

report

by Nn Nn

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South Asian Diaspora

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The reasons ¹ for the increasing number of South Asian diaspora are varied. Over centuries, and specifically within the recent decades, the increase in the South Asian diaspora has been ignited by not only demographic and economic reasons but also political and social reasons. Within countries like Bangladesh together with India, population pressure, which is commonly termed as “push factor” within the demographic language, in addition to other changes have largely contributed to the emigration of citizens (Jacobsen & Kumar, 2018). Other situations such as , internal strife within countries like Sri Lanka have made thousands of Sri Lankans, particularly the Tamils, to seek refuge in other countries as political refugees. Moreover, opportunities in education, as well as, employment within the European countries such as the United States along with United Kingdom have opened opportunities for South Asian citizens to leave their homeland in what is regarded as “brain drain”.

On top of that, the considerably low higher education costs have attracted a high number of South Asian Students to move to the European nations. Moreover, it should be noted that the explosion within computer technology has attracted a high number of South Asian software engineers to the West as there is a high demand for such personnel within the European nations. It has also been established that exposure to new cultures that seem to be somehow fair as compared to their traditional culture make the South Asian to prefer living in diaspora (Jacobsen & Kumar, 2018). Norms like justice and equality that are fundamental within the Western cultures tend to question their individual traditional, as well as, religious norms. Besides, the diaspora community is treated by the host communities with not only love and care but also dignity which overshadows their cultural traditions that tend to perpetuate inequality for instance the Hindu caste system.

References

Jacobsen, K. A., & Kumar, P. (Eds.). (2018). *South Asians in the diaspora: histories and religious traditions*. Brill.

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