

The Lives of Migrants in the Gulf

Instructions

When doing the reading for this class, there are the two basic kinds of information you need to understand:

1. What are the main points or conclusions that an author accepts with respect to a particular issue?
2. What are the reasons, important considerations, and evidence that lead the author to accept that conclusion?

For our purposes, it is *information of the second sort that will be our primary concern* since our most basic task is to *evaluate the reasons and evidence* that are offered to support accepting one possible position on an issue, rather than another.

Reading

Each chapter from Vani Saraswathi's book is based on the experience of migrant workers from a single country (which then gives that chapter its name). Pick *one* of these chapters to read, based on the country whose workers you would like to learn more about. (Of course, feel free to read multiple chapters, if you are interested!)

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Nepal**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 13-34). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Indonesia**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 37-51). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **India**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 53-94). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Sri Lanka**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 97-111). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Uganda**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 113-128). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Ethiopia**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 131-160). Migrant-Rights.org.

Saraswathi, V. (2018). **Philippines**. In R. Kalush (Ed.), *Stories of Origin: The Invisible Lives of Migrants in the Gulf* (pp. 163-191). Migrant-Rights.org.

Questions

As you read, keep these questions in mind:

1. What are the main reasons for migration into the Gulf?
2. Do you see any differences based on gender with those reasons?
3. Which country—the country of origin or the host country—holds more responsibility for the well-being of migrants? Why?
4. In the chapter(s) you read, were there particular host countries that seemed more problematic than others? If so, what could be the reason for that?

To answer these questions you will have to reflect critically on what you have read and possibly re-read important passages.

Although I strongly suggest that you write out brief answers to these questions, you do not have to turn in written responses. You do, however, need to be prepared to speak intelligently about these issues at our next class meeting.