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Mariama Awumbila, Delali Badasu, and Joseph Teye (eds.) *Migration in A Globalizing World: Perspectives from Ghana*. Legon, Accra, Ghana: University of Ghana Press, 2018. 259 pages, ISBN: 97899882914.

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In recent years, migration within Africa, from African countries to Europe, and beyond has drawn tremendous scholarly and policy attention. Yet much of the scholarly and policy discourses are focused on what we may refer to (for lack of a better concept) as ‘forced migration’ resulting from conflicts and general insecurity. *Migration in A Globalizing World* adds important insights to this body of literature. The book is part of an expanding body of literature on migration in Ghana and of a thriving scholarship on Ghana; evident, for example, in Benjamin Lawrence’s (2019) syntopical reading and review of seven books in *African Studies Review* on nationhood, nationalism and the state in Ghana published between 2014 and 2017.

The publisher of *Migration in A Globalizing World* is based in Accra. Almost all authors of the book’s thirteen chapters are scholars based at the University of Ghana. The foreword to the book, by the University’s Vice Chancellor, tells us the book is one of several attempts to overcome the Eurocentricity of the university’s curriculum. In that sense, the book is unique, beyond its significant contribution to current scholarly debates on migration in and outside Africa; and beyond the significant empirical knowledge about Ghana it contains.

The book is divided into an introduction and four parts. These parts are organized around the themes of 1) policy implications of migration patterns and trends in Africa; 2) migration, return, and social change in Ghana; 3) migration, transnationalism, and changing family and gender relations (my favorite), and 4) conceptual and methodological issues in migration research (another personal favorite). The first part of the book consists of five chapters that examine the dynamics of intra-regional migration in West Africa, (Awumbila), the connection between international migration and development in African countries (Kwankeye and Anarfi), and the connection between environmental change and migration in Africa (Teye). The chapters include important insights and policy recommendations for African countries. In Chapter Two, for example, the authors invite policy makers in Africa to develop migration policies and regime that are favorable to their citizens. The authors also demand that governments negotiate international trade agreements that favor African countries. The authors warn against policies that would expose citizens to the dangers of human trafficking, as is the case with Nigerian women trafficked to European countries like Italy.

This first part also contextualizes migration in Ghana through a historical background on migration to and from Ghana. (Anarfi, Ofosu-Mensah and Abibo); and through a critical review of legal and policy frameworks of migration in Ghana (Teye). The historical context spans several decades. The authors reflect on the way colonial policies pushed some communities from their areas while also attracting migrants from other African countries who worked as laborers gold mines and cocoa farms. After independence, political and economic factors drew migrants to

Ghana. As a hub for pan-African movements and thinking, Ghana hosted African freedom fighters and movements. Non-Ghanaians accounted for 12 percent of the population in Ghana's 1960 Census (p. 59).

The authors discuss out-migration from Ghana to other African countries and to countries in the global North. The causes of this migration, according to the authors, include political instability, bad governance, and consequent economic crises in the country. The authors draw on statistics to reveal the scale of outward migration and its shifting nature regionally and globally as observed from 1996 to 2001. They argue that migration is a way of life in many parts of West Africa. The authors also shed light on the gender dimensions to migration. They point to the way dominant patriarchal norms in many parts of Ghana, at times, makes it difficult for women to migrate. In the second part of the book, which contains three chapters, contributors explore the relationship between transnational migration and socio-cultural change in Ghana. The authors illustrate their arguments with reference to the migration of health professionals, and the integration of returnees. Darkwah and Badasu use concepts of globalization and transnationalism to discuss the impact of migration on socio-cultural change in Ghana. Ghana's economic and cultural encounter with the global North dates back to the days of slavery and to Ghana's encounter with European colonial powers. This history shapes migrant choices of destination countries.

The authors argue that migrants in the 21st Century is essentially transnational, as they often relate to two or more societies. The authors further argue that 'structural changes in the global labor economy and social and economic deterioration in both labor sending and labor receiving countries make both insecure' and thus determine migrants' transnational experiences and enable them to engage with and influence various social and political institutions, directly or indirectly. For example, migration has transformed funerals and chieftaincy in Ghana. The presence of migrant members of the family at a funeral, for example, elevates the social prestige of the relatives of the deceased. Migration has led to the commercialization of funerals and feasting replaced fasting in funerals. Similarly, in parts of Ghana, migrants have influenced the criteria for the selection of chiefs. Communities in parts of Ghana have created the title of 'progress chief' or 'queen mother'. These include Europeans and Ghanaians who have contributed to development in these areas. Kwesi Asabir writes about the migration and "brain circulation" of health professionals. Setranah, Tonah, and B. Asiedu share theoretical perspectives on return migration and the historical antecedents of international return migration in Ghana. The authors discuss some of the programs that facilitate "brain circulation" through temporary return of expatriate nationals. The authors further discuss challenges to return and reintegration among Ghanaian migrants. These include poor infrastructure in Ghana, having to meet high expectations of family members, and an increasing religiosity in Ghana. Focusing on the same theme of return and reintegration, Asima focuses on "transnational fosterage" of second-generation young Ghanaians sent back from London to Ghana. Asima examines patterns of transnational caring/fostering relationships, which draw on dominant gender-based division of labor. The author analyses the impact on gender relations, and the way these experiences strengthen the connection of younger generations to their home country.

The two other chapters in part three offer a historical analysis of female migration in Ghana (Mariama Awumbila and Gertrude D Torvikeh) and examine patriarchal norms involved in what the authors call "reverse remittance behavior" among transnational couples in Ghana. Awumbila and Torvikeh discuss the unique, gender-specific migration experiences of women in Ghana. They argue that while migration has presented prospects for challenging poverty through independence and economic opportunities, it may also disempower women through deepening existing gender

inequalities. Gender should be part of any migration management strategies, according to the authors.

The final part of the book has two chapters that engage with conceptual, methodological, and policy-related issues in migration research. In chapter twelve, Leander Kandije examines the changing conceptualizations of the effects of international migration both sending and receiving countries. In the final chapter, Delali M. Badasu and Akousa Darkwa examine the relevance of migration research to development planning and practice. The authors join other scholarly and policy circles that challenge misconceptions about South/North migration by pointing to statistics that reveal the tendency of African immigrants to move to destinations within the continent. The authors describe various policy initiatives and working groups that seek to respond to challenges arising from global migration by utilizing opportunities, including through a recommendation to integrate any thinking about migration to integrate a concern with migration into development policies and practices. The final chapter ends with a selective reflection on some of the developments in migration research. The first is thematic and it focuses on remittance research. The second is methodological and it concentrates on the use of “web surveys,” in researching transnational diasporic communities, citing the research of Jane Mwangi (2013), who used this approach as part of several other mixed-methods to study the potential contributions of Kenya’s transnational diaspora to development in the country. Indeed, social media and the Internet offers important platforms to study migration., transnational migrant, diasporic network, and communities.

This book shares important information and analysis on transnational migration in Ghana and in Africa at large. It introduces the readers to some of the current debates in migration research and applies some of these theoretical insights to Ghana. The book includes important insights and recommendations on migration and development in Africa. It opens-up the door for future publications by Ghanaian researchers, and other Ghana scholars, that draw on the voices and experiences of migrants and returnees. Exploring some of the critiques of ‘development’ as it played out in post-colonial Africa would have strengthened the analysis in the book. Integrating an analysis of slavery and of refugees in Ghana would have also strengthened the analysis in this important book. If a second edition is planned, this would be a good opportunity for further copy-editing of the book.

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