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**Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place:  
A study of District Garhwal (Uttarakhand), India**

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**Abstract**

Migration is influenced by the pushes and pulls factors which are directly linked with internal and external migration. By and large the migrants seldom contact and visit their native places and discard all rituals and traditions of the society he leaves behind. Contrary to this is the behavior of hill rural out-migrants' kinship with their native places. This paper examines and elaborates the behavior of Hill rural out-migrant's kinship with their native place. In this paper researcher will analysis the out-migrant's last one year demeanor with its native place. This research is a humble attempt to study the Hill Rural Out-Migrant's behavior of home visit, communication & remittances to native place and the reasons for home visit & period of stay at native place. The study area is District Garhwal of Uttarakhand (India). The research utilizes judgmental and multi stage random sampling and use interview schedule to collect primary data. This study reveals that closeness of relation of the kinship with native place and how the distance of destination creates hurdle in intensity of home visit. It also suggests that private and self-employed Out-migrant's period of stay is less in compare to government employed out-migrants. Study also verified that Most of the hill rural out-migrant visited at a gap of six month in a year with a reason to meet family members and to spend holiday at native place. Remittances flow took place at monthly basis to native place whereas communication span varies in accordance with relation to family members who lived at native place.

**Key Word:** kinship, Hill rural out-migrants, Remittances, communication span, visit.

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**Introduction:** The out-migration of a person from rural area not only involves the transfer of an individual but also exposure of the migrants to new ideas which may act as an important source of social change [1]. With the period of time and after interaction with different people having different culture they start losing their contact with native place, but the story of hill rural out-migrant from Garhwal (Uttarakhand) is little different. They have maintained proper communication with native place by regular home visits, internet, telephonic communication and sending remittances. The strongest contact which the migrant maintain with the community of origin is expressed through his

*Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place: A study of .....* R.S.Negi & Deepak Singh Manhas visit [2]. The intensity of kinship with native place by hill rural out depends on various factors such as of family member, nature of job, distance of destination place and sending remittances. Intensity of kinship put positive impact on rural development if rural out migrant visits, communicates and sends remittances at regular short period of time. It helps the dependent family members to enhance their standard of living who live at native place. Although most of rural out migrants move to cities and remain quite busy in their work but they still retain contact with their kith and kin at native place. Few families who do not receive remittances have a lower standard of living in comparison to those families who got remittances. Families that reside at native places spend remittances for consumption purpose, buying property, construction of house, saving, medical care, transportation, family rituals and education expenses. As family's income increase at native place rate of saving and expenditure increase, which ultimately lead to rural development. Hill rural out migrant also bring technology and fashion in hills because most of the migrants move to big urban centers, who on their visit to their home carry new electronic gadgets, trendy cloths and durable goods. But rural out-migrants start shifting to the place of destination as soon as they find themselves capable of supporting their dependent [3], this habit depletes the population and causes drainage of human resources which restricts the utilization of the natural resources of Garhwal's hill, this ultimately constraints development in hills.

Out migrants from Garhwal hill rural areas maintain their contacts with the native place. In Garhwal hill rural area most of population belongs to above 45 years whereas maximum youth leaves for urban centers for several reasons which adversely affects the development process of district Garhwal. Although the rural out migrant maintain proper kinship with their native place but it does not improve the assets formation in their own native places. Besides, they invest in plain area to create new assets, thus the development activities in the rural areas is hampered.

The main determinants which will help in measuring the kinship of hill rural out-migrants with their native place are home visits, telephonic & internet communication and remittances inflow at native place. These determinants are influenced by various factors such as residential place of family members, number of members in family and distance of native place from destination place etc.

### **Research methodology:**

#### **Objective:**

- ❖ To study the Hill Rural Out-Migrant's behavior of home visit, communication and sending remittances at native place.
- ❖ To study the Hill rural Out-migrant's reasons for home visit and period of stay at native place.

**Study Area:** District Garhwal of Uttarakhand is study area of research. This district encompasses an area of 5230 Sq.km and situated between 29<sup>0</sup>45' to 30<sup>0</sup>15' Latitude and 79<sup>0</sup>23'E Longitude. This district is surrounded by the districts of Chamoli, Rudraprayag & Tehri Garhwal in north, Bijnor & Udham Singh Nager, Almora & Nainital in east, Dehradun and Haridwar. As per 2011 census ,the total population of the district is 686,527 with male population census. Of that, male literacy stands at 93.18% while female literacy is at 73.2%.

**Unit of Sampling:** The unit of population for the study will comprise of those households where migration is reported in District Garhwal (Uttarakhand). For study a sample will be selected from population through judgment sampling and multi-stage Random sampling method.

**Selection of sample:** Initially researcher will make use of Judgment sampling for selecting blocks. Researcher selected 3 blocks from top 5 most blocks in which least decadal population growth rate among 15 Developmental blocks of district Garhwal in between 2001 to 2011 years was reported. Then Multi-stage random sampling method will be utilized to extract the appropriate sample size for

*Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place: A study of .....* R.S.Negi & Deepak Singh Manhas  
the study. In the first stage 5, 4 and 4 villages will be extracted from Pokhra, Ekeshwar and Kaljikhhal respectively by Random sampling method. Then in second stage 10 households will be selected from each selected village. A total of 130 households will be selected as a sample size.

Serial No.	Name of blocks	Name of villages
1	ekeshwar	Bhorpur,Manjyadi,Molkhal,Sem,Muthchor.
2	Pokhra	Ghadoli,Jhallu,Kui,Majgoan,
3	Kaljikhhal	Agrora, Kathoor,Toli,Falad.

### Collection of data:

The study is based on the primary and secondary data.

- (1) Primary data: For this study the primary data will be collected from those households where migration is reported. The data will be collected through interview schedule, indirect oral information and surveying the villages. Interview schedule will comprise close ended and open ended questions.
- (2) Secondary data: The secondary data will be selected from books, thesis, journals and articles related to migration.

### Interpretation and results:

**Table: 1.1**Frequency distribution of Out-Migrant's Visit at native place in relation to their family members' residential place.

Frequency of Visit	Whole family lives at native.	Living with family at destination without parents	Living with family at destination with parents	Living only with wife at destination	Living only with children at destination	Others	Total (Percentage)
Twice in week	3 (8.82%)	-	-	-	-	-	3((2.30%)
Weekly	2 (6.25%)	2(2.56%)	-	-	-	-	4(3.07%)
Monthly	2 (6.25%)	4(5.12%)	-	-	1(14.28%)	-	7(5.38%)
3monthly	12(37.5%)	28(35.89%)	2(22.22%)	1(50%)	3(42.85%)	1(50%)	47(36.15%)
6monthly	11(34.3%)	34(43.58%)	2(22.22%)	1(50%)	3((42.85%)	1(50%)	52(40.00%)
Yearly	1 (3.12%)	10 (12.82%)	3(33.33%)	-	-	-	14(10.76%)
Rarely	1 (3.12%)	-	2(22.22%)	-	-	-	3(2.30%)
Total(Perc entage)	32 (100%)	78 (100%)	9(100%)	2(100%)	7(100%)	2(100%)	130(100%)

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb., 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table reveals that maximum number of hill rural Out-migrants visited their native place at an interval of six months. Out of 130 hill rural out migrants 52(40.00%) out migrants visited twice in one year. According to Najma khan study 63% of out migrant could make 1-2 visits during last one year [4]. We also found that 47 (36.215%) hill rural out migrants reportedly visited their native place at regular interval of four months, 14 (11.76%) hill rural out migrant visited home yearly. When we segregated rural Out-migrants according to their family member's residential place then we more specifically got the time period of their visits which yielded effective results. The 1<sup>st</sup> category where migrants lived alone at destination place, reported Maximum 37.5% Out-migrants visiting quarterly, 34.3% and 6.25% out migrant visited half yearly and twice in week respectively. The 2<sup>nd</sup> category where migrants lived with their family at destination without parents, reported maximum 43.58% of hill rural Out-migrants visiting half yearly, 35.89% and 12.82% out migrants

*Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place: A study of .....* R.S.Negi & Deepak Singh Manhas  
 visiting quarterly and yearly respectively. The 3rd category where whole family lived together at destination, reported maximum 33.33% of Out-migrant visiting after gap of a year whereas percentage distribution of migrants which visited to their native place at regular interval of 3 months, 6 months' time and rarely visited are same. Now we can conclude that family members' residential place influences the behavior of rural out migrants with respect to their home visits. As mentioned above in the 1<sup>st</sup> category, maximum out migrants visited after 3 months, in 2<sup>nd</sup> category maximum out migrants visited at 6 months interval and in 3<sup>rd</sup> type category maximum out migrants visited after the gap of 1 year on particular occasions like marriage and religious ceremony. In case of close kith and kin residing in native place, maximum visits are made by out migrants to native place.

**Table: 1.2 Frequency distribution of rural out Migrant's Visit at native place by distance of destination place.**

Distance (in km)	0-100 (In km)	101-250 (In km)	251-500 (In km)	501 & above (In km)	Total (Percentage)
Twice in week	3(25%)	-	-	-	3(2.30%)
Weekly	3(25%)	1(3.03%)	-	-	4(3.07%)
Monthly	5(41.66%)	2(6.06%)	1(1.47%)	-	8(6.15%)
3 monthly	2(18.33%)	16(48.48%)	25(36.76%)	3(18.75%)	46(35.38%)
6 monthly	-	14(42.42%)	32(47.05%)	5(31.25%)	51(39.23%)
Yearly	-	-	9(13.23%)	6(37.5%)	15(11.53%)
Rarely	-	-	1(1.47%)	2(12.5%)	3(2.29%)
Total(Percentage)	13(100%)	33(100%)	68(100%)	16(100%)	130(100%)

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb, 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table shows the intensity of home visit made by rural out migrants according to their distance of destination place. As mentioned above in the table, maximum 51 Out-migrants visited at regular interval of 6 months and 46 Out-migrants visited at 3 months period. We separated the table in four categories according to distance. In the 1<sup>st</sup> category, distance of migration lies in between 0-100 km; maximum 41.66% of out-migrants visited their home at a gap of one month. In 2<sup>nd</sup> category distance of migration lays in between 101-250 km, in this category maximum 48.48% out migrants visited at regular interval of 3 months. In 3<sup>rd</sup> category distance of destination lays in between 251-500 km, in this category maximum 47.05% of out-migrants visited to their native place at regular interval of 6 months. In 4<sup>th</sup> category distance of migration place lays in between 501 & above, in this category maximum 37.5% rural out migrants visited to their native place in a gap of 1 year. So we conclude from above table that with the increase in distance of destination place the time period between the home visits also increases.

**Table: 1.3: Communication span of Out-migrant's with their native place. (Telephone, mobile and internet)**

Period	Wife, children and parents lived at native place	Only parents and sibling living at native	Sibling and others relative living at native	Total (Percentage)
Per day	15(48.38%)	20(25%)	1(5.26%)	42(32.30%)
Twice in week	9(29.03%)	34(42.5%)	4(30.76%)	50(38.46%)
Weakly	5(16.12%)	14(17.5%)	3(15.78%)	22(16.92%)
Monthly	2(6.45%)	6(7.5%)	6(31.57%)	12(9.23%)

3Monthly	-	3(3.75%)	3(15.78%)	5(3.84%)
6monthly	-	-	1(5.26%)	1(0.76%)
More than 6 monthly	-	-	-	-
No communication	-	-	1(5.26%)	1(0.76%)
Total(Percentage)	31(100%)	80(100%)	19(100%)	130(100%)

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb, 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table reveals that maximum 50(38.46%) hill rural Out-migrants communicate with their native place through telephone, mobile and internet twice in week whereas 42 (32.30%) hill rural out migrants communicate per day. Now when we separately examine hill rural Out-migrants communication behavior according to family member's residential place then we specifically understand out migrant's communication trend. In first category Wife, children and parents live at native place, maximum 48.38% hill rural Out-migrants communicate per day. In second category where only Parents and sibling lived at native place, maximum 42.5% rural out migrants used to communicate twice in week. Whereas, in third category where only sibling and relative used to lived in native place, maximum 31.57% of migrants are accustomed to communicate at a gap of month. So this table exhibits migrant's communication per day when he lived lonely at destination place and communication span period widen when wife, children and parents lived at destination place.

**Table: 1.4: Reasons of home visit by Out-Migrant's.**

Reason of home visit	Number of migrants	Percentage of migrants
Collecting agriculture product	8	6.15
On agriculture season	7	5.38
To meet family, in holidays	65	50.00
On festival	10	7.69
Occasion, functions and rituals	25	19.23
Illness of migrants	5	3.84
Illness of family members	5	3.84
Others	5	3.84
Total	130	100

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb, 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table shows seven different reasons of home visits made by hill rural Out-migrants in last one year. In this table maximum 50.00% of hill Rural Out-migrants visited their native place to meet family members and to spend their holidays at native with kin and kiths whereas according to Sarvottam Kumar 44.5% of rural Out-migrants visited their home in order to meet family members and to supervise agriculture land [5].Second largest reason for native visits is to attend traditional Pooja occasions, functions and rituals, in this category 19.23% of hill rural out migrants were reported. Third largest reason for home visits by migrants was to celebrate the festivals with family members. Most important festivals which hill people celebrated with full enthusiasm are Diwali, Holi, Sawan mahina. In this category 7.69% migrants are reported. Other reason that compels hill rural out migrants to visit their origin place is to collect agricultural products and horticulture products. Agro products include Mandau, Jhangoora, Soybean, Pulses, Potatoes, Onions, Ginger etc, whereas horticulture products include Burance, Malta, kafal etc. Normally these horticulture products are unavailable or very expenses at urban centre, this category comprise 6.15% of Out-migrants. Fifth reason for home visits for Out-migrants is to supervise agricultural land for

Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place: A study of ..... R.S.Negi & Deepak Singh Manhas  
 agricultural purposes, it comprise of 5.38% of Out-migrants. All other reasons such as illness of migrants, illness of family members and other reasons reported same 3.84%.

### 1.5: Frequency of sending remittances at native place.

Frequency sending remittances	Wife, children and parent living at native place	Only parents and sibling living at native	Only sibling and other relatives living at native	Total (Percentage)
After 2 week	1(3.44%)	1(1.26%)	-	2(1.5%)
After 1month	21(72.41%)	27(34.17%)	3(15.78%)	51(40.15%)
After 2 month	3(10.34%)	19(24.05%)	1(5.26%)	23(18.11%)
After 3 month	2(6.89%)	10(12.65%)	2(10.52%)	14(11.02%)
After 6-9 month	-	2(2.53%)	2(10.52%)	4(3.14%)
More than 1 year	-	-	1(5.26%)	1(0.78%)
Not sending remittances	2(6.89%)	20(25.31%)	10(52.63%)	32(25.19%)
Total(Percentage)	29(100%)	79(100)	19(100%)	127(100%)

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb., 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table shows that maximum 51 (40.15%) hill rural Out-migrants send remittances to their native place at a regular interval of one month and next 32 (25%) hill out-migrants were not sending remittances to their native place. But dissimilar result was driven in Anmol Jain study where 44% of hill rural Out-migrant from Uttarakhand sends remittances to their native place at Quarterly gap [6]. Now researcher separately studies the demeanor of out migrant in sending remittances. In first group wife, children and parents of Out-migrants lived at native place. In this maximum 72.41% percent of out-migrants send remittances at regular gap of one month. In second group where only parents and sibling lived at native place, maximum 34.11% of out-migrants send remittances at regular interval of one month similar to first group. In the last group where only sibling and relatives lived at native place, maximum 52.63% of Out-migrant does not send remittances to native place. We concluded that when hill Out-migrants live alone at destination place they send remittances at a gap of month. Similarly when their children and wife live with migrants at destination and parents & sibling lived at native place majority of Out-migrants send remittances at regular interval of one month. In last group 52.11% of out-migrants do not send the remittances to their native place when only sibling and other relative lived at native place. Residential place of close relatives significantly influence behavior of migrants.

### 1.6: Period of stay at native place according to migrant's occupation.

Period of stay	Student	Private	Self employed	Government	Retired	Total (Percentage)
1-7 days	1(50%)	57(74.02 %)	7(58.33%)	11(33.33%)	-	77(60.15%)
7-15 days	-	15(19.48 %)	4(33.33%)	14(42.42%)	3(75%)	37(28.90%)
15 to 30 days	1(50%)	1(1.29%)	-	8(24.24%)	1(25%)	11(8.59%)
1-3 month	-	3(3.89%)	1(8.33%)	-	-	4(3.125%)
More than 3 month	-	1(1.29%)	-	-	-	1(0.78%)
Total(Percentage)	2(100%)	77(100%)	12(100%)	33(100%)	4(100%)	128(100%)

(Source: Primary data, Nov.-Feb., 2014-15)

**Preface:** Above table shows Period of stay of hill rural out migrants at their native place. Majority of Out-migrants i.e., 77(60.15%) reported to stay for 1-7 days at native place whereas, 37(28.90%)

*Hill Rural Out-Migrant's kinship with their native place: A study of .....* R.S.Negi & Deepak Singh Manhas

Out-migrants reported to stay for 7-15 days at native place. Now we separately investigate the magnitude of hill rural out migrant's stay at native place according to their occupational distribution. Firstly we study the student out-migrants behavior in which we found that 50% of student stays for 1-7 days because they used to take leave from academic institute in for celebrating festivals and attending functions at native place. Similarly 50% of student used to stay at their native for 15-30 days to spend their holidays at home with family. Secondly when we study the behavior of Private jobholder out-migrant in we find that maximum 74.02% of out-migrant reported to stay for 1-7 days in native place because maximum of out-migrants are employed in those private firms which do not give remuneration for holidays therefore private jobholder stayed only for 1-7 days at native place. Similar Pattern was found in self-employed out-migrant category where maximum 58% of out-migrants used to stay in native place. But in case of Government jobholder out-migrants, maximum 42.42% out-migrants used to stay for 7-15 days in native place. Comparatively, they spend more time in native place because government employees are fully secured regarding remuneration on leave. Hence they enjoy spending more time in native place.

**Conclusion:** With reference to Out-migrant's Visit at native place in relation to their family members' residential place, in case of close kith and kin residing in native place, maximum visits are made by out migrants to native place. With the increase in distance of destination place the time period between the home visits also increases. As far as the Communication span of Out-migrant's with their native place through Telephone, mobile and internet is concerned, the research reveals migrants communication per day when he lived lonely at destination place and communication span period widened when wife, children and parents lived at destination place. In the reasons for visit, maximum 50.00% of hill Rural out migrants visited their native place to meet family members and to spend their holidays at native with kin and kiths. The migrants also showed a trend of sending remittances to their native places monthly when family still stayed in the native place. And the government employees stayed longer than the private sector employees during their visits because of more job security in public sector than in private sector. The results may slightly change according to the size of the samples.

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