%)	1 (7.1%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (22.0%)
1001-1600	13 (38.2%)	4 (28.6%)	1 (50.0%)	18 (36.0%)
1601-2200	5 (14.7%)	6 (42.9%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (22.0%)
2201+	6 (17.6%)	3 (21.4%)	1 (50.0%)	10 (20.0%)
Total	**34 (100%)**	**14 (100%)**	**2 (100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.1.4 Nature of work at the destination

Out of the study sample, respondents' nature of work done at the destination was explored. It was evidential that a little over three-quarters (78.0%) were domestic work such as household chores. Other works such as gardening and driving were also patronised by a section of the respondents at the destination representing 8.0 and 6.0 percent respectively. The rest of the jobs were less the five percent. The reason is that demand for domestic work is high in the Gulf areas hence the highest type of job done by respondents.

Table 5.3: Nature of work at the destination

Nature of work	Frequency	Percent
Household chores	39	78.0
Gardening	4	8.0
Trading	1	2.0
Driving	3	6.0
Washing cars	2	4.0
Others	1	2.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

5.1.5 Nature of work assigned to respondents by amount received monthly at the destination

The study sought to identify the proportion of amount received in engaging in such works at the destination. With regard to amounts received monthly in the range of 500 to GH¢1000, household chores were largely significant (100%) as compared to the rest. However, it was unanimous that household chores were the highest paid work at the destination. Aside that, one-fifth (20.0%) of the respondents working as gardeners received monthly salaries of GH¢

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

2300 or more. A cross tabulation was further used to show the relationship between income generated and household job which revealed a significant relationship between the two variables. The overall implication is that income generated at the destination largely depends on the household job and the characteristics of that family.

Table 5.4: Nature of work assigned to respondent by amount received monthly at destination

Nature of work assigned	Amount received monthly at destination (1Gh = 3.5$)				Total
	500-1000	1101-1600	1701-2200	2201 +	
Household chores	11(100.0%)	15 (83.3%)	6 (54.5%)	7 (70.0%)	39 (78.0%)
Gardening	0(0.0%)	1(5.6%)	1(9.1%)	2(20.0%)	4 (8.0%)
Trading	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	1(9.1%)	0(0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
Driving	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	2(18.2%)	1(10.0%)	3 (6.0%)
Washing cars	0(0.0%)	1(5.6%)	1(9.1%)	0(0.0%)	2 (4.0%)
Others	0(0.0%)	1(5.6%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
Total	**11(100%)**	**18(100%)**	**11(100%)**	**10(100%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

5.1.6 Type of contract and its content

Results in Table 5.5 show the type of contract and its content signed by prospective migrants to the Gulf regions. About 70 percent of the respondents agreed on verbal contract whereas 26 percent entered into written contracts .However, other forms of agreement such as working and without salary till work done for the stipulated duration were insignificant (4.0%).

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

These forms of contracts reflected in the content where the majority (68.0%) were enticed with its package to include living expenses (food, accommodation and salaries) termed "Two years with living expenses". Others also fell victim having worked for two years without their monthly salary. The overall implication is that the majority are lured with the lucrative content of the contract which translates into signing of verbal contract with recruiters both locally and at the destination.

Table 5.5: Type of contract and its content

Variables		**Frequency (N = 50)**	**Percent**
Type of contract	Verbal	35	70.0
	Written	13	26.0
	Others	2	4.0
Content of contract	Two years with living expenses	34	68.0
	Two years without living expenses	15	30.0
	No contract	1	2.0

Source: Field Data, 2018

This type of contract was also common among respondents who were part of the in-depth interview conducted. There was no signed contract; it was more of a verbal agreement or a promise made by the agent in Ghana. Thus, the supposed contract was a deception where respondents arrived at their destinations and realised it was not what they were promised.

Yakubu narrates:

> Before leaving, there is nothing like training or interview. I was told I was going to work with an oil and Gas company over there and my salary would be 4,000 qatari

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

rial, which will be equivalent to almost GH₵5,000. I made a transit to Dubai and got to Qatar early morning around 6:45. My boss came and picked me up and took me to his house. It was my first day so they didn't rush to take me to work after a long journey. The next day he told me to come and wash his car and clean up and do some house chores. I refused to do so because that was not the reason why went there. I was told I was coming to work in an oil and gas company. He did not accept this. I took the agreement form which I had signed in Ghana and he also brought another form with my name, picture and other things which I believed was the correct thing. He told me that this was the agreement he made with the agents in Ghana and that I was to work in his house as a house help. My salary was not 4,000qatari rial but 850 qataririal, which was not even 1,000 qataririal. 850qatari rial which will be equivalent to almost GH₵900 here. I had no other option than to stay with him and work with him for a while. I was working there as a house help

5.1.7 Custodian of travel documents

International practices frown on restriction of movement if it is legal (Chrisler, 2013). It is in this regard that the keepers of one's documents at destination were explored since one's movement outside his or her home country largely depends on his or her travel documents. The majority (74.0%) of the respondents' travel documents were confiscated by their employers at the destination whereas only a few (12.0%) had the opportunity to keep their own travel documents. In respect to recruiters in Ghana and at the destination, keeping documents were less than 5 percent.

The overall implication is that keeping their own documents is as a result of avoiding contractual agreement with employers prior to their migration.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 5.6: Custodian of travel documents

Keeper of travel documents	Frequency	Percent
Myself	6	12.0
My employer	37	74.0
My recruiter in Ghana	1	2.0
My recruiter at the destination	5	10.0
Others	1	2.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

5.1.8 Type of abuses encountered by respondents

There are perceptions of abuses with regard to the Gulf regions (Herman, 2015). This trend of news was worrisome hence the need to ascertain from returnees from such destinations. The findings show that working for extra hours came without salaries and was quite intensive. As regards the issue reporting unfair treatment of employers to recruiters, 24 percent suffered abuses while those who received no abuses constituted 18 percent of the total responses, contrary to the perception of general abuses at the destination. A fraction of the respondents (18.0%) had no experience with abuses, which depended on one's employer and the relationship that exists.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 5.7: Type of abuses encountered by respondents

Type of abuses	Frequency	Percent
No such Abuse	9	18.0
Caning	2	4.0
Denial of food	12	24.0
Extra unpaid allowances	23	46.0
Threatening behavior	4	8.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

The qualitative interview confirmed many of the abuses indicated by respondents in the survey. In the narratives provided by respondents, the abuses ranged from refusal to pay salaries, sexual abuse and physical abuse. For instance, one respondent indicated how they refused to pay them after almost one year of working for people. Other respondents indicated how they were physically abused and starved by the authorities as well as those they were working for:

> Another challenge was that after I got paid, my madam would ask me to bring my money. When I was hungry, I used that same money to eat. Even before I eat meat, I had to use my own money to buy meat.
>
> *Sahadatu,Nima,26th June, 2018*

> They never paid me for almost 8 months. So when I got there the first time I told them that I wanted the salary but they told me that they wouldn't give it to me unless I am done working with them for the first 3 months. After completing the first 3 months, I asked them again and they told me that they would get it for me and that I should be more patient. It's been 8 months since then but they still haven't paid me
>
> *Ayishetu,Nima,26th June, 2018*

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Another respondent had this to say:

> The men in the house always wanted to have sex with me. Even though I tried to push them away, they always used force you and when I try to report them to the family they wouldn't do anything. That was also part of the reason I left the first house.
>
> *Fauziya, Nima,26th June, 2018*

5.1.9 Appropriate authorities in charge of abuse incidence

The rampant reportage on abuse cases at the gulf region informed the decision to find out what respondents relied on when abused. Table 5.8 indicates that in a rank order, appropriate authorities who received such complaints were local police at the destination (36.6%), recruiters at the origin (32.0%) and recruiters at the destination (26.0%). The implication is that the refusal of local police in dealing passionately with the issues at destination falls on recruiter at the origin countries since they liaise with employers at the destination.

Table 5.8: Appropriate authorities in charge of abuse incidence

Recipients	Frequency	Percent
My recruiter back in Ghana	16	32.0
My recruiter back at the destination	13	26.0
Local police at the destination	18	36.6
Others	3	6.0
Total	**50**	**100**

Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.2 Percent distribution of other challenges faced at the destination by sex of respondent

To further identify the likely disparity between sex and other challenges faced at the destination, it was evident that with regard to the male population, language constraint and delay in payment of allowances were the immediate challenges faced at the destination. The table portrayed a similar response when it came to the females. It was observed that the females had similar challenges as the males in addition to restriction of movement (10.0%) and sexual exploitations (6.7%). The cross tabulation clearly reveals the relationship between challenges faced at destination by sex of respondents which revealed that that every respondent was affected by some other challenges with the exception of sexual exploitation which was attributed to only females.

Table 5.9: Percent distribution of other challenges faced at the destination by sex of respondents

Other challenges encountered	Sex of respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
No challenges	6(12.0%)	13(26.0%)	19(38.0%)
Types of food available	1(2.0%)	2(4.0%)	3(6.0%)
Delays in payment	4(8.0%)	3(6.0%)	7(14.0%)
Language constraint	6(12.0%)	7(14.0%)	13(26.0%)
Restriction of movement	3(6.0%)	3(6.0%)	6(12.0%)
Sexual exploitation	0(0.0%)	2(4.0%)	2(4.0%)
Total	**20(40%)**	**30(60%)**	**50(100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.2.1 Other challenges faced at the destination by the type of employer worked for

From the cross table illustrated in table 5.9.1, aside the abuses encountered by respondents, other challenges associated with their work at the destination were explored with respect to their employers. Out of the family employers' population, close to half (48.0%) had no challenges working with the respondents. In ranked order, challenges meted out to respondents by family employers included language constraints (23.5%), delays in payment of salaries and restriction of movement (11.8%), with sexual exploitation (2.9%) as the least among the challenges from family employers. With regard to company employers, respondents face difficulties such as language as a barrier (28.6%) and delay in payment of salaries as the topmost challenges but significant (7.1%) in terms of exploiting workers sexually. The reason for the high sexual abuse from company employers could be attributed to terms of contract and the content signed on behalf of respondents prior to their migration where details are hardly known to respondents. However, other employers restricted respondents' movement as well as their mode of communication, constituting half (50.0%) of the challenges. The overall implication is that laws protecting labour migrants are frowned upon at the destination.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Table 5.9.1: Other challenges faced at the destination by the type of employer worked for

Other challenges	Type of employers worked for			Total
	Family	Company	Others	
No challenges	16 (32.0%)	3 (6.0%)	0 (0.0%)	19 (38.0%)
Denial of food	1 (2.0%)	2 (4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.0%)
Delays in payment of salaries	4 (8.0%)	3 (21.4%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (14.0%)
Language constraint	8 (16.0%)	4 (8.0%)	1 (2.0%)	13 (26.0%)
Restriction of movement	4 (8.0%)	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)	6 (12.0%)
Sexual exploitations	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.0%)
Total	**34 (68%)**	**14 (28%)**	**2 (4%)**	**50 (100%)**

Source: Field Data, 2018

5.2.2 Return patterns and strategies adopted by return migrants

In terms of return patterns and strategies adopted by returnees, the common themes that emerged from the in-depth interviews were that all the respondents used air to return to Ghana. Because some of them had fake passports, they had difficulties entering into Ghana. For reasons unbeknown to the respondents, these were the same passports they used to travel to Ghana but were informed upon their return that they were now fake.One of the respondents shared this story:

> ...The woman wanted me to come back but I didn't want to go back because my passport was fake. They gave me a fake identity and name so it was only my real picture that was on the passport. I used that passport and came back to Ghana. When I came back to Ghana, at Kotoka, I was nearly arrested because the passport was a fake one. It was at that point that I got to know that I had a fake passport. The policemen over there had wanted to arrest me but luckily, one of them was a Muslim brother who came and talked to them on my behalf before they let me go.
>
> *Fauziya, Nima, 26th June, 2018.*

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5.2.3 Family reception of return migrants

Return migrants indicated that family members who knew of their migration and subsequent return were more receptive and sometimes glad that they had returned even if they could not achieve their main aim of prosperity. Other migrants also had family members seek for employment on their behalf before their arrivals. This indicates that even though return migrants did not achieve their aim, family members who were aware of their travels still supported them.

> No one knew I was coming home. I returned home just like how I left; without informing anyone. My mum only got to know the very day I was leaving. My mum was just there and she saw me coming home….After a week, I told her the whole story and the reason why I came back home. At the beginning, I did not know how to tell her without getting her confused. But after telling her she understood me and told me that the most important thing was my safety. She was happy that at least, I was back home alive.
>
> *Ibrahim, Nima, 26th June 2018*

> When it was 2 months for me to come home, I called my mother to inform her about my coming and pleaded with her to look for a job for me so that immediately I returned home, I would start working because I knew the money in my hands was not enough…unfortunately she could not find me one until I arrived home. It has been almost 6months since I returned home and I still have not gotten a job
>
> *Sahadatu,Nima, 26th June, 2018*

5.2.4Reintegration challenges after return.

Challenges that return migrants encountered in their reintegration into their various communities were explored. The study found that return migrants faced challenges related to their inability to apply the skills they attained in the host countries, difficulty accessing jobs as well as loss of assets. However, most of the return migrants came back to Ghana

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

unprepared or were forced to due to harsh conditions they were experiencing in their destinations. Even though migrants experienced harsh conditions, some of them acquired skills in the host countries. Yet these skills some of the respondents acquired did not help them in getting a job. Upon their return to Ghana, most of the respondents have been struggling gaining employment. Due to these challenges upon their return, all the respondents who participated in the in-depth interviews intend to migrate again even though the conditions in the gulf state are not favourable.

> I like my native country Ghana because of the state. Our money goes to the state. The state too sponsors the Arabs and the Arabs are supposed to give them to us but they don't. We have to go through a lot. Assuming I have a good job or business here, I will not think of going anywhere. What I hustle for is what I use. So imagine if everything I have gets finished, I will have nothing to depend on. If things continue like this, I will have no choice but to go back.
>
> *Yakubu,Nima, 26th June, 2018*

> I really had enough money but my problem was the person I was sending the money to build a house for me. That person spent the money without doing it so I am here now with no money and work to do. I cannot go back to sell my things. People will even laugh at me so I just have to go back. I have started preparing.
>
> *Ayishetu, Nima, 27th June, 2018*

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Introduction

Return migration is one of the important areas in the study of migration as it plays a crucial role in the development of a country. Attention has, therefore, been paid to the link between return migration and development. In Ghana, there have been studies that have examined various aspects of return migration (Dako-Gyeke and Baffo, 2017; Setrana and Tonah, 2014) There is a dearth of literature on return migrants from the Gulf region. Not much work has been done on the issue of return migrants from the Gulf and their migration experiences as well as how they impact on their return and their ability to reintegrate in the communities. The study, therefore, sought to explore the migration experiences of return migrants from the Gulf States to Ghana. The research design that was adopted for the study was mixed methods. The sample size was made up of 50 respondents selected through the snowball sampling technique. Instruments used for the study were semi-structured questionnaires and in-depth interview guide. The quantitative data was analysed using SPSS and the qualitative was analysed through the use of thematic analysis

The study employed both a mixed method of quantitative and qualitative approach whiles employing the neoclassical, NELM and structural approach theories to examine to explore the migration processes, experiences and how Ghanaian return migrants reintegrate into the society.

6.1 Summary of findings

With respect to the socio-demographic features of the respondents, close to half were within the ages of 20 to 30 years before migration, which confirms a significant proportion of youth among the respondents. This is not surprising since it is consistent with migration literature

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

that most migrants are youthful in nature (Piracha&Saraogi, 2013). It is also in line with Awumbila (2011), who posits that the active involvements of the youth are more than any other age category and also the most likely ones to migrate. Educationally, those whose qualification changed as a result of migration were those in primary, JHS/middle and SHS/SSS. Again those who were never married change their marital status to married persons due to economic improvement after migration.

In terms of the migration process, the study found that the highest proportion (36%) obtained information regarding the Gulf regions from their friends and a total of more than half sought for assistance from travel agencies. These reflect the modes at which people obtain information and the reliance on such information when taking migration decisions. Funding of migration was mostly done by migrants and their immediate family (spouse and sibling) at the expense of recruiting agencies known specifically for that. Again respondents' choice of country reveals that both sexes 'countries of destination were chosen by recruiters with reasons of migrating being economical. In addition, three-quarters of both sexes spent 1 to 3 years at the destination due to the type of contract available. The majority of the respondents worked for family employers than any other employers as a result of high demand for domestic work.

In terms of their experiences and return patterns adopted, the majority of the experiences shared by respondents were negative especially with regard to contract. Respondents' documents were forcibly kept by employers while the type of abuses encountered most were unpaid allowances and denial of food and were more associated with family and company employers. The narratives of return migrants indicated that they were misinformed on the job specifications at the destination, which led to them being abused after complaining. Return migrants indicated that family members who knew of their migration and subsequent return were more receptive and sometimes glad that they had returned even if they could not

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

achieve their main aim of travelling, Challenges that return migrants encountered in their reintegration into their various communities were explored. The study found that return migrants faced challenges related to their inability to apply the skills they attained in the host countries, difficulty in accessing jobs as well as loss of assets.

Sexual exploitations mostly depended on the type of employer with females being in the majority. Return strategies adopted by respondents used air as their mode of transport while a section of the respondents encountered difficulties using fake passports. A section of the returnees came to Ghana unprepared and struggling to gain employments. In as much as the experiences suffered at the destination were negative, the majority are bent on migrating again due to the socio-economic challenges faced during reintegration.

6.2 Conclusions

The study makes the following conclusions based on broad issues on the study's theoretical framework, methodological approach and some key findings:

Ghanaian return migrants from the Gulf States are dominated by the youth within active age working group. Migration to the Gulf States improves the lives of most migrants after years of stay in the destination country. However, migrants' decision to return to their home countries is as a result of a host of reasons. These include economic factors and the quest for peace, amongst several other reasons. The most predominant motivating factor has been proven by numerous studies (Awumbila et al, 2008 and 2011; King, 2000) to be as a result of the negative influences and abuses suffered in the host countries. In the view of Neoclassical and NELM perspectives on return migrants, migrants make analysis of situations at both home and host country before making the decision to return home.

The majority of the return migrants come back to Ghana unprepared with no significant funds. This has an impact on their ability to acquire jobs or set up businesses. It affects their

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

ability to accumulate material and non-material resources to facilitate their reintegration. Even when they return with little funds, they are spent on their daily upkeep.This challenge has an impact on their ability to reintegrate into their various communities coupled with the inadequacy of social support for these migrants. Their inability to reintegrate successfully in the society triggers the desire to migrate again; even if it cost them their lives. According to Cassarino (2008), the structural approach suggests that social, economic and political conditions all prevent returnees from having a successful reintegration. Return migrants, therefore, migrate again if they perceive that the gap between their expectations and what is in their home country is too wide.

6.3 Recommendations

Increasing globalisation and the feminisation of migration will continue to attract migrants to the Gulf region, especially from sub Saharan African countries like Ghana.

However, for Ghana to minimise the flow of migrants to these areas, policy makers must formulate policies such prosecutorial powers to empower agencies responsible for labour migration in Ghana in order to monitor and regularise recruitment agencies in such industry.

Second, it is recommended that the Government of Ghana co-operate with labour receiving countries through their consulates to investigate cases of abuses and prosecute perpetrators accordingly to serve as deterrent to employers of destination countries.

Third, Government through the Ministry of Information should create the awareness about the dangers of domestic works in the Gulf region and the need to seek for right information at the appropriate quarters.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Finally, return migration strategies and reintegration of migrants should be implemented in order to help returnees settle economically and socially in their home countries. This should be done by absorbing returnees into the labour sector especially the skilled returnees.

6.4 Recommendation for Further Research

Although the study examined the experiences of return migrants, the psychological impact of these experiences were not fully explored. This shortcoming highlights the need for further research to understand the psychological impact of the various abuses experienced by return migrants and how it affects their reintegration. In particularly, the issues could be a comparative study where return migrants from different parts of the Gulf States could be compared because of the varying abuses and experiences.

It is also important to conduct further research on the different stages of the migration process and the various experiences encountered at each stage. This will provide a broader context in understanding their varying experiences and how these impact on the migrants.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

REFERENCES

Acre, W. F. (2001). *Systematic Qualitative Data Research: An Introduction for Filipino Practitioners (2nd ed)*. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University-Office of Research and Publications.Adeku, J. (1995). *Ghanaians Outside the Country* :Migration Research Study in Ghana, K.A.T. Accra

Adepoju, A. (2006). The challenge of labour migration flows between West Africa and the young citizens in an oil-rich Arabian Gulf economy. *Personnel Review, 41*(5), 609-629.

Al-Waqfi, M. A & Forstenlechner, I. (2012). *Of Private Sector Fear and Prejudice: The Case of Young Citizens in an Oil Rich Arabian Gulf Economy.*

Ammassari, S. & Black, R. (2001) *Harnessing the Potential of Migration and Return to Promote Development*

Anarfi, J. K, & Kwankye, S. O. (2009).*Independent migration of children*. Institute of statistical, social and economic research (ISSER), University of Ghana, Legon.

Anarfi, J.K, & Kwankye, S. O. (2010).Migration from and to Ghana: A background paper. Working Paper Issued by the *Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty*, University of Sussex,Brighton: UK.

Anarfi, J.K, & Kwankye, S. O. (2003).Migration from and to Ghana: A background paper. Working Paper Issued by the *Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty*, University of Sussex,Brighton: UK.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Andrzej, K. (2001). *Arab versus Asian migrant workers in the GCC countries* in South Asian Migration to Gulf CountriesHistory, Policies, Development (ed).Prakash C. Jain, GinuZachariaOommen. London, Routledge India

Asare, P. (2012). Labour migration in Ghana. *International Affairs Officer, GTUC*.

Awumbila, M. &Ardayfio-Schandorf, E. (2008).Gendered Poverty, Migration and Livelihood Strategies of Female Porters in Accra, Ghana.*Norwegian Journal of Geography*. 62(3): 171-179

Awumbila, M., Benneh, Y., Teye, J. K., & Atiim, G. (2014). Across artificial borders: An assessment of labour migration in the ECOWAS region. *Brussels: ACP Observatory on Migration*.

Awumbila, M., Manuh, T., Quartey, P., Tagoe, C. A., & Bosiakoh, T. A. (2008). Migration country paper (Ghana). Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana, Legon.

Black et al (2005), *Migration, Return and Small Enterprise Development in Ghana*; *A Route of Poverty?*

Caldwell, J. C. & Caldwell,P. (1987). *The Cultural Context Of High Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa.*

Çağlar, A. (2006). Hometown associations, the rescaling of state spatiality and migrant grassroots transnationalism.*Global Networks*, *6*(1), 1-22.

Cassarino, J. P. (2004).*Theororizing Return Migration. The Conceptual Approach to Return Migrants Revisited.*

Cassarino, J. P. (2008). Conditions of Return Migrants.Editorial introduction.*International Journal on Multicultural Societies, 10(2):* 1817-4574.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Central Intelligence Agency (2013). *United Arab Emirates.* In *The World Factbook 2013-14.*Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency

Chrisler, J. C. (2013). *A global approach to reproductive justice-psychological and legal aspects and implications*. Wm. & Mary J. Women & L., 20(1).

Constant, A., & Massey, D. S. (2002). Return migration by German guestworkers: Neoclassical versus new economic theories. *International Migration*, *40*(4), 5–38.

Creswell J.W. (2009) *Qualitative Quantitative and Mixed-Method Approach.*University of Michigan

Dako-Gyeke, M. & Baffo, R. K. (2017).*Deportation and Reintegration: Exploring ChallemgesFcaed by Deportee Residents in the Nkoranza Municipality, Ghana.*

Dominick, J. R. (2010). *The dynamics of mass communication: Media in the digital age*. Tata McGraw-Hill Education.

Dominick, J. R. (2010). *The dynamics of mass communication: Media in the digital age*. Tata McGraw-Hill Education.

Doumato, E. A., &Posusney, M. P. (Eds.). (2003). *Women and globalization in the Arab Middle East: gender, economy, and society*.London, Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Fernandez, B. (2010). *Cheap and disposable?The impact of the global economic crisis on the migration of Ethiopian women domestic workers to the Gulf*.Gender & Development, *18*(2), 249-262.

Gallagher, A. (2017). Trafficking in Persons Report. *Human Rights Quarterly*, *23*(4), 1135-1141.

Gardner, A. M. (2011). Gulf migration and the family. *Journal of Arabian Studies*, *1*(1), 3-25.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Ghana Statistical Service, (1995) *Migration Research Study in Ghana*, Vol.1

Ghana Statistical Service, (1995*) Migration Research Study in Ghana*, Vol.2

Ghobash, M. (1986).*Immigration and Development in the United Arab Emirates.* Cairo: Al Wafa Press.

Girgis, M. (2002). Would Nationals and Asians Replace Arab Workers in the GCC? Working paper No. 74.*The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies.*Saudi Arabia.

Gulf Labour Markets and Migration. (2016). *GCC: Total population and percentage of nationals and foreign nationals in GCC countries (national statistics, 2010-2016)*

Hamza, S. (2014). MigrantLabor in the Arabian Gulf. *University of Tennessee Honors Thesis Projects.* http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_chanhonoproj/1710.

Hamza, S. (2015). Migrant Labor in the Arabian Gulf: A case study of Dubai, UAE. *Pursuit-The Journal of Undergraduate Research at the University of Tennessee*, *6*(1), 10.

Heckathorn, D. D. (2002). *Respondent-Driven Sampling II: Deriving Valid Population Estimates From Chain-Referral Samples Of Hidden Populations*. Social problems, 49(1),

Helleiner, J. (2013). *Unauthorised Crossings, Danger And Death At The Canada–US Border.Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies*, *39*(9), 1507-1524.

Hennink, M. & Simkhada, P. (2004).*Sex Trafficking in Nepal.Context and Process*.

Herman, J. L. (2015). *Trauma and recovery: The aftermath of violence--from domestic abuse to political terror*. Hachette UK.

Herman, J. L. (2015). *Trauma and recovery: The aftermath of violence--from domestic abuse to political terror*. Hachette UK.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/Migration-Foreign-Affairs-to-monitor-recruitment-agencies-425741

Imerion, E. (2017). *Transnational Labour Migration: Experiences of Mid-to-Highly Skilled African Migrant Workers in Doha, Qatar.*

International Labor Office (1991) *Migrant Workers Affected by the Gulf Crisis*. Report of the Director-General. Geneva.

International Organisation of Migration (IOM) (2016). *IOM Labour Migration and Human Development Programme:* Migrant Integration Department of Migration Management

International Organisation of Migration (IOM) (2018). *World Migration Report 2018: Migrants and Cities: New Partnerships to Manage Mobility*. International Organization for Migration, Geneva, Switzerland

Jamie, F. M., &Tsega, A. H. (2016). *Ethiopian female Labor migration to the Gulf states: The case of Kuwait*. African & Black Diaspora, *9*(2), 214-227.

Jennissen, R. (2007). *Causality Chains In The International Migration Systems Approach.* Population Research and Policy Review, *26*(4), 11–36

Kabeer, N. (2007). *Footloose female Labor: transnational migration, social protection and citizenship in the Asia region.* Working Paper 1, IDRC Women‟s Rights and Citizenship Working Paper Series. Ottawa: International Development Research Centre.

Kapizweski, A (2001). *Arab Versus Asian Migrant Workers in The GCC Countries.* United Nations Secretariat, Beirut.

Kayser, B. (1967). *The Situation Of The Returning Migrant On The Labour Market In Greece: Results Of Surveys.* Emigrant Workers Returning To Their Home Country. Paris, France: OECD Suppl

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Kifleyeuse, A. (2012). *Women Who Migrate, Men Who Wait: Eritrean Labour Migration To Arab Near East.* Northeast African Studies, 12(1), 95-127.

King, R. (2000). *Generalizations From The History Of Return Migration*: Journey Of Hope Or Despair. Geneva: IOM.

Kofman, E. (2014). Gendered Global Migrations. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *6*(4), 643-665.

Kunuroglu, F., van de Vijver, F., & Yagmur, K. (2016). Return migration. *Online Readings in Psychology and Culture*, *8*(2), 1.

Marshall, C. & Rossman, G. B. (1999). *Designing Qualitative Research.* Sage Publications.London

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration (2008).*EU Dialogue on Migration Held*.Accra-Ghana.

Modarres, A. (2010). Migration and the Persian Gulf: Demography, identity and the road to equitable policies. *Anthropology of the Middle East*, *5*(1), 1-17.

Morawska, E. (2007). *International Migration: Its Various Mechanisms And Different Theories That Try To Explain It.* Willy Brandt Series of Working Papers in International Migration and Ethnic Relations 1/07. IMER/ MIM, Malmo University, Sweden.

Mouton, S.,(2001): *Scientific Social Survey and Research,* Tokyo, Prentice Hall, INC

Ni Laoire C. (2007). *The Green Grass of Home? Return Migration to Rural Ireland.* Journal of Rural Studies

O'Neill, T. (2007). *Our Nepali Work Is Very Good: Nepalese Domestic Workers As Transnational Subjects*. Asian and Pacific Migration Journal, *16*(3), 301-322.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (2009). *International migration*: *The human face of globalization*. Paris: OECD Insights

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.(2018).*International Migration Outlook.*

Palgrave, W. G. (1866). *Narrative Of A Year's Journey Through Central And Eastern Arabia(*3rd Edition), London: Macmillan and Co (Vol 1):1862-1863

Patton, Michael Quinn (2002). *Qualitative Research &Evaluation Methods: 2nd Ed*. London: Sage Publications.

Penninx, R. (1982). *A Critical Review Of Theory And Practice: The Case Of Turkey*. International Migration Review, *16*(4), 781-818.

Pfeifer, K., & Posusney, M. P. (2003). Arab Economies and Globalization: An Overview. *Women and Globalization in the Arab Middle East.Gender, Economy & Society. Boulder, London: Lynne Rienner*, 25-54.

Pilot, M., and Becker, K., (2006). *Social Research Methods.Prentice Hall of India*. Elliot

Potter B. R. (2005). *Young, Gifted and Back*. Second Generation Transnational Return Migrants to the Caribbean", Progress in Development Studies

Preston R (1993).*The Integration of Returned Exiles.* Former Combatants and Other War-Affected Namibians, Namibian Institute for Social and Economic Research, Windhoek, Namibia,.

Ravenstein G. E. (1885). *The laws of migration– 1*, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society.

Roper, S. D. &Barria L.A (2014) *Understanding Variations in Gulf Migration and Labour Practices.*

Sandelowski, M. (1995). *Sample Size In Qualitative Research*. Research in Nursing and Health. 18, 179-183.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Setrana, M. B. &Tonah S. (2014).*Return Migrants and the Challenge of Reintegration; The Case of Returnees to Kumasi Ghana.*A Journal of African Migration.

Scott, S. (2006). *The Social Morphology Of Skilled Migration: The Case Of The British Middle Class In Paris.* Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 32(7), 1105-1129.

Scott, S. (2006). *The Social Morphology Of Skilled Migration: The Case Of The British Middle Class In Paris.* Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 32(7), 1105-1129.

Stewart, D. 2005. *Trafficking in Women: The Canadian Perspective*. Canadian Medical Association Journal 173 (1): 25–26.

Tayah, M. J., &Assaf, H. (2018). *The Future of Domestic Work in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council.*

Teye, J. K (2012) *Benefits, Challenges and Dynamism of Positionalities Associated with Mixed Methods Research in Developing Countries Evidence from Ghana.*

Trebous, M. (1970). *Migration And Development, The Case Of Algeria. Paris,* France: OECD.

Twum-Baah, K. A. (2005). *Volume And Characteristics Of International Ghanaian Migration*.T Manuh (Ed.), *At home in the world: International Migration and Development in Contemporary Ghana and West Africa*, Sub-Saharan Publishers, Accra: 55-102.

Unit, E. I. (2009). The GCC in 2020: Outlook for the Gulf and the Global Economy. *Qatar, The Qatar Financial Centre Authority*, *24*.

United Nations (2009). *United Nations Population Division*.

Van-Hear N. (1998).*Diaspora Formation:* The Compass Anthology

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Van Houte, M. &Davids, T. (2008). Development and return migration: from policy panacea to migrant perspective sustainability. *Third World Quarterly, 29(7):* 1411-1429.

Wheeler, R. S., Natali, C. & Black, R. (2007).*Migration, legal status and poverty: Evidence from return to Ghana.* Working Paper, T 19. Institute of Development Studies, International Organization for Migration and Sussex Centre for Migration Research, Geneva.

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

APPENDIX 1

EXPERIENCES OF GHANAIAN RETURN MIGRANTS FROM THE GULF STATE: A CASE STUDY OF NIMA

I am an MA Candidate at the Centre for Migration Studies of the University of Ghana, Legon-Accra. This field research is being conducted as part of my studies. I would be grateful if you could answer the questions below. Your participation in this study is very important but it is voluntary and you can withdraw at any point. Any information provided for this study would be treated with utmost confidentiality and for academic purposes only.

Thank you.

IDENTIFICATION

REGION _____

MUNICIPALITY_____

TOWN/VILLAGE/SETTLEMENT_____

PLACE OF INTERVIEW_____

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER (if applicable)_____

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

1. Sex

1. Male ☐ 2.Female ☐

2A.What was your age before migrating? _____

2B. What is your current age?_____

3. What is your ethnic background?

1. Akan ☐ 2. Mole-Dagbani ☐ 3. Ewe ☐

4. Ga-Adangbe ☐ 5) Muslim ☐ 6) Others ☐

4A.What was your religion before migrating?

1. No Religion ☐ 2.Christian ☐ 3.Muslim ☐ 4) Traditionalist ☐

5 Others (specify) ☐

4B.Has your religion changed since migration?

1. No Religion ☐ 2. Christian ☐ 3. Muslim ☐ 4) Traditionalist ☐

5 Others (specify) ☐

5A. What is your current level of education?

1) No education ☐ 2) Primary ☐ 3) JHS/JSS level ☐ 4) Middle ☐

5) SHS/SSS ☐ 6) Vocational/Commercial ☐ 7) Tertiary ☐

8) Other Professionals (ACCA/CA/ICT) ☐

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

5B. Has your qualification changed since migration ?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No, If yes specify……

6A) What is your current marital status?

1) Married ☐ 2) Consensual Union ☐ 3) Separated ☐ 4) Divorced ☐

5) Widowed ☐ 6) Never Married ☐

6B)Has your marital status changed since migration?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐ , If yes specify.....

7A) What is your current occupation?

1) Petty trader ☐ 2) Technician 3) Service and sales worker ☐ 4) Farmer ☐

5) Craft and related –trade worker ☐ 6) Others (specify) ☐

7B)Has your occupation changed since migration?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐, If yes specify.....

8A) How many children did you have before migration?

1) ☐ 2) None ☐

8B) How many children do you have currently?

1) ☐ 2) None ☐

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

SECTION B: MIGRATION PROCESSES.

9) How did you get to know of the Gulf region?

1) Friend ☐ 2) Family member ☐ 3) Media (tv, radio) ☐ 4) Posters ☐

5) Others ☐

10) Who assisted you to migrate from Ghana?

1) Myself ☐ 2) A return migrant ☐ 3) A religious leader ☐

4) An intermediary (connection man) ☐ 5) Travel Agency ☐

6) Local recruitment agency ☐ 7) Foreign recruitment agency ☐

8) Others (specify)

11) Were you given any training before migrating?

1) Yes If yes what type of training? Please explain……

2) No

12) Did you pay them for their services?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐ (If no skip Q14)

13) If yes to Q12, how much did you pay?

14) How did you fund your migration?

1) Self ☐ 2) My sibling ☐ 3) My spouse ☐

4) Loan from a friend at the destination ☐ 5) An extended family member ☐

6) My religious leader ☐ 7) Loan from a bank/ financial institution ☐

8) Recruitment agent ☐ 9) others (Specify)

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

15) Which mode of transportation did you use?

1) Air ☐ 2) Land ☐ 3) Sea ☐ 4) Others (Specify)

16) Which country did you migrate to?

1) Qatar ☐ 2) Saudi Arabia ☐ 3) UAE ☐ 4) Kuwait ☐ 5) Jordan ☐

6) Others (specify) ☐

17) What was your reason for choosing this country?

.....

……

18) Was this country the first and only country you have migrated to?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐ If No, please tell me the countries you have been to…..

19) What was your reason for migrating?.....

……..

20) Which year did you migrate to the destination country?.....

21) How long were you living in the destination country?.....

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

SECTION C: MIGRATION EXPERIENCES AT THE DESTINATION

22) Who met you upon arrival?

1) My employers ☐ 2) Local recruitment agency at the destination ☐

3) A social network member (friend, family member, former school mate) ☐

23) Did you have a good job?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐

24) Who did you work for?

1) Family ☐ 2) Company ☐ 3) Others ☐

25) What was the nature of your work?

1) Household chores ☐ 2) Gardening ☐ 3) Trading ☐ 4) Driving ☐

5) Others (Specify) ☐

26) What kind of contract did you have?

1) Verbal ☐ 2) Written ☐ 3) Other (specify)

27) What was the content of the contract? Please explain……...

……

……..

28) Who kept your travel documents during your stay at the destination?

1) Myself ☐ 2) My employer ☐ 3) My recruiter in Ghana ☐

4) My recruiter at the destination country 5) Others (specify) ☐

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

29) Were you ever abused by an employer or recruiter at the destination?

1) Yes ☐ 2) No ☐ (if no skip to)

30) If yes, what kind of abuse was it?

1) Caning ☐ 2) Denial of food ☐ 3) Extra unpaid tasks ☐

4) Threatening behavior (threat of deportation) ☐ 5) Other (specify) ☐

31) To whom did you report any abuse incidence?

1) My recruiter back in Ghana ☐ 2) My recruiter back at the destination ☐

3) Ghana embassy at the destination ☐ 4) local police at the destination ☐

5) Other (specify) ☐

32) How much were you paid monthly?.....

33) What other challenges did you have at the destination? Please explain your answer……..

……

.....

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

APPENDIX 2

Interview guide

EXPERIENCES OF GHANAIAN RETURN MIGRANTS FROM THE GULF STATE: A CASE STUDY OF NIMA

1. Socio-demographic details

1.1 Date of birth; Religion; marital status; children; educational level; employment; Type of returnee; number of years spent in host country; number of months/years spent in Ghana.

2) Pre-migration conditions

2.1 Can you tell me about your pre migration conditions?

Probe: What work were you doing before travelling?

What were the conditions in your community before you travelled?

What factors influenced your decisions to migrate and which country?

How did you finance your trip?

By what means did you get to the host country?

2.2 Did you seek any assistance/ support for your travels?

Probe: The facility assistance sought from?

The kind of assistance or support received?

How did you come into contact?

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

Tell us about the recruitment processes?

Probe: Training and orientation before migration?

Conditions of service including salaries, terms of contract, kind of contract and payment of the process. Please give me some specific examples

3. Migration Experience Abroad

3.1 Can you tell me about your migration journey?

Probe: how did you arrive at your destination?

What trajectory did you use and duration before destination?

Tell me about some of the abuses you went through? Please give me some specific examples

What other challenges did you face in your migration?

Can you relate the living conditions of your migration?

Did you at some point in time worry about the outcome of your migration?

4. Return

4.1 Can you please tell me why you returned?

Probe: When did you come back?

Preparation for your return?

University of Ghana http://ugspace.ug.edu.gh

How did you return?

How were your received by your family and friends?

Tell me about your job, how you got it started or found a job and accommodation?

5. Challenges upon arrival

5.1 Challenges in accessing employment

Probe: Current livelihood activity and livelihood activity in host country?

Did you get paid for your services? (Form of payment, how much, how often, who received the payment

6. Coping Mechanisms Adopted by Returnees

***Probe*:** Difficulties encountered upon return

Personal mechanisms adopted to resolve these difficulties?

External supports received in communities?

Strategies adopted for survival in the place of origin?