

Introduction

The *Encyclopedia of Global Human Migration* is the culmination of decades of work by scholars of migration who research multifaceted aspects of human mobility throughout the world. Migration scholarship permeates every field and illuminates one of the most persistent characteristics of human activity. This encyclopedia assembles the most current analytic and historical approaches and interpretations of migration, from prehistory to the present. It strives for relevance and significance in academic research as it demonstrates the countervailing approaches and interpretations in an array of academic disciplines. As the first major work on migration to cover its historical trajectory it incorporates divergent perspectives from a range of fields. Consequently, while the editors of this work view historical research as central to understanding migration patterns, we acknowledge varying interpretations. In editing the encyclopedia we have attempted to confront these different perspectives consistently and thoughtfully, recognizing those ideas that transcend established disciplinary boundaries.

The encyclopedia is the first work of its kind to document the history of migration through the lens of a range of disciplines and historical epochs, at a time when new research is uncovering remarkable crucial evidence that explains the origins of humanity. The five volumes in this set are the most comprehensive effort to date to bring together leading scholars who are discovering the importance of migration to the human condition.

Magnitude and scope

Across the globe, from the dawn of civilization, migration has been a definitive and enduring feature of humanity. All humans in every social formation and society have recent or distant ancestors who trekked, wandered, or journeyed to new locations as a result of cataclysmic crisis or external demands that compelled relocation for survival and success. Migration as a field of inquiry is found in every discipline, from the physical to the social sciences, as a significant element of discourse and investigation. The absence of a primary academic scholarly reference on migration has been unmistakably

evident since the mid-1970s, when the rapid expansion of free markets dramatically brought together global societies and stimulated a new era of movement within and across borders. The *Encyclopedia of Global Human Migration* is conceived and designed to fill this enormous gap for scholars and students across academic disciplines.

This encyclopedia objectively presents the prominent themes, epochal events, theoretical explanations, and historical accounts of migration on an international, regional, national, ethnic, and subnational basis, from the time of the earliest hominins to the present. This scholarly endeavor includes thematic and historical interpretations and theories of migration in modern world history, which vividly reveal the universal significance of migration across the academic disciplines. Significant scientific and scholarly discoveries and interpretations in the last fifty years have reshaped the way contemporary historians, social scientists, and scientists analyze and map the past, both chronologically and thematically. This work exposes global migration's infusion into history (especially world history), social theory, methodology, concepts, and pedagogy, irrigating a rich body of comparative research that is always in the process of redrawing the way we look at the social and physical sciences.

This reference work encompasses migrations large and small, from nomadic and island peoples, pioneers and explorers, to the indigenous societies of every continent. From the emergence of human civilization in Africa 250,000 years ago to the present, migration has persisted as a universal feature of all peoples, especially since the migration of humans to Asia and the Near East 70,000 years ago, their expansion to Europe 30,000 years later, and finally their colonization of the Americas.

The process of human migration has transformed human civilization, shaped economic activity, redefined borders, and advanced technology for the benefit of human beings. In the process, migration has demarcated new concepts of time and circumscribed racial, ethnic, gender, class, caste, and other differences in identity. In this work, we explore the means by which communications and changes in transportation, medicine, and the introduction of new technology have all propelled humans to migrate, as well as the transformations of cultures, architecture, fashion, food, sports, and entertainment that resulted from such movement. We also explore the negative influences of human passage, as forced migrations push some people out of their home regions and move others into inhospitable and intolerant localities – slavery being the most epochal and extreme example as well as the plight of refugees seeking political asylum.

Throughout modern history, humans have set out for new destinations to escape harsh and cruel governments, to advance their religious and social freedoms, to search for economic prosperity and opportunity, and in some cases as colonialists, to establish utopian societies or imperial outposts founded on the exploitation of indigenous peoples. While the drive to migrate typically embraces a view of human freedom and opportunity, all too often migration has resulted in new forms of economic subjugation by those with more advanced technology and military might. The encyclopedia shows how global and regional migration provides various courses of human transformation that have influenced physical and social history, informing a range of trajectories to comprehend both the diversity and uniformity of humankind through the broad range of societal formations.

The *Encyclopedia of Global Human Migration* draws together a range of widely accepted disciplines and new interpretations that have emerged in the last two decades. It covers every significant historical migration on a local, regional, national, and international scale. It presents the forces activating population movements, chronicles the manner in which they unfold, traces their roots, goals, tactics, and influence, and evaluates their successes and failures. This work also examines how different migratory patterns have been influenced and how they compare to one another politically, economically, socially, and culturally.

Human mobility as an enduring feature of humanity

Geographic mobility, including migration from one location to another is among the few persistent features of humanity. Through all epochs, ages, and histories, humans have relocated to survive and to advance as a species. While mobility has long been an important part of the human experience, scholarly inquiry into the factors, causes, and extent of human migration is a relatively modern academic endeavor that started to flourish in the last century and which, in the new millennium, expanded to virtually all fields of inquiry. But human migration is so integral and extensive to the human experience since our origins – indeed, it can be seen as quintessentially “second nature” – that its fundamental importance to the species and its influence on the planet has gone unrecognized. Virtually all practices that humans take for granted, ranging from the search for food, shelter, education and health to marriage, childbirth and social reproduction, are rooted in an experience of mobility. In this encyclopedia, we recognize the significance of global migration by seeking to account for the major themes, trends, nature, and extent of peoples who have relocated from place to place. Indeed, although the periods of migration vary over time, all our ancestors migrated many times to new locations, as we still do today.

Yet concomitantly population mobility and migration is burdened with consequences that are rooted in the lived experiences that pervade the changing material world. Using a materialist framework, migration is integral to understanding how humans have subsisted and endured as a species.

Organization and use of the encyclopedia

Following the prehistory coverage of Volume I, Volumes II to V cover the recorded history of migration, from the ancient era to the present. To access the precise themes, categories, and regions, researchers and students can make use of the lexicon above to browse the work by topic. The lexicon is organized into chronological, geographical and thematic sections. The geographical areas covered include Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, and Oceania. We examine a wide range of historical eras, including the Pleistocene and Holocene epochs, the ancient and medieval periods. Broad themes that occur across the encyclopedia encompass borderlands; business and capitalism; human rights and refugees; children

and families; imperialism and settlement; genocide and forced migration, immigration laws, controls, and restrictions; indigenous peoples; labor and political economy; social movements; poverty and inequality; race, ethnicity, and religion; slavery, forced labor and indentured servitude; transnationalism; transportation; war; and women.

The editors recognize that maps are critical visual aids to understanding migration. We therefore make extensive use of global and regional maps, diagrams, charts, and tables that contextualize historical, political, and economic dynamics of migration. The reader will find maps both in the front matter and in the individual entries to provide context and detail in understanding migration.

Organization and use: prehistory

The chapters in Volume I are devoted exclusively to prehistory, edited by archaeologist Peter Bellwood. They cover all periods and places in human prehistory, from the first hominin migrations out of Africa about two million years ago to the end of prehistory, in some cases only a few centuries ago. The volume is therefore truly multidisciplinary, and is the first of its kind in publishing history to cover the whole world, and all periods, from three major disciplines: archaeology, linguistics, and genetics. The authors are all leading scholars in their fields, drawn from 17 countries, and the chapters are illustrated by informative maps and diagrams.

Organization and use: recorded history

Given the growing recognition of the magnitude of human migration to the human experience, the study of continuous and extensive population movements has infused almost every field of scholarly inquiry, from the physical sciences to the social sciences and humanities, and beyond into the arts and music. Migration has permeated every field even as it has developed and advanced investigation of demography change, the emergence and development of nation states and borders, health and disease, genetics, and linguistics. While the historical record of human migration is circumscribed by written language, archaeological, linguistic, and genetic evidence has vastly expanded our understanding of the pattern and trajectory of population movements at its origins in Africa, expanding throughout the world over the past 60 or 70,000 years. The new techniques of research have vastly increased our understanding of the origins and development of the human species before recorded time. Written accounts of migration are in almost all circumstances drawn from the period 1000 BCE to the present and as we move closer to the present, the written historical record provides compelling evidence of the ubiquity of migration. In his groundbreaking book *Cultures in Contact* – a work that extends beyond the conventional historical analysis of European expansion to population movements within and to all continents throughout the world – historian Dirk Hoerder has researched and authenticated the mass movement of people within and beyond regions and continents in the second millennium.

Historical modes of migration

To understand migration, we must first understand how modes of migration are arranged to benefit those who typically have power, and examine the commonalities and distinctive forms that have permeated communities, regions, continents, and the world. The historical record over the past 500 years sees remarkably common factors rooted in military power, economic exploitation, and poverty. We have witnessed that people have migrated from distinct systems under conditions that are remarkably similar: slavery, forced migration, poverty, economic advantages, war and displacement, expulsion, and the demands of capitalist economic development. The latter demand factors are crucial. While migration is a universal theme, in the past 250 years since the emergence of capitalist labor markets, migration has been primarily been driven by demand for labor, providing what Karl Marx described as the reserve army of labor that expands the supply of workers and reduces wages, thereby expanding profits. This theme remains as true among Irish migrants in Manchester, England in the early 19th century as among East Asians in North America in the mid-to-late 19th century, southern and eastern Europeans in South America, or Asians and Africans in Europe from the 1970s to the 2010s.

Cross-disciplinary approaches to migration study

This work has benefited from the advice of leading scholars of migration. It builds on innovations in the field that have been made across disciplines, from historians Dirk Hoerder, Michael Borgolte, Donna Gabaccia, Adam McKeown, and Gregory Woolf; sociologists Stephen Castles, Thomas Faist, Cecilia Menjívar, and Min Zhou; political economists Alex Julca and Susana Novick, Raúl Delgado Wise, and Aristede Zolberg; cultural theorists Will Higbee, Andreas Kitzman, Parvarti Nair, Sheila Petty, and so many other leading scholars from a range of fields who are expanding research into literature, film, theater, and the arts. A central objective has been to invite scholars who are leaders in their fields and who research regions where they live. Using a historical framework, we strove to incorporate and privilege an approach to migration that demonstrates that population movement is a common thread throughout world history and not simply a result of European expansion.

Contributors undeniably acknowledge the consequence of European imperialism and colonialism from the 16th century to the present, which thrust forward through the growth of trade, capitalism, and the pursuit of profits throughout the world, while recognizing the many routes of human migration with origins and destinations outside of Europe. The rapid expansion of globalization since 1500 ce is inextricably entwined with the European empires that expanded and colonized the world in that period, leading to cultural exchange and economic development, but also to social conflict, war, and pillage. Social scientists and economists have examined the multiple forces that compel migration within regions throughout the world.

Thus while human migration is a universal experience, it is also rooted in the inequalities that have emerged and expanded under the expansion of European empire and imperialism. Globalization is a concept circumscribed by time and era and as a consequence migration is also demarcated by periods of expansion and exchange. Consequently, to understand global migration, we must also examine the specific periods and locations that have driven people to and from new locations. In the past 400 to 500 years migration has been derived from and founded primarily in a political economy that has sought profits through exploiting imbalances between developed and undeveloped regions of the world. Typically, imbalances have made use of human laborers who were displaced from their communities to new locations that were then used to extract profits for the growing capitalist economy.

Throughout the encyclopedia, our central objective has been to accentuate academic rigor and provide the most recent historical work and analytic interpretations of migration. The *Encyclopedia of Global Migration* recognizes that migration is dramatically evolving and expanding in importance in scholarly inquiry throughout many fields and will continue to do so. We have therefore sought to supply rigorous analytic approaches in each of the fields that are also accessible to the broad range of scholars and students who will use this work.

Immanuel Ness
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