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 研究課題名(和文) Conflict, Migration, and Women Empowerment in Nepal

 研究課題名(英文) Conflict, Migration, and Women Empowerment in Nepal

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研究成果の概要(和文)：女性の交渉力が非常に低いネパールで、男性の外部への移住が残された女性にどう影響を与えるか初めて実証的に示した。男性のアウトマイグレーション変数における内生性に対処するため、操作変数として降雨を用いた。男性が移住している世帯の既婚女性は一夫多妻の可能性が低く、自身の健康問題に最終決定権を持つ可能性が高いが、増加傾向にある義理の両親との同居により自身の家族や親戚を訪ねる自由を持つ可能性は低いことを示した。本研究から得られた経験的知見はワーキングペーパーとして発表し、会議等で関連分野の政策立案者らからフィードバックを得た。この新たな知見は文献に貢献し、移民送出経済への理解と政策立案に役立つだろう。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

The project provided the first empirical evidence of how male outmigration affects women left behind in the context of Nepal, where women often have a lot less bargaining power. These new findings will contribute to the academic literature as well as policy designs in migrant-sending economies.

研究成果の概要(英文)：The project provided the first empirical evidence of how male outmigration affects women left behind in the context of Nepal, where women often have a lot less bargaining power. We used rainfall as an instrumental variable to address endogeneity in the male outmigration. We showed that married women in households with male outmigrants in Nepal are less likely to be in polygamous relationships and more likely to have the final say on their health issues. However, these women are less likely to have the freedom to visit their family or relatives, probably due to increased cohabitation with their parents-in-law. We published empirical findings as a GRIPS Discussion Papers Series. In spite of the pandemic, we also presented the working paper at several conferences and workshops to get feedbacks from policy makers and scholars in the relevant areas. These new findings will contribute to the literature and provide a good understanding and policy making for migrant-sending economies.

研究分野：Development economics, migration study

キーワード：Women's empowerment male outmigration polygamy

1 . 研究開始当初の背景

The issues surrounding gender equity and social inclusion are receiving increasing attention recently in both academic and policy circles. In this project we focused on women empowerment in Nepal, country experienced a decade of civil war and huge male outmigration thereafter. Women in Nepal are more likely to be engaged in informal sector and are faced with social and economic exclusion. At the same time, Nepal is the one of the ‘fastest movers’ making significant progress towards achieving its development goals including women’s representation in overall society.

We investigated the Nepalese women’s empowerment in the context of huge male outmigration which was triggered by economic hardships. Nepal’s outmigrants are mostly men going abroad to find a better job. Workers’ remittance inflows increased from 3.3% of GDP in 2000 to about 25% of GDP in 2017, making Nepal second highest recipient as a share of its economy. The main of the project is to explore how the absence of male affected women’s labor market participation and empowerment in households.

2 . 研究の目的

Our main goal of this project is to provide policy implication related to increasing outmigration in developing countries. Outmigration is an ever-growing phenomenon in many developing countries such as Bangladesh, Philippines, and Mexico. In some countries such as Bangladesh and Nepal, policy and social stigma prohibit female outmigration resulting in huge male-outmigration and women left behind in origin country resulting in unbalanced sex ratio.

Literature examined the impact of remittances which led poverty reduction, improved health, and educational outcomes for children in migrant’s family. However, researchers have not paid enough attention to potential effect of huge male outmigration on women empowerment and gender equality. In this project we aim to show unexpected gain/loss on women empowerment due to conflict-induced male outmigration and to discuss proper policy intervention to achieve sustainable development.

3 . 研究の方法

There are two major challenges in estimating the impact of male outmigration on women’s empowerment. First, it is difficult to identify causal relationship between outmigration on women’s empowerment because of endogeneity issue. The second issue is measurement of women empowerment. There are many different definitions and aspects of women empowerment. Women empowerment measure should be selected in the context of social norm and institution surrounding women. Also, directly observing people’s decision making without any reporting bias is very difficult.

In this project, we tackled identification issue by employing instrumental variable estimation. Nepal is an agricultural-oriented economy whose crop yield highly depends on the level of rainfall. We employed the extreme level of rainfall as an exogenous shock to male outmigration to estimate the causal effects of male outmigration on women’s outcomes.

For second issue, we employed extensive questions about women’s decision making reported in DHS (Demographic and Health Surveys). DHS data contains wide range of information about women’s decision making in households regarding various expenditure. In consideration of Nepalese context, we also selected whether women have mobility to visit her own family members and whether she is involved in polygamy.

4 . 研究成果

We published empirical findings in this project as a working paper in GRIPS Discussion Papers Series. Our empirical results show that married women in households with male outmigrants in Nepal are less likely to be in polygamous relationships and are more likely to have the final say on their own health issues. However, these women are less likely to have the freedom to visit their family or relatives, which is probably due to increased cohabitation with their parents-in-law.

We also disseminated our results at academic seminars. We presented our research at Tribhuvan University in Nepal to get insights from Nepalese scholars. They provided us with some critical comments about outcome measures as well as instrument variables employed in the paper. We could not address all the comments due to a lack of proper data. However, we included ample discussion about our outcome measures and robustness tests of instrumental variable estimation. We are now in the peer-review process for journal publication of findings in the project.

5. 主な発表論文等

〔雑誌論文〕 計1件（うち査読付論文 0件/うち国際共著 0件/うちオープンアクセス 1件）

1. 著者名 Sapkota Chandan, Dainn Wie	4. 巻 19-28
2. 論文標題 The Effect of Male Outmigration on Women's Empowerment in Nepal	5. 発行年 2019年
3. 雑誌名 GRIPS Discussion Papers Series	6. 最初と最後の頁 1-37
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） 10.24545/00001720	査読の有無 無
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスとしている（また、その予定である）	国際共著 -

〔学会発表〕 計1件（うち招待講演 0件/うち国際学会 0件）

1. 発表者名 Chandan Sapkota
2. 発表標題 The Effect of Male Outmigration on Women's Empowerment in Nepal
3. 学会等名 Research workshop in Economics, Tribhuvan University
4. 発表年 2019年

〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

6. 研究組織

	氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考
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7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8. 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
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