

Md Golam Hafiz HOPE Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh, Bangladesh
*e-mail: mghafiz.bd@gmail.com**MIGRATION, REMITTANCES
AND TRANSNATIONAL ECONOMIC BELONGING:
BANGLADESHI MIGRANTS IN SOUTH KOREA**

This study aims to examine migration, remittances, and transnational economic belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. This study conducted the total 310 survey questionnaires on Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea from March 2016 to August 2016 in manufacturing factories, halal restaurants, halal grocery stores, and mosques of Bangladeshi migrants populated areas in South Korea and collected data is analyzed by SPSS Statistics 21.0. The results show that Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea have strong transnational economic belong and they prefer to send remittances for livelihood activities to their homeland rather than financial activities for future wellbeing. The highest degree of transnational economic belonging was found in taking care of families who stay in their homeland since most of the Bangladeshi migrants migrate to South Korea for livelihood struggle of their family in past and the lowest degree of transnational economic belonging was found in investment in their homeland for future wellbeing since they stay in South Korea for certain short period and expenses much of their earning money for their livelihood needs of their family at homeland. Transnational economic belonging to the homeland varies more by present occupation, visa status, and reason for migration, while labor migrants who hold E9 visas and migrants who migrated for economic reasons show stronger transnational economic belonging. This study suggests subsequent studies of transnational belonging based on various migrant groups and socio-demographic factors.

Keywords: Bangladesh, economic belonging, homeland, migrant, remittance, South Korea

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HOPE Бангладеш әйелдері мен балалары қоры, Бангладеш
*e-mail: mghafiz.bd@gmail.com**Көші-қон, ақша аударымдары және трансұлттық экономикалық тиістілігі:
Оңтүстік Кореядағы бангладештік мигранттар**

Бұл зерттеу Оңтүстік Кореядағы Бангладеш мигранттарының көші-қон, ақша аударымдарын және трансұлттық экономикалық тиістілігін зерттеуге бағытталған. Бұл зерттеуде 2016 жылдың наурызынан 2016 жылдың тамызына дейін өндіріс орындарында, халал мейрамханаларда, халал азық-түлік дүкендерінде және Оңтүстік Кореядағы Бангладеш мигранттары тұратын аудандардағы мешіттерде Бангладеш мигранттары туралы жалпы 310 сауалнама жүргізді және жиналған мәліметтер SPSS Statistics 21.0 көмегімен талданды. Нәтижелер көрсеткендей, Оңтүстік Кореядағы бангладештік мигранттар күшті трансұлттық экономикалық тиістілікке ие және болашақ әл-ауқаты үшін қаржылық іс-әрекетке жұмсамай, ақша аударымдарын отанына қайтаруды жөн көреді.

Трансұлттық экономикалық тиістіліктің ең жоғары деңгейі елінде қалған отбасыларына қамқорлық жасаумен сипатталады, өйткені Бангладештік мигранттардың көпшілігі өткен уақытта өз отбасының өмір сүруі үшін күресу мақсатында Оңтүстік Кореяға қоныс аударды, ал трансұлттық экономикалық мүшеліктің ең төменгі деңгейі болашақ әл-ауқат үшін өз отанына салынған инвестициялардан табылды, өйткені олар Оңтүстік Кореяда белгілі бір қысқа мерзім ішінде қалады және тапқан ақшаларының көп бөлігін өз отбасының үйдегі өмірлік қажеттіліктеріне жұмсайды. Отанына трансұлттық экономикалық тиістілік қазіргі кәсібіне, виза мәртебесіне және көші-қон себебіне байланысты аса ерекшеленеді, ал E9 визасы бар еңбек мигранттары мен экономикалық себептермен көшіп келген мигранттар барынша мықты трансұлттық экономикалық тиістілікті көрсетеді. Бұл зерттеу болашақта мигранттардың әртүрлі топтары мен әлеуметтік-демографиялық факторларға негізделген трансұлттық тиістілікті зерттеуді ұсынады.

Түйін сөздер: Бангладеш, экономикалық тиістілігі, отаны, мигрант, ақша аударымдары, Оңтүстік Корея.

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Миграция, денежные переводы и транснациональная экономическая принадлежность: бангладешские мигранты в Южной Корее

Данное исследование направлено на изучение миграции, денежных переводов и транснациональной экономической принадлежности бангладешских мигрантов в Южной Корее. В этом исследовании было проведено в общей сложности 310 опросных анкет о бангладешских мигрантах в Южной Корее с марта 2016 г. по август 2016 г. на производственных предприятиях, халяльных ресторанах, халяльных продуктовых магазинах и мечетях в районах, населенных бангладешскими мигрантами в Южной Корее, и собранные данные анализируются с помощью SPSS Statistics 21.0. Результаты показывают, что бангладешские мигранты в Южной Корее имеют сильную транснациональную экономическую принадлежность, и они предпочитают отправлять денежные переводы на родину для получения средств к существованию, а не для финансовой деятельности для будущего благополучия. Самая высокая степень транснациональной экономической принадлежности была обнаружена в заботе о семьях, которые остаются на родине, поскольку большинство бангладешских мигрантов мигрируют в Южную Корею для борьбы за средства к существованию своей семьи в прошлом, а самая низкая степень транснациональной экономической принадлежности была обнаружена в инвестициях в свою родину для будущего благополучия, поскольку они остаются в Южной Корее в течение определенного короткого периода и тратят большую часть своих заработанных денег на жизненные потребности своей семьи на родине. Транснациональная экономическая принадлежность к родине больше различается в зависимости от нынешнего занятия, визового статуса и причины миграции, в то время как трудовые мигранты, имеющие визы E9, и мигранты, мигрировавшие по экономическим причинам, демонстрируют более сильную транснациональную экономическую принадлежность. Это исследование предлагает в последующем изучить транснациональную принадлежность на основе различных групп мигрантов и социально-демографических факторов.

Ключевые слова: Бангладеш, экономическая принадлежность, родина, мигрант, денежные переводы, Южная Корея.

Introduction

International migration has increased significantly in recent decades all over the world due to the substantial progress of economic globalization and advanced communication. It has made a significant change on society, culture, politics, and economics in the world that presents new ways of belonging which exceed physical and virtual boundaries. The attachment of migrants to their host country raises questions of their transnational belonging to their homeland since their integration in host society automatically coincides with decreasing orientations towards the society of origin (De Haas, 2005).

Belonging provides a deeper understanding of migrants' perspectives on their affiliations in their host societies and illuminates the processes of cross-border connections and multi-scaled attachments to their homeland. Remittances by migrants' to their families in homeland are most common cross-border attachments that generate and expose a sense of belonging at their homeland. Migrants can be seen as acting altruistically, sending money to families back in their homelands to increase the

welfare of family members and financial security for their future (Crentsil, 2012). The socio-economic conditions and socio-cultural traditions within kin in the societies where the migrants originally come from are play very significant role in the process of transnational belonging of migrants. Remittance is a highly-valued cultural belief and away of sharing and distributing resources to maintain a bond with one's kinship group in Bangladeshi societies. Migrants are not merely send remittances but also take responsible their family members and relatives who stay at homeland that indeed has a huge impact on the self-imagination, sense of belonging and economic prospects. Furthermore, engage with the family and friends in homeland also allow the migrants to identify with their roots as adherents to, and followers of, and the traditional values of homeland.

The total number of international migrants reached 258 million in 2017, up from 173 million in 2000—an increase of 49% (United Nations [UN], 2017). Migrants comprised 3.4% of the total population in 2017 (UN, 2017). Bangladesh is the fifth largest emigrant country in the world, with 7.5 million people living outside the country's borders

(UN, 2017). A total of 15,983 Bangladeshi migrants live in South Korea, among whom 10,533 migrants are laborers (Ministry of Justice, 2018). Though the number of migrants is not large compared to the numbers of migrants from China, Vietnam, or Philippines, migrants from Bangladesh are flowing steadily to South Korea every year. Over more than 20 years of significant migration from Bangladesh to South Korea, the purposes and types of Bangladeshi migrants have diversified. In the early 1990s, South Korea implemented the industrial trainee system and began to employ people from different Asian countries, including Bangladesh. Since 2000, the composition of migrants has become increasingly diverse due to the formation of new groups of migrants, including investors, students, professionals, and family members. Despite the diversified types and vigorous activities of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea, only a small number of studies have been conducted on this topic. The increasing interconnectedness of migrants has changed their ways of life, and that raises interesting questions about the relationship of migrants with their homeland. Research on different migrants' cases is important for understanding the ways and level of migrants interact with their homeland, which relates to their perceptions of belonging.

The main objective of this study is to explore transnational belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea through remittances. To find out the objective, I examine the concept of transnational belonging, socio-demographic characteristics of Bangladeshi migrants, and remittances by Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea with quantitative method that discloses the migrants as subjects placed in specific social-economic and cultural conditions presenting particular images based on belonging of their homeland. This article thus focuses on the economic connections of migrants to their homelands by remittances called transnational economic belonging. Remittances become the context through which migrants create and enable belonging in the places of origin.

Transnational Economic Belonging

This study is about to describe how Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea practices transnational belonging in terms of economic activities at homeland through remittances. Though studies on transnational belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea are not rich as an academic field but scholars have focused earlier studies on transnational

belong of migrants based on western countries where migrants have been living for longtime. The notion of belonging is an emotional feeling by an individual that can be social, imagined, and sensual-material (Antonsich, 2010). It pertains to emotional attachment, feeling at home and feeling safe (Yuval-Davis, et al., 2006). It is the human emotional need and people tend to have desire to belong whether it is family, friends, homeland, or something else. This desire is so universal that the need to belong is found across all cultures and different types of people (Baumeister and Leary, 1995: 499). Belonging is an attachment with a specific group, belief, and nation that brings feelings of inclusion in a particular group, ethnic, nation etc. Every human requires belonging to meet the needs resulting from avoidance of loneliness and mental stress and it is a natural desire to belong. Belonging is a personal, intimate feeling of being at home in a place (Antonsich, 2010). Migrants have very strong feelings and connections to their homeland (Glorius and Friedrich, 2006). The common form of expression of the sense of belonging of migrants to their homeland is based on personal and particular connections. The attachment is to particular locations, people, and associated memories that thus have come to represent the country (Erkmen, 2015). Though migrants have been living in host land and engage in different ways in their everyday life but emotional and material attachment and dependability characterize narratives about migrants' feelings towards their homeland. Belonging relates to specific geographic and symbolic spatial localities and territories with familiarity, comfort, and security (Antonsich, 2010). It allows an affective dimension – not just being, but longing (Probyn, 1996). It is a sentiment involving feelings of closeness, affection, and pride in one's country (Erkmen, 2015). Notions of belonging to places are linked to social relations, whether these are of the past, in the present, or imagined (Mand, 2010). Transnational belonging refers to feelings of being at home that cross the borders of nation-states. The sense of transnational belonging at home arises through transnational networks or practices that occur outside of the country.

Transnational migrants have multi-positioned social, symbolic, and material ties to different locales on account of their migratory journeys: already-existing ties binding them to their homelands and new ties forming to bind them to their new place of residence. Transnational economic belonging is for making a safe and stable economic condition for the individual and her/his family in their homeland by

sending remittances. The importance of remittances to the economic well-being of immigrant workers, their households, and their sending communities is undeniable (World Bank, 2006). The connections over time created through remittance practices to return funds to their households are about more than economics. The remittances and the goods and services sent by migrants create strong, long-lasting transnational bonds (Guarnizo and Smith, 1998). Transnational economic wellbeing practices and identifications serve emotional needs and feelings of transnational belonging (De Bree, et al., 2010). Remittances express migrants' long-distance social ties of solidarity, reciprocity, and responsibility that link them with their kin and friends across national borders (Guarnizo, 2003). Transnational moralities are based on transnational attachments, such as a sense of obligation towards the family, community or whichever social group they have left behind, and are maintained through remittances (Carling, 2008). Migrants belong to their homelands through the acts of sending remittances to support their families, buying land, making investments, and establishing businesses in the home country (Malesevic, 2012). The total household income increases in the presence of remittances which leads to an increase in the household and improves the living standard. The money that migrants transfers to their countries of origin as remittances, beyond sustaining migrants' household income, represents the surest lifeline for many developing nations from where migrants come (Kosse and Vermeulen, 2014). Remittances are an important factor of the local economy that helps individuals as an improvement in the earning capacity of a migrant home country. They are also more stable and reliable form of foreign exchange earnings in developing countries.

Bangladeshi migrants started to migrate to western countries longtime ago. Therefore migration in Asian countries started in recent decades comparatively. Hence the literature regarding Bangladeshi migrants is mainly based on western countries and focuses on transnational cultural and economic belonging. Settled immigrant workers who hold reasonably steady jobs often earn more money and earn that money more consistently than do new, less settled immigrants (Hernandez and Coutin, 2006, Portes 2007), which often translates to more consistent and larger remittances. Migrants' ties are expressed by sending remittances such as money, gifts, and gold to their families in Bangladesh,

particularly for special occasions and weddings, due to moral responsibility, religious duty and cultural tradition (Stevanovic, 2012); they also send remittances to develop their family lifestyles back home regarding food, living, and clothing (Rahman, et al., 2014) and through investment in various sectors of their natal villages or towns (Morad and Gombac, 2015). Migrants maintain transnational economic belonging through buying land and building houses, and through the significance of kinship as well as providing materiality in the context of displacement (Mand, 2010). Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea send remittances to their home country that is major source of livelihood for their families and that provide hope for their future lives in their home country (Lim, 2010). They send remittances at homeland to support their families and friends who stay behind in their homeland, as ties of solidarity, reciprocity, and responsibility as well as to make financial efforts for their future safety. Remittances reflect and build the social status of the sender as funds flow to support not just family, but also community, local government, development, and traditional practices as well as celebrations (Ali, 2007; Cohen, 2004; and Suzuki 2006). Therefore, this paper analyzes transnational economic belonging in depth formed by Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea.

Bangladeshi Migrants in South Korea and Remittances

Bangladesh is the fifth largest emigrant country in the world, with 7.5 million people living outside the country's borders (UN, 2017). They are categorized as low-skilled (51.87%), semi-skilled (15.28%), skilled (32.68%) and professional (0.17%) (International Organization of Migration, Bangladesh, 2018). Two types of voluntary international migration from Bangladesh have been taking place. One type of migrants moves to the industrialized West and Oceania as permanent resident, family reunification, professional, or student. These countries are considered as having high wages, good working environments, human rights, and possibilities to be citizen of host country. Another type of migrant moves to the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, and North African countries as unskilled or semi-skilled contract migrant worker and faces comparatively low wages and poor working environment.

Table 1 – Overseas employment flow from Bangladesh Source: <http://www.bmet.gov.bd>

Year	Total Employment	Employment in South Korea
2015	555,881	2359
2016	757,731	1980
2017	1,008,525	1829
2018	734,181	2287
2016	700,159	1647

South Korea experienced a severe unskilled laborer shortage in small and medium sized industries in the late 1980s. Therefore South Korea became a destination for migrant laborers of some Asian countries including Bangladesh. To ease the labor shortage in the manufacturing industries, the South Korean Government introduced a labor import scheme known as the “Foreigners Industrial Training Programme (FITP)” in 1991 and the FITP was expanded in 1993 (Fee and Rahman, 2011). Migrants came as transient worker and they were forced to return home at the end of the contract. As a result, in the early 1990s, the country hosted thousands of irregular and regular migrants from different parts of Asia. However, by 2003, a public consensus grew on favor of migrant labor that helped to introduce “the Act Concerning the Employment of Permit for Migrant Workers” in 2003 and the guest worker system for migrant workers entered into effect on 17 August 2004 (Yoo, 2004). In 2004, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the governments of Bangladesh and South Korea on the transmission of labor following the introduction of the Employment Permit System (EPS). In EPS recruiting system, some countries have specific quota of labor and the number also depends on the selection of laborer by owners of the companies. During time being, the composition of migrants from Bangladesh has become increasingly diverse due to the formation of new groups of migrants, including investors, students, professionals, and family members since 2000s. A total of 15,983 Bangladeshi migrants live in South Korea, among whom 10,533 migrants are laborers (South Korea immigration report, 2018). Though the number of migrants is not large compared to the numbers of migrants from China or Vietnam, South Korea is prospective destination for Bangladeshi migrants.

Bangladeshi migrants sent remittances 12769.45 million US dollars in 2018-19 and

migrants from South Korea sent remittances 80.65 million US dollars in 2018-19. It is a significant part of migrants’ lives provide a huge context for considering the sense of belonging at home land of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. Migration and remittances home have long been features of Bangladesh. Many empirical studies exist on migration and remittances back to migrants’ households in Bangladesh. Remittances represent a substantial flow of financial resources. International remittances to relatives through whatever means by migrants living and working outside of their origin countries have indeed become one of the key issues in economic development (Adams, 2008). In examining Bangladeshi migrants’ attachments and sense of belonging based on remittances to their homeland it is necessary to consider the culture and ideology of sharing in Bangladesh, which also calls forth notions of kinship. Most of the Bangladeshi migrants remit to parents and/ or brothers.

Table 2 – Remittance flow of Bangladeshi migrants. Source: <https://www.bb.org.bd/econdata/wagermidtl.php>

Year	Total (USD in millions)	South Korea (USD in millions)
2016-17	12769.45	80.65
2017-18	12769.45	80.65
2018-19	12769.45	80.65

Research Methods and Design

Operational Variables

Transnational belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea is based on feelings according to the strength of attachment to and composition of various symbolic and material entities. Therefore, different results are produced depending on the degree and configuration of transnational belonging. Transnational economic belonging is an attachment related to economic activities that brings feelings of inclusion in a particular belief, group, ethnic, nation etc. It refers to making a safe and stable material economic condition for the individual and her/his family in their homeland sending remittances. It is divided into transnational economic (livelihood) belonging and transnational economic (finance) belonging. Transnational economic livelihood belonging is to work for the basic necessities of life such as food, water, shelter, clothing, etc. for their bosom people at homeland. Transnational

economic financial belonging is to work for investment of assets and liabilities over time under conditions of different degrees of uncertainty and risk for their future economic wellbeing. In this study, I apply a total of 8 items to measure transnational economic belonging on a Likert scale of 1 to 5 points ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. In this study, the items to measure transnational economic belonging are as follows: “I support my family members in Bangladesh,” “I bear education expenses of my family members in Bangladesh,” “I bear medical expenses of my family members in Bangladesh,” “I help financially in community activities in Bangladesh,” “I buy land in Bangladesh,” “I invest in building houses in Bangladesh,” “I invest in business in Bangladesh,” and “I save money in Bangladesh.”

Research Methods

This was a quantitative study based on SPSS 23.0. The total 310 survey questionnaires conducted during six months from March 2016 to August 2016 in different areas in Korea populated with Bangladeshi migrants including Gyeonggi-do (Ansan, Paju, Ujeonbu, Sanguri, and Khwangju), Seoul, Incheon, Gwangju, Busan, Daegu, Ulsan, Gimhae, and Jinju. The survey questionnaire was written in two languages: English and Bengali. The author visited manufacturing factories, Bangladeshi restaurants, halal grocery stores, and mosques for collecting data doing survey. The main target group in this study is laborers, since most of the Bangladeshi migrants in Korea are laborers. Other groups include migrant groups with future potential to grow in numbers: students, professionals and businessmen. In this study, transnational economic belonging determines 2 factors with 7 items among 8 items. The significance value of Bartlett's sphere test is .000. Cronbach's Alpha coefficients are above .817, showing desirable internal consistency and credibility of the factorial scale.

Table 3 – Reliability Analysis of Measurement Variables

Concept	Variable	Item	Cronbach's Alpha
Transnational Economic Belonging	Economic (livelihood) belonging	3	.817
	Economic (finance) belonging	4	.868

Results

Socio-demographic Characteristics of Migrants

The socio-demographic characteristics of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea who participated in this study show in Table 4. The age of the most of the migrants is between 20-40 years and 45.2% (total 140 migrants) is under 30 years old and 45.2% (total 140 migrants) is between 30-39 years. The highest percentage response was less than 3 years that is 45.5% (total 141 migrants) regarding the length of time migrants had lived in South Korea, 23.5% (73 migrants) had lived in South Korea for 3-4 years, and 21.0% (total 96 migrants) had lived in South Korea for more than 4 years. With respect to gender, 97.1% (total 301 migrants) were men and only 2.9% (total only 9 migrants) were women. The proportion of male migrants was significantly higher since Bangladeshi females were restricted to migrate abroad because of Bangladeshi culture, as doing so would result in the loss of honor in the eyes of Bangladeshi society and the government of Bangladesh withdrew its restrictions on the migration of semi-and low-skilled women in 2003 but female migration is still only 2-4% of the total migration. In a Muslim male-dominated society, women's travelling to another country depends on the male elders of the family. However, this situation is gradually changing. The number of married and unmarried migrants surveyed was almost the same, with 51.6% (total 160 migrants) married and 48.4% (total 150 migrants) unmarried. In this study, 92.3% (total 286 migrants) were Muslim, and 7.7% (total 24 migrants) were Hindu, reflecting the Muslim dominant society of Bangladesh where 88% of the total population is Muslim and the second highest religion, Hindu, accounts for only 8%.

The education status of surveyed Bangladeshi migrants in Korea found 24.2% (total 75 migrants) had less than higher secondary education, 28.1% (total 87 migrants) had completed higher secondary education, 28.1% (total 87 migrants) had achieved a bachelor's degree and 19.7% (total 61 migrants) had achieved a master's degree, showing that most of the migrants are educated. A total of 73.2% (total 227 migrants) are laborers and the remaining 26.8% (total 83 migrants) included students, professionals, and businessmen. As a result, 70.6% (total 219 migrants) hold an E9 non-professional employment visa. Looking at migrants' occupations in Bangladesh, 24.8% (total 77 migrants) were private employees, 34.2%

(total 106 migrants) were students, and 25.2% (total 78 migrants) were businessmen, showing the diversification of the professional backgrounds of migrants. Bangladesh is a developing country with a huge population where jobs are not available

resulted 73.2% (total 227 migrants) migrated to South Korea for economic reasons. Since the area most populated with Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea is the capital area, accordingly 57.74% (total 179 migrants) were found to live there.

Table 4 – Socio-demographic Characteristics of Migrants (N=310)

Division	Content	Frequency	Ratio (%)
Age	Less than 30	140	45.2
	30-39	140	45.2
	More than 39	30	9.6
Duration in Korea	Less than 3 years	141	45.5
	3 years-4years	73	23.5
	More than 4 years	96	31.0
Gender	Male	301	97.1
	Female	9	2.9
Marital status	Married	160	51.6
	Unmarried	150	48.4
Religion	Islam	286	92.3
	Hinduism	24	7.7
Education	Below HSC	75	24.2
	HSC pass	87	28.1
	Bachelor pass	87	28.1
	Masters pass	61	19.7
Present occupation	Labor	227	73.2
	Others	83	26.8
Visa status	E9(Labor)	219	70.6
	Others	91	29.4
Occupation in Bangladesh	Private employee	77	24.8
	Student	106	34.2
	Businessman	78	25.2
	Others	49	15.8
Reason for migration	Economic	227	73.2
	Others	83	26.8
Living area	Capital area	179	57.74
	Others	131	42.26

Transnational Economic Belonging

The results of the table 5 illustrate the analysis results of transnational economic belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. The results showed that the higher scale of transnational economic belonging of Bangladeshi migrants was in transnational economic (livelihood) belonging (4.33) and lower scale was transnational economic (finance) belonging (3.79). The results prove that Bangladeshi migrants have strong transnational

economic (livelihood) belonging to their homeland while transnational economic (finance) belonging to their homeland is medium. Among the items of transnational economic (livelihood) belonging, taking care of family in Bangladesh was highest at 4.39(± 0.862) and supporting study was lowest at 4.27(± 0.974). Among the items of transnational economic (finance) belonging, saving money in Bangladesh was highest at 4.09(± 1.033) and investing in business in Bangladesh was lowest at 3.67(± 1.218).

Table 5 – Analysis of Transnational Economic Belonging (N = 310)

Measured items		Average	Standard deviation
Economic (livelihood) Belonging	Family Take care	4.39	.862
	Family Study	4.27	.974
	Family Treatment	4.34	.877
Total		4.33	.855
Economic (finance) Belonging	Buy Land	3.68	1.211
	House	3.72	1.213
	Investment	3.67	1.218
	Saving	4.09	1.033
Total		3.79	.991

Differences in Transnational Economic Belonging

Transnational economic (livelihood) belonging

The results of the table 6 show a significant difference in the transnational economic (livelihood) belonging in terms of present occupation $t(p) = 7.172(.000)$, $p < .05$; visa status $t(p) = 7.494(.000)$, $p < .05$; occupation in Bangladesh $F = 9.428(.000)$, $p < .05$; reason for migration $t(p) = 6.860(.000)$, $p < .05$; and

residential area $t(p) = 2.278(.023)$, $p < .05$. Labor E9 (non-professional employment) migrants showed stronger economic (livelihood) belonging than other migrants. The economic (livelihood) belonging was the strongest among those who did business in Bangladesh, followed by others and private employees. Students showed the lowest economic (livelihood) belonging. Migrants who migrated for economic reasons and migrants who live in the capital area showed stronger economic (livelihood) belonging than others.

Table 6 – Analysis of the differences in transnational economic (livelihood) belonging

Variable	Division	Frequency	Average	Standard Deviation	t(p)/	F(p)	Scheffe Test
Age	Less than 30 years	140	4.2881	.93533		2.401 (.092)	
	30 years -39 years	140	4.3095	.81123			
	More than 39 years	30	4.6556	.57056			
Duration in Korea	Less than 3 years	141	4.4066	.83580		1.736 (.178)	
	3-4 years	73	4.1781	.89595			
	More than 4 years	96	4.3438	.84529			
Marital Status	Unmarried	160	4.3021	.85887	-.664 (.507)		
	Married	150	4.3667	.85290			
Education	Below high school	75	4.3265	.92669		.164 (.957)	
	High school pass	89	4.3933	.80177			
	Bachelor pass	87	4.2950	.81875			
	Masters pass	61	4.3169	.90763			
Present Occupation	Labor	227	4.5286	.69309	7.172 (.000)		
	Others	83	3.7992	1.01871			
Visa status	E9	219	4.5495	.62968	7.494 (.000)		
	Others	91	3.8132	1.07865			

Continuation of the table

Variable	Division	Frequency	Average	Standard Deviation	t(p)/	F(p)	Scheffe Test
Occupation in Bangladesh	Private employee	77	4.2294	.88235		9.428 (.000)	a>b a<d d<c
	Student	106	4.0692	.99917			
	Businessman	78	4.6752	.59087			
	Others	49	4.5238	.57735			
Reason of migration	Economic	227	4.5213	.67975	6.860 (.000)		
	Others	83	3.8193	1.05705			
Living area	Capital area	179	4.4171	.76832	2.027 (.044)		
	Others	131	4.2188	.95252			

Transnational economic (financial) belonging

The analysis results of the table 7 show significance differences in terms of present occupation $t(p) = 6.022(.000)$, $p < .05$; visa status $t(p) = 5.267(.000)$, $p < .05$; occupation in Bangladesh $F = 4.613(.004)$, $p < .05$; and reason for migration $t(p) = 5.273(.000)$, $p < .05$. Labor E9 (non-professional employment) migrants show stronger economic

(financial) sense of belonging than other migrants. In terms of occupation in Bangladesh, economic (finance) belonging is the strongest among others, followed by businessmen and private employees. Students showed the lowest economic (financial) affiliation. Migrants who migrated for economic reasons show stronger economic (financial) belonging than others.

Table 7 – Analysis of the differences in transnational economic (financial) belonging

Variable	Division	Frequency	Average	Standard Deviation	t(p)/	F(p)	Scheffe Test
Age	Less than 30 years	140	3.7143	1.05921		1.357 (.259)	
	30 years -39 years	140	3.8143	.95651			
	More than 39 years	30	4.0333	.78711			
Duration in Korea	Less than 3 years	141	3.7801	.95780		.059 (.942)	
	3-4 years	73	3.8253	.98309			
	More than 4 years	96	3.7786	1.05436			
Marital Status	Unmarried	160	3.6828	1.01123	-1.981 (.48)		
	Married	150	3.9050	.96005			
Education	Below high school	75	3.6684	.92897		1.175 (.322)	
	High school pass	89	3.8876	.97118			
	Bachelor pass	87	3.9052	.96391			
	Masters pass	61	3.6434	1.06894			
Present Occupation	Labor	227	3.9846	.86525	6.022 (.000)		
	Others	83	3.2590	1.11834			
Visa status	E9	219	3.9737	.87632	5.267 (.000)		
	Others	91	3.3489	1.11173			
Occupation in Bangladesh	Private employee	77	3.7468	.98550		4.613 (.004)	a>b a<c c<d
	Student	106	3.5566	1.06697			
	Businessman	78	3.9423	.90536			
	Others	49	4.1224	.84336			

Continuation of the table

Variable	Division	Frequency	Average	Standard Deviation	t(p)/	F(p)	Scheffe Test
Reason of migration	Economic	227	3.9626	.86617	5.273 (.000)		
	Others	83	3.3193	1.15315			
Living area	Capital area	179	3.8520	.90784	1.281 (.201)		
	Others	131	3.7061	1.09346			

Discussion

Migrants have very strong feelings for and connections to their homelands (Glorius and Friedrich, 2006). Remittance practices are the outcomes of cultural traditions and social practices Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. It is symbol of belonging at homeland of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea that is a sentiment and exists as feelings of closeness, affection, and pride. Migrants belong at home through sending remittances supporting their families, buying land, making investments, and establishing businesses in their home country (Malešević, 2012).

The highest degrees of transnational economic belonging were found in taking care of families who stay in their homeland since most of the Bangladeshi migrants migrate to South Korea for livelihood struggle of their family and the lowest degrees of transnational economic belonging were found in investment in their homeland for future wellbeing since they stay in South Korea for certain short period and expenses much money for their livelihood needs of their family to their homeland. Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea send remittances to their homeland to support the livelihood of their families and relatives who stay behind in their homeland, as ties of harmony and responsibility as well as to make financial efforts for their future wellbeing. The economics of remittance are important to sending countries for supporting trade and national investments (De Haas, 2005; Skeldon, 2008), but outcomes of remittances are rooted in migration and founded in the connections of movers with their sending households and destination communities (Guarnizo 2003; Massey; Akresh 2006). Remittances are one of the top sources of investment capital (Landolt 2001) supporting national governments and local development and countering declines in direct foreign aid during economic crises (Buch and Kuckulenz, 2010; Lianos and Cavounidis, 2010).

Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea prefer to send remittances to provide the basic needs

livelihood belonging of their family at homeland rather than to make assets financial belonging for the future wellbeing since most of the migrants from Bangladesh migrate to another country for economic reason. Bangladesh is a developing country where many of the people struggle every day for their livelihood needs. So Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea leave their homeland for economic reasons and send remittances to their homeland to support their basic necessities such as food, cloth, education, medical expenses of their families. Remittances provide the opportunity including food, education and better health care (Gamburd, 2008). Their dream is to change economic condition of their family from everyday needs to future wellbeing by sending remittances. Migrants who do remit are not driven by an inchoate force to act; rather, they remit because they choose to do so (Mora and Taylor, 2006). Therefore, remittances are invested locally and informal economic growth open new opportunities. Human capital expands by immigrant workers to rethink familial organization, economic life, and political opportunities (Brown and Poirine, 2005). Remittances, particularly large remittances, create opportunities and support local development schemes and investments; yet many migrants cannot afford to return large sums to their homes (Adams, 2008). On the other side, remittances can displace local incomes and increase local inequalities, drive consumptive spending, and inflate prices, among other things (Vertovec, 2009). Though most of the Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea are laborers who stay for a short time – four years ten months – in comparison with western countries where many migrants have settled for a long time, this does not make any difference to migrants' sense of economic belonging to their homeland. They all practice strong transnational belonging at their homeland. Belonging to one's homeland is common and universal for human beings.

There are some differences in transnational economic belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea to their homeland depending on present

occupation, visa status, occupation in Bangladesh, reason for migration, and living area, but there are no differences depending on age, duration in South Korea, marital status and education. Bangladeshi labor migrants holding E9 visa have stronger transnational economic (livelihood) belonging and transnational economic (finance) belonging than other Bangladeshi migrants. According to South Korean labor recruiting system, Korean companies select their labors from their chosen countries. Then company owner sends an agreement and other necessary documents to the labor at their home country. Labor signs it and sends it back to company owner before entering in South Korea. Therefore, after entering in South Korea, they attend in a short training. Then they join in company and start work directly. As a result, they do not need to expense time to search job and can earn money without delay. The wages and welfare rights in South Korea are also good to compare with other Asian countries since South Korea is a developed country and maintain OECD standard system. In addition, migrants have to spend a small amount of their money from their standard wages since they live alone here. In many cases, company owners provide food and house for labor migrants. Hence they can support their family and relatives easily who have stayed behind in their homeland and then can accumulate wealth for their future wellbeing in their home country. Remittances are of fundamental importance to many migrant sending households as they cope with poor local economies, limited job markets, and low wages (Suro, et al., 2002). Migrants who were businessmen in Bangladesh have stronger economic (livelihood) belonging and economic (finance) belonging. Businessmen were rich in Bangladesh compare to other migrants. So they had certain amount of money that helped them to maintain support to their family members and friends. In a good economic condition in South Korea, they can maintain easily their past practices to support their family and relatives. Beside, their business experiences in their homeland also help them to engage in financial activities for their future wellbeing in home country. Migrants who were students in Bangladesh maintain less support of livelihood and financial belonging since they are very young, they expenses some money from their wages for enjoying their life in Korea such as shopping, travelling, drinking etc. Migrants who migrate for economic reasons have more economic livelihood belonging and economic financial belonging than others migrants. Most of the migrants from a developing country like Bangladesh migrate

for economic reason. They struggled economically in the past in their homeland, which make them more depressed but responsible. They understand better the livelihood needs of their family in their homeland and financial wellbeing for their future than others migrants. Therefore, after coming in South Korea, they earn good amount of money in every month and send remittances to their homeland that helps surprisingly to local economies as the members of sending households improve their households; spend on education, health care, and rituals; engage in local politics; and invest in small business (Adams, 2009). Migrants who work in metropolitan areas be paid more wages in compare with rural area that helps them to support more in their home country than other migrants.

Conclusion

Bangladeshi migrants have very strong feelings for and connections to their homelands and remittance practices through sending remittances for supporting their families, buying land, making investments, and establishing businesses in their home country are the outcomes. The highest degrees of transnational economic belonging is in taking care of families who stay in their homeland since migrants migrate for livelihood struggle of their family and the lowest degrees of transnational economic belonging is in investment in their homeland for future wellbeing since they stay for certain short period and expenses much money for their livelihood needs of their family to their homeland. Bangladesh is a developing country where many of the people struggle every day for their livelihood needs. So Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea leave their homeland for economic reasons and send remittances to their homeland to support their basic necessitates such as food, cloth, education, medical expenses of their families. Though most of the Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea are laborers who stay for a short time – four years ten months – in comparison with western countries where many migrants have settled for a long time, this does not make any difference to migrants' sense of economic belonging to their homeland. They all practice strong transnational belonging at their homeland. Belonging to one's homeland is common and universal for human beings.

There are some differences in transnational economic belonging of migrants to their homeland depending on present occupation, visa status,

occupation in Bangladesh, reason for migration, and living area, but there are no differences depending on age, duration in South Korea, marital status and education. Bangladeshi labor migrants holding E9 visa have stronger transnational economic (livelihood) belonging and transnational economic (finance) belonging than other Bangladeshi migrants. The wages and welfare rights of labor migrants in South Korea are also good to compare with other Asian countries since South Korea is a developed country and maintain OECD standard system. Hence they can support their family and relatives easily who have stayed behind in their homeland and then can accumulate wealth for their future wellbeing in their home country. Migrants who were businessmen in Bangladesh have stronger economic (livelihood) belonging and economic (finance) belonging. Businessmen were rich in Bangladesh compare to other migrants so they helped to support to their family members and friends. In a good economic condition in South Korea, they can maintain easily their past practices to support their family and relatives. Beside, their business experiences in their homeland also help them to engage in financial activities for their future wellbeing in home country. Migrants who were students in Bangladesh maintain less support of livelihood and financial belonging since they earn small amount of wages. Migrants who migrate for

economic reasons have more economic livelihood belonging and economic financial belonging than others migrants. Most of the migrants from a developing country like Bangladesh migrate for economic reason. They understand better the livelihood needs of their family in their homeland and financial wellbeing for their future than others migrants. Migrants who work in metropolitan areas be paid more wages in compare with rural area that helps them to support more in their home country than other migrants.

This study has limitations in generalizing migrants as subject since laborers the target group of this study that does not show the overall situation of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. In addition, religious and gender groups are not statistically significant in analyzing the differences of transnational economic belonging since the inter-group differences are so high. As mentioned, transnational economic belonging of migrants can vary according to various socio-demographical characteristics and migrant groups, so subsequent studies of various migrant groups sampling based on socio-demographic factors are necessary to understand in depth of transnational economic belonging of Bangladeshi migrants in South Korea. Therefore, to understand in depth of transnational belonging subsequent studies of various kinds belonging are also important.

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