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FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE INFLUX OF
MIGRANT WORKERS FROM THE EMPLOYER'S
PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Influx of immigrant had been occurred since long time ago. Some of the immigrant workers influx to the other country is because of several factors. The research objective of this study is to examine contributing factors to the influx of migrant workers to Sabah from the employer's perspective and to determine the effect of the influx of migrant workers to Sabah. The method used to obtain the data or information is through questionnaire where the questionnaire is distributed to the targeted area which is Kolombong-Inanam and Sepanggar. The main findings of this research is about the factor contributing to the influx of migrant workers into Sabah which are demographic, political, and economic factor that in line with the literature review. From the findings also the influx of migrant does give effect to Sabah. As a conclusion, from the result of test conducted the objective of this research are achieved and even though this research faced with limitation, but still it is successfully conducted with cooperation from the respondents.

CONTENT

Chapter I: Introduction	
1.0 Background of Study	1
1.1 Problem Statement	2
1.2 Research Objective	3
1.3 Scope of the Study	3
1.4 Definition of Terms and Concepts	4
 Chapter II : Literature Review & Conceptual Framework	
2.0 Introduction	6
2.1 Immigration	6
2.2 Factor of the Influx of migrant Workers	7
2.3 Effect of Immigration	14
2.4 Conceptual Framework	17
 Chapter III: Research Methodology	
3.0 Introduction	19
3.1 Research Design	19
3.2 Population and Sampling	19
3.3 Instrumentation and Measurement	20
3.4 Unit of Analysis	21
3.5 Data Collection	21
3.6 Data Analysis	22
 Chapter IV: Findings	
4.0 Introduction	24
4.1 Reliability Test	24
4.2 Normality Test	25
4.3 Descriptive Test	26
4.4 Inferential Tables	31
4.5 Summary of The Chapter	32
 Chapter V: Discussion & Conclusion	
5.0 Introduction	33
5.1 Discussion	33
5.2 Limitation	37
5.3 Recommendation	38
5.4 Conclusion	38
 Reference	40
Appendices	44

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background of The Study

Malaysia has a longstanding history of receiving immigrants since centuries ago when the Malacca kingdom was founded in the 1600s. During that time, a small number of Chinese, Arabic and Indian traders stable in the country. In the mid-nineteenth century, British north Borneo brings a large flow Indian and Chinese into the country to work in tin mining fields and agricultural plantations (Teh, 2009).

After achieving independence in 1957, Malaysia continued to receive a stream of immigrant workers. Most of them hail from Indonesia and the Philippines. The inflow of immigrant workers was not restricted to the number of illegal immigrants ballooned in the 1980s. Currently, there is an estimated 3.3 million foreign workers in Malaysia, whereby 2.1 million are legal immigrant workers and the remaining 1.2 million are illegal immigrants (Teh, 2009).

Malaysia has experienced rapid economic development in the nineteenth century under the British colonial economic development policies. The development of plantations, tin mines, infrastructure such as roads and railways and the distribution and services sectors at that time all depended on immigrant labour which is through various systems of recruitment and repatriation of workers from China, India and Indonesia. The British colonial government and the private sector played an important role in this labour migration process in the country (Navamukundan, 2002).

These immigrant workers who were brought in through formal and informal systems of recruitment and repatriation fulfilled the demand from the public and private sectors for