

The Mode of Labor Export in Poor Areas and Its Enlightenment: Case Study on the Labor Export from Liangshan to Foshan in Mainland China

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ABSTRACT

The export of labor services still exists in economically backward regions around the world, and it is necessary to rethink existing labor export issues and policies. Existing studies rarely focus on the export of labor services from poor areas to specific cities or regions, and there is a lack of empirical research evidence. Therefore, this study uses qualitative research methods to conduct field investigations on migrant workers in Hetaoyuan Village, Mianya Township, Yanyuan County, Liangshan Prefecture, Sichuan Province, to understand the situation and influencing factors of local labor export to Foshan City, Guangdong Province. Analyze existing problems from different perspectives and propose solutions. This research provides effective suggestions for solving the problem of labor export in poverty-stricken areas and provides more empirical evidence support for policymaking.

Keywords: Labor export, poverty-stricken areas, Daliang Shan Yi District, precise poverty alleviation, rural governance

1. INTRODUCTION

Labor export began to be promoted by some countries in the late 1960s or early 1970s. With the development of the national economy, labor export has disappeared, and it still exists in economically backward areas, and needs more attention. In particular, it is necessary to rethink the country's labor export issues and policies (Chan, 2000^[4]; Pernia, 2008^[8]). Migrant workers are the primary mode of labor transfer in China's Liangshan Yi District at the moment (Bhattasali et al., 2004^[3]). Numerous families escape poverty and become wealthy as a result of migrant workers. When locals are unable to afford and digest surplus labor, the migrant worker phenomenon will persist for an extended period of time. It is critical to comprehend the rationale for labor transfer in Yi district. However, few researchers have used empirical research to examine the situation of the Yi people's directional migrant work, nor have they examined the factors that influence it. As a result, this study conducted a field survey of migrant workers in Hetaoyuan Village, Mianya Township, Yanyuan County, Liangshan Prefecture, Sichuan Province, China to ascertain the situation and determining factors affecting the local labor force's export to Foshan City, Guangdong

Province, and to analyse the issues that arose and propose solutions. This research is critical for understanding labor input patterns and existing problems in ethnic minorities' gathering areas in China. This research also provides suggestions for other countries and regions in the world to solve the problem of labor export in poverty-stricken areas.

2. METHOD

2.1. Semi-structured interview

The semi-structured interview is the most effective method of data collection for case studies, having been used in a large number of studies (Alvesson & Deetz, 2000^[1]; Qu & Dumay, 2011^[10]). To this end, key personnel, including Yi people, government employees, and corporate recruitment heads who are migrant workers were interviewed in one-to-one semi-structured interviews, which were conducted by the researchers. Approximately 60 minutes are allotted for each of the interviews. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the current situation of labor export and the antecedents.

2.2. Collection of relevant documents

An additional complementary method of data collection is the collection of relevant documents, which are typically created in their natural state and have a higher level of authenticity and trustworthiness than methods such as interviews and observations because they are created in their natural state. Documents can also provide new concepts, metaphors, imagination, and associations, thereby broadening the researcher's horizons and introducing new analytical perspectives to the research process (Chen, 2000, p. 265^[6]).

2.3. Data Analysis

The results of this study will be presented and discussed in the form of a text. The analysis of qualitative data will be divided into two coding cycles, which will be determined by the research questions and the conceptual framework used. Both descriptive coding and in vivo coding will be used in the first cycle to increase the accountability and depth of the findings, which will help to increase the credibility and depth of the findings. The second coding cycle will be devoted to the creation of a cohesive synthesis of the qualitative data, which will be accomplished through the use of focused coding. The focus of focused coding is to identify the most frequent or significant initial codes in order to create the "most salient categories," according to Charmaz (2006). The NVivo 11 software will be used to organise and analyse the data.

3.RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1.The Current Situation and Influence of Labor Export from Liangshan to Foshan

3.1.1.The Current Situation of Labor Export

To begin, the Yi group's migrant workers are primarily employed in labor-intensive industries. The vast majority of migrant workers of the Yi nationality are hired through contractors, are managed by shift workers, and work in labor-intensive industries such as electronic assembly (Chan, 2000^[4]; Portes, 1995^[9]). In recent years, some contractors have also established labor dispatch companies or human resource management firms to manage workers, and some contractors have recruited workers into the factory through membership, affiliation, or other means, and earned management fees from them.

Second, income earned in Foshan has developed into the primary source of income for Yi's families. With an average monthly salary of 3,000 yuan, each worker saves 1,500 yuan, and 250,000 Yi workers can earn more than 4 billion yuan each year. Not only has migrant work improved the farmers' family lives, but it has also provided critical funds for the Yi ethnic area's economic

development and promoted local prosperity (Amin et al., 2003^[2]; Portes, 1995^[9]).

3.1.2.The Influence of Labor Export

For the country, a policy that contributes to the common prosperity of China (Ravallion & Jalan, 1999^[11]). Developed regions assisting impoverished regions is a widely accepted strategy for assisting impoverished regions in alleviating poverty (Portes, 1995^[9]). Prior to targeted poverty alleviation, the primary source of assistance and assistance to Liangshan Prefecture was the eastern developed cities, state agencies, provincial agencies, state agencies, and county agencies, which exported funds, projects, technologies, and personnel to the prefecture's poor counties.

For the Liangshan area, the family income of the residents has increased (Ravallion & Jalan, 1999^[11]). The population base is sizable, but the local employment base is weak. Simultaneously, alleviate rural people's conflict with land in Yi District and promote large-scale operation. Thirdly, the fundamental quality of life in liangshan area can be enhanced (Yi et al., 2012^[17]). A portion of the Yi population in Liangshan Prefecture who are migrant workers have a low level of education, and some traditional bad habits have persisted. Amassing wealth, exhibiting poor hygiene habits, and so forth. Fourth, in recent years, some migrant workers in Yi districts who had worked outside for many years have actively returned to their hometowns to start businesses, bringing capital, experience, technology, and other resources acquired in cities back to the countryside.

3.2.The antecedents of the situation

3.2.1.Cultural Differences

Cultural differences manifest themselves through customary and linguistic barriers. To begin, from the perspective of the residents of the Liangshan Yi area, the stark contrasts between modern society's advanced culture and indigenous culture, as well as the external world's rapid development, have had a psychological impact on the locals (Ravallion & Jalan, 1999^[11]). Additionally, the Yi nationality's extensive and deep branch system in Liangshan prefecture has caused the Yi people in Liangshan prefecture to feel the emotions and support of their own national culture (Wang & Zhou, 2013^[14]). National cultural and industrial differences are one of the factors contributing to the Yi people's employment difficulties in Liangshan Prefecture. Second, language is the primary means of transmitting information and expressing emotions. The Liangshan Yi area has its own language, and the prefecture's bilingual webpage is still available on the official website (Portes, 1995^[9]). The Yi people of Liangshan speak Yi at home and Mandarin at school. As a result, their wages are low

when they work outside (Mao & Mao, 2018^[7]; Wang & Zhou, 2013^[14]).

3.2.2. Low Educational Level

Low educational level is also a significant factor, as evidenced by four factors: To begin, there is a dearth of professional skills (Yi et al., 2012^[17]). Second, bringing Yi people together to work is likely to result in group adverse events. Yi workers are numerous and highly organised. (Shi & Ma, 2020^[13]). Third, fundamental labor rights are unaffordable. Employment enterprises primarily manage Yi workers outside of the law (Wang & Zhou, 2013^[14]; Woon, 1984^[16]). Fourthly, bargaining power is limited. A significant number of migrant workers from the Yi ethnic group have a low educational level, are illiterate, are unable to communicate in Mandarin, are unable to communicate with enterprises or other ethnic groups and rely on contractors to gain access to factories (Chan, 2000^[4]).

3.3. Suggestions for Resolving Difficulties

3.3.1. Enhance the quality

To begin, raise the bar for elementary education. (Woon, 1984^[16]). Second, raise the bar in terms of vocational education. (Wang, 2021^[15]). Simultaneously, it will enhance their internal physical and mental development, as well as increase their external income. Thirdly, enrollment is subsidised. Due to the fact that the Yi area of Liangshan Prefecture has been involved in modern economic development for a relatively short period of time, it lacks more perceptual contact with role models of knowledge and technology that can help develop talents and skills and lead to a better life (Mao & Mao, 2018^[7]). Fourth, employ a strategy that incorporates both wisdom and will (Portes, 1995^[9]). Through a combination of high-quality culture courses and practical skills courses, historical and cultural knowledge should be widely applied in an engaging and acceptable manner during the specific vocational education and teaching process, so that students can appreciate the richness of contemporary society and improve their skills (Woon, 1984^[16]). Fifthly, vocational schools and industry enterprises operate schools cooperatively (Shi & Ma, 2020^[13]; Wang & Zhou, 2013^[14]).

3.3.2. Security system

To begin, strengthen pertinent laws in order to avoid labor disputes (Wang, 2021^[15]). Additionally, pay close attention to the education of children, social security, ethnic cultural inheritance, living environment, and other issues affecting migrant workers of the Yi nationality, and resolve their practical difficulties promptly. Then implement a unified wage rationing system. According

to the interview findings, the most effective solution is to standardise the contractor's management style. The contractor company may be brought within the scope of government control through evaluation, party building, and other means (Wang & Zhou, 2013^[14]). Create work-related rules, resolutely curb personal control and personal injury behaviour, and resolve conflicts with the chamber of commerce and associations (Wang, 2021^[15]).

3.3.3. Management structure

To begin, this requires increasing the enthusiasm of human resource companies, employment enterprises, and labor brokers, as well as improving the organisation of migrant workers of Yi nationality (Amin et al., 2003^[2]; Mao & Mao, 2018^[7]). Investigate the management of qualification registration, develop a management system for labor broker qualification registration, standardise labor broker management, increase labor broker training, integrate training programmes, and improve labor broker professional quality, compliance with laws and regulations, business capabilities, and rights protection skills (Amin et al., 2003^[2]). Training to ensure that labor brokers act in good faith and in accordance with the law. Simultaneously, assist and encourage labor brokers who export large volumes of labor services to register as labor service companies and labor intermediary agencies.

4. CONCLUSION

For poverty-stricken areas, whether from the long-term perspective of narrowing the province's regional gaps, urban-rural gaps, and building a harmonious society, or from the short-term goals of increasing agricultural labor productivity and promoting agricultural modernization, accelerating the transfer of rural labor is the current issue for the vast majority of poverty-stricken areas. And an important part of the economic development strategy for a long time in the future. In-depth research on the transfer of rural labor in poverty-stricken areas, on the one hand, can strengthen the in-depth understanding of the transfer of rural labor in poor areas, and arouse the attention of relevant departments; on the other hand, it can explore rural labor in poverty-stricken areas in light of the actual conditions in poor areas. Effective ways or suitable models of transfer, and corresponding countermeasures and suggestions are proposed to provide theoretical basis, decision-making reference and practical ways for promoting the rapid and orderly transfer of rural labor in poverty-stricken areas. It has strong theoretical and practical significance.

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