The Influence of Globalization on Migration Flows of Indonesian Female Migrant Workers to Saudi Arabia

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Abstract

Globalization has had a broad impact on various aspects of life, including the supporting aspects of the international world order, ranging from social, cultural, political, tourism, to the economy. Globalization also has a significant impact on the occurrence of international migration. This research seeks to highlight the phenomena that occur behind the opening of employment opportunities for women, which on the other hand will also encourage acts of violence, especially against Indonesian female workers in Saudi Arabia. The author uses qualitative research methods with case study techniques to analyze research problems. The author also uses a literature study data collection technique that uses secondary data such as books, journal articles, reports from governments and international organizations and online news as reference sources. The results obtained from this study are that there is an influence between globalization and the migration of Indonesian women workers to Saudi Arabia. There are many positive sides from the influence of globalization such as open access for migrant workers to get jobs and improve life in destination countries. However, there are also negative impacts such as the occurrence of various cases of violence and crimes against female workers, especially against Indonesian women workers in Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: Female Worker; Globalization; Indonesia; International Migration; Saudi Arabia

Introduction

Advances in Science and Technology (IPTEK) as well as increasingly sophisticated developments in information and communication have brought about an era of change that we know as the era of globalization. Globalization has actually started to occur since there was trade between countries, and it continues to bring many changes in the international world to this day. Globalization has led to something global and blurring national boundaries. Globalization can also be said as a process of increasing interdependence between state and non-state actors on an international scale. Globalization has had a widespread impact on various aspects of international life, ranging from social, cultural, political, tourism to the economy.

In addition, globalization also supports the progress of transportation so that we can move from one country to another, even with long distances, by land, sea or air transportation. People can easily travel outside and within the country just for a vacation to find a job to get a better life. This movement of people between countries is known as international migration. This is facilitated

by an increase in various cross-border flows, including information and communication technology (Dewi, 2013).

Meanwhile, international migration is one of the solutions to reduce unemployment and become a source of foreign exchange for the country so that sending Indonesian Migrant Workers (TKI) abroad will help boost the Indonesian economy. Indonesia has sent many of its citizens as migrant workers in various countries, one of which is Saudi Arabia. Based on data obtained through the official website of Bank Indonesia and the National Agency for Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers (BNP2TKI), the number of Indonesian Migrant Workers sent to Saudi Arabia in 2010 was 1,455 people and continues to increase, so that in 2021 there were 1,666 Indonesian Migrant Workers. sent to work in Saudi Arabia. Until 2019, the total number of TKI working in Saudi Arabia according to the Central Bureau of Statistics was 7,018 people. More than 50% of TKI sent abroad are Indonesian Citizens (WNI) who are female or are called Female Workers (TKW).

There have been several previous studies that discussed the topic of migration of Indonesian Migrant Workers (TKI) which were influenced by the phenomenon of globalization, especially related to the phenomenon of feminization of migration of Indonesian women workers. Haryono (2017) in his research journal entitled 'Globalization and Migration of Indonesian Migrant Workers (Descriptive Study of Population Sociology)', seeks to analyze how globalization affects the phenomenon of migration of Indonesian workers abroad, especially its effect on population mobility. Haryono attempts to explain the phenomenon that occurs through the concept of globalization and migration theories supported by the concept of population mobility which further clarifies the supporting factors for the phenomenon of migration of Indonesian Migrant Workers abroad. Through his research, it was found that the phenomenon of globalization has increased the intensity of the mobility of the world's population due to the ease of access offered, especially to market openness, intensification of relations between countries due to geographical boundaries. In addition, the increase in the rate of migration of Indonesian workers abroad is also driven by push and pull factors, as well as factors that influence the decision to migrate.

Haning Romdiati also explained in a research he wrote in 2015 entitled 'Globalization of Migration and the Role of Diaspora: A Literary Study', trying to examine how globalization of migration can play a role in efforts to strengthen the role of diaspora, as well as to find out the contribution of diaspora to countries of origin amidst trends the phenomenon of international migration. Discussion analysis focused on the role of the diaspora in the country of origin, has shown that the phenomenon of accelerating international migration flows is part of the globalization phenomenon which also influences the strengthening of the role and distribution of diaspora networks (Romdiati, 2015). Also through his research, Haning (2015) examines diaspora through the perspective of population migration studies and the results of indicators of an increase in the number of international migrants shown by the data obtained. In addition, the writing concludes that the current international migration has made a beneficial contribution to the state by strengthening the role and contribution of the diaspora to their country of origin, especially in efforts to increase educated migrants which is the result of the phenomenon of accelerating globalization.

In addition to the two previous literatures, Dina Martiany conducted similar research, namely labor migration which was examined through a gender perspective entitled 'The Phenomenon of Indonesian Migrant Workers: Feminization of Migration' in 2013. In her research, the analysis focused on the complexity of the problems and vulnerabilities faced by woman migrant workers involved in the phenomenon of feminizing migration (Martiany, 2013). The author attempts to examine the policy of handling problems in the phenomenon of migrant workers through a gender perspective in the concept of migration. The results found that the phenomenon of labor migration still neglects women's rights and gender equality, especially in efforts to deal with problems and protection policies for Indonesian female migrant workers.

Based on the literature that discusses the phenomenon of globalization of migration and the interrelationship of gender roles in labor migration, previous research has tended to emphasize the analysis of only one phenomenon, such as the influence of globalization on labor migration, as well as the analysis of the problems posed by the phenomenon of migrant workers. There is no research that discusses the linkages between the phenomenon of globalization of migration and gender roles in the flow of Indonesian migrant workers abroad, with specifics on the migration of Indonesian Women Migrant Workers (TKW) to Saudi Arabia.

The increasing intensity of the mobility of the world's population that occurs due to the ease of access offered, especially to market openness, the intensification of relations between countries due to geographical boundaries, are factors that greatly support the migration flow of the world's population. The globalization phenomenon of migration of migrant workers to other countries, including Saudi Arabia, has given rise to various cases of neglecting women's rights and gender equality as well as the issue of protection policies for Indonesian female migrant workers. Globalization is also capable of making an issue in one place spread its information to other places so that the interactions and relationships that exist from one country to another, supported by technological advances, become tighter. In this case, the cases that happened to migrant workers working in Saudi Arabia could spread to the workers' country of origin, namely Indonesia. Thus, this research was structured based on the question of how the phenomenon of globalization of migration and gender roles are related to the flow of Indonesian migrant workers abroad, with the specifications for the migration of Indonesian Migrant Workers (TKW) to Saudi Arabia. To answer this question, the author will begin the research by explaining what globalization is, followed by how gender plays a role in the flow of Indonesian migrant workers abroad and how the connection and influence of the phenomenon of migration globalization and gender roles on the migration of Indonesian migrant workers to Saudi Arabia.

Method

This study used qualitative research methods. Qualitative research is a study that uses an approach or search in exploring and understanding a central phenomenon. These central symptoms can be understood through interviews or conducting searches through literature (Creswell, 2009). Qualitative research is inductively oriented and generalizes to theory. Epistemological orientation in qualitative research also uses interpretivism. In ontological orientation, qualitative research uses constructionism. Qualitative research can also be said to be a research strategy that emphasizes

explanations through words rather than calculations. Qualitative research emphasizes an inductive approach to the relationship between theory and research, rejects the practices and methods of natural science and positivism and sees social reality as something that will continuously emerge, and views it as an individual creation (Bryman, 2012). The author uses the case study method to analyze research problems sharply. The author also uses literature study techniques that use secondary data such as books, journal articles, reports from governments and international organizations and online news as reference sources.

Result And Disucssion

The Influence of Globalization on Migration Flows

If we want to discuss the influence of globalization on international migration flows, it is necessary to first understand what globalization means. According to Anthony Giddens, globalization is defined as the intensification of social relations around the world that are interconnected with each other in such a way that local events are shaped by events that occur many miles away and vice versa. Meanwhile, according to David Held, globalization is considered as a series of processes that bring about changes in the spatial organization of social relations and transactions that are assessed in terms of their breadth, intensity, speed, and impact resulting in cross-continental flows and networks of activity, interaction, and exercise of power. Through these two definitions, we can draw an understanding that globalization is a series of transformation processes through the intensification of social relations in all countries as well as interactions across continents or between regions to form a network of activities that connect and impact one another.

To understand globalization further, we will discuss four different characteristics of the phenomenon of globalization, the first of which is globalization related to the renewal and multiplication of existing social networks and activities where these increasingly transcend political, economic, cultural and geographical boundaries, traditional. Second, the quality of globalization can be described in the expansion and widening of social relations and interdependencies. Third, globalization results in an intensification and acceleration of social exchanges and activities. Finally, the creation, expansion and intensification of social interconnection and interdependence does not occur only at an objective material level. Globalization therefore refers to a series of multidimensional social processes that encourage the creation, multiplication, stretching and intensification of social interdependence and exchange around the world, while at the same time encouraging the growth of awareness within human beings to deepen the relationship between the local and the distant.

The era of globalization, which can be felt by the growing sophistication of information and communication technology, continues to strive to make it easier for humans to carry out their various activities. The convenience offered by technological sophistication in obtaining various information on the internet and social media supports us to know various things or the latest information around the world in a relatively short time. Starting from the latest news, information on education, health, politics, tourist attractions, to job vacancies in a country, we can get it easily. This proves that globalization makes things global. We can feel globalization through the existence

of social media which is able to 'introduce' us to foreigners who are far outside our country online (in the network) so that it can support the expansion of the network or networks that we have. Through this, we can also find out more things that we could not know before, such as how social life and the standard of living of people from other countries are. Globalization has increased the possibility of taking advantage of differences and opportunities across countries which are incentives for people to improve their lives (Deere et al., 2012).

Currently, social media is often used as a means to promote products or services offered by companies or workplaces. Starting from Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tiktok, and other social media can be used actively and effectively as promotional media. However, they are not limited to mass media such as television, radio, newspapers or magazines as the only promotional media. This happens because social media with a wider scope is able to disseminate information to various groups of people more easily and in a more targeted manner. Promotions carried out are not only related to company products or services but information on job vacancies and so on.

Globalization has had a considerable impact on changes in the international world in various aspects, ranging from social, cultural, political, economic, and so on. Globalization can be felt from the relations that exist between countries in the world and the emergence of interdependence between state and non-state actors on an international scale. One example of globalization besides the emergence of sophistication of communication technology is the occurrence of international trade. The term "globalization" came into popular use in the second half of the 1980s in connection with a large surge in foreign direct investment (FDI) by multinational companies (Gilpin, 2001). In addition, the existence of export-import and trade activities as well as cooperation between countries has also proven that national boundaries are increasingly fading. Since the end of the Cold War, globalization has become the most prominent feature of international economic affairs and, to a certain extent, political affairs (Gilpin, 2001).

Meanwhile, globalization has supported the progress of international transportation so that at this time we can travel from one country to another, even with long distances, by using land, sea or air transportation. Travel across national borders can be reached in a relatively short time with available transportation. People can easily travel abroad and within the country just for a vacation to find a job to get a more decent or better life. The existence of transportation that is able to facilitate people's mobility will certainly further support the increasing number of population movements that occur from one country to another, or what we call migration. In the contemporary era, human movement is marked by not only the increasing number of cross-border human migration, but also the growing significance of migration within economically, socially, culturally and politically (Castles and Miller 2009 in Heywood, 2011). Globalization provides the context in which international migration has increased, especially since the 1980s. Certain aspects of globalization have been particularly prominent in accelerating the movement of labor. First, major changes in technology and communication have contributed to the dissemination of information and have influenced people's perceptions of life choices. Knowledge about living standards and social conditions in different countries is increasingly available, especially through travel; real and symbolic reductions in time and distance have created strong incentives for people to move (Deere et al., 2012).

Gender Inequality

Gender roles will always be one of the most important components in migration flows, especially the role of women and international migration. According to the United Nations Population Division, since 2000 or since entering the 21st century they estimate that 49 percent of all international migrants are women including girls, where this percentage will continue to increase every year. Globalization, demographic shifts and a shortage of skills and labor in many countries have accelerated migration flows, especially the rate of migration from third world countries to first world countries. In this case, women migrant workers play a quite crucial role in the labor market, especially in making a significant contribution to the economy and society in receiving countries. Most women who migrate move voluntarily, but often women and even girls migrate forced to leave their country as an effort to escape and save themselves from various situations such as conflict, persecution, economic pressure, environmental degradation, natural disasters or other situations. that affect security and livelihoods.

In addition, gender inequality is another strong factor that causes the phenomenon of migration, namely when women face situations of inability to achieve certain expectations such as economic, political and social expectations that cannot be realized in their country of origin. These limitations also influence women to migrate, namely when they are faced with situations or policies in their countries of origin that discriminate against women, such as by limiting their access to educational resources or opportunities, hindering participation and reducing women's capacity to participate, and contribute fully to society. Inequalities in migration are seen globally, where the majority of migrating women tend to be categorized as unskilled migrants (low skilled migrants) and are placed in the informal sector as domestic workers, in the manufacturing sector and in the agricultural sector with work contracts that tend to be temporary and uncertain which are often become a source of instability and anxiety for migrant women. So the practice of gender inequality, class relations and citizenship status is still a serious obstacle for the government and stakeholders in realizing justice for women migrant workers.

Feminization of Migration

Changes in the global labor market caused by the accelerated flow of trade and industry as a result of globalization, have increased the number of female workers, especially the massive demand for cheap female labor from poor countries to meet the increasing demand for services in rich countries. The independent migration of women from men is referred to as "feminization of migration" and this is often associated with the phenomenon of "feminization of poverty" due to the increasing impoverishment of women and children due to severe economic instability in several developing countries and is known as south-south migration (Gouws, 2007).

According to the European Institute of Gender Equality, the phenomenon of feminization and gender balance in labor migration flows has been occurring for a long time or at least the last three decades with three main underlying reasons (Paiewonsky, 2009). First, the demand for labor, especially for developed countries, they tend to be selective in supporting jobs that are usually filled by women, for example in the informal sector and health care. Second, changes in gender relations in several countries of origin have given women more freedom to work and to migrate in

larger numbers than before. Third, there has been a growth in women's migration for domestic work, as well as organized migration in marriage and trafficking of women into the prostitution industry.

Although women have benefited from the growth in international trade and the effects of globalization which have increased women's participation in paid employment, the feminization of migration has also been linked to worsening working conditions which has also led to the feminization of poverty and the development of greater migration by women, with women experiencing more double danger of experiencing more intense discrimination and various forms of inequality than male migrants. Similar to the refugee crisis, social and political instability is often the reason for female migrants to undertake transnational travel (Lie & Dewi, 2020). The phenomenon of migration has also attracted women into the regime of transnational relations which link their country of origin with the receiving country, especially in relation to the expansion and internationalization of the capitalist mode of production. As the demand for cheap labor grew in the North, people from the South migrated in hopes of finding decent jobs to improve their standard of living (Gouws, 2007).

In Indonesia, an increase in the phenomenon of migration by women has occurred since the 1980s. This is driven by the increasing influence of globalization, in which women in migrant receiving countries tend to choose to descend into the public sphere resulting in increased demand from migrant destination countries for services in the domestic sphere. Migrant women see this as an opportunity to improve the standard of living of their families in their countries of origin, while tending to ignore the vulnerabilities that might occur. For informal workers, they do not realize that their position in the employer's house will lock their access to freedom by allowing double discrimination such as harassment, rape, assault which cannot be seen or even cannot be monitored by the authorities. Also, many of the women who decide to migrate to find work in the informal sector are underage and have little knowledge of their rights to protection.

Highlighting the phenomenon of migration carried out by Indonesian Women Workers (TKW) to Saudi Arabia, even though the Middle East region is the prima donna of the morning for TKW who are looking for a decent living through the informal sector, in fact Saudi Arabia has a sad record of high cases of violence perpetrated by employers, to the household assistant. According to a recap of report notes released by BBC Indonesia, hundreds of Indonesian women workers working in the non-formal sector in Saudi Arabia were reported missing, with many of them missing for decades without news and identities that could be traced. Migrants are forced to submit to a binding 'Kafalah' system, especially for domestic workers. This system places migrant workers to obey their employers by being bound by a predetermined contract and they cannot travel anywhere if their employers do not give permission (BBC, 2021). In addition, many employers use this system as a means to exploit workers by not giving them a decent life, not paying them wages, forbidding them to communicate with their families and forbidding them from returning to their country of origin by withholding their documents. This shows that there are still many problems and a lack of protection that lead to violations of the rights of Indonesian women migrant workers abroad.

Discussion

The Impact of Globalization on Migration Flows of Indonesian Female Migrant Workers to Saudi Arabia

Table 1. Placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers (2017-2019)

No.	Sector	2017	2018	2019
1	Formal	118.830	113.640	133.993
2	Informal	144.069	150.000	142.560
	Total	262.899	283,640	276.553
No.	Gender	2017	2018	2019
1	Male	78.259	84.666	85.316
2	Female	184.640	198.974	191.237
	Total	262.899	283.640	276.533
	Total	262.899	283.640	276.

Source: BNP2TKI

Globalization has demonstrated the fact of the huge role it plays in labor migration flows around the world. Since the twentieth century, there has been a significant increase in the number of women migrating workers worldwide. This increase resulted in a sizeable increase in the overall number of female immigrants. The current migration of female workers has touched all forms of industry, including the construction and heavy equipment industries. With an increase in the number of industries, the number of migration flows of female workers is also increasing. This happens because of the need, especially in social and economic aspects (Sharpe, 2001). The impact of globalization can also be seen in the flow of labor migration, especially Indonesian women workers (TKW) abroad.

According to data from the Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency/BNP2TKI (Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency, 2020), it shows data on Indonesian immigrant workers based on gender for the 2017-2019 period where the number of female workers is far greater than that of men. The data shows that there has been an increase in the number of Indonesian migrant workers abroad, although it experienced a slight decrease in 2019. Based on the data above, it can also be seen that of the total Indonesian migrant workers, 69.15% of them are female workers. In addition, the data also shows that Saudi Arabia is one of the largest receiving countries for migrant workers from Indonesia. Saudi Arabia is behind Malaysia, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore, which are also countries that receive the most migrant workers from Indonesia (Kompas, 2020).

Even though based on data on the number of female workers working abroad shows a decline, the number still shows a larger number than men. This is motivated by the greater employment opportunities given to women than men because women can be employed in the nonformal sector such as household assistants, babysitters, and so on. Costs and wages for female workers also tend to be cheaper than male workers. The background of the high number of employment opportunities for Indonesian migrant workers is the rapid development, especially in terms of the economy in the destination country. In the case of Indonesian women workers, even though they earn low wages in destination countries, these wages are still relatively higher than

the wages they earn in their areas of origin, so this is a pull factor in the flow of migration of Indonesian women workers, especially to Saudi Arabia. Indonesian migrant workers also have several other considerations in terms of finding work abroad and choosing which country to become the destination country. As well as economic reasons which are motivated by push factors from the place of origin and pull factors from the country of destination and also the position of women in the household indicating the existence of non-economic considerations in making the decision. Even so, until now workers from Indonesia are still relied upon for jobs that utilize workers with low education and low skills such as domestic workers, babysitters, and parents' caretakers (Raharto, 2017).

Based on other data, the number of immigrant workers from Indonesia in Saudi Arabia has reached 1.5 million people. Based on official data released by the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration in 2010, the total number of Indonesian migrant workers abroad reached 2,679,536 people. Where Saudi Arabia along with other countries from the Middle East are the countries that receive the most migrant workers, such as Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar (Detikcom, 2011).

Based on the various data above, it is shown that there are many positive things to be gained from globalization, such as opening doors for migrant workers in order to get jobs and improve life in destination countries. Even so, the phenomenon of labor migration does not always have a positive impact. There is also a negative impact from the flow of Indonesian labor migration, namely how there are various cases of violence and crimes that occur in the destination country, in this case, Saudi Arabia. Various cases of violence that befell Indonesian migrant women workers in Saudi Arabia continue to occur. Cases such as the torture that was perpetrated on a female worker (TKW) from Cianjur who received serious injuries as a result of torture from her employer (Selamet, 2021), to the treatment of sexual violence are often experienced by Indonesian migrant workers in Saudi Arabia (harianjogja.com, 2018). This further emphasizes the negative impact of migration globalization, especially on aspects of human security and human rights. Another thing that also has a negative impact on the flow of labor migration as a result of globalization is how this migration seems to have eliminated national borders so that various illegal immigrants have appeared to enter the destination country. This is certainly detrimental and will cause various new problems for the destination country, in this case Saudi Arabia because it can increase the level of poverty to the level of crime in their country. The government of Saudi Arabia is also trying to crack down on the perpetrators of these illegal immigrants (BBC Indonesia, 2013). Thus, it can be said that globalization is like two sides that have positive and negative sides that will consciously influence the country.

Conclusion

Globalization can be said to have had a significant impact on changes in the international world, especially in the social, cultural, political and economic aspects. Globalization that has supported the development of information and communication technology has increasingly influenced people's perceptions of life choices. In addition, globalization also has an impact on the progress of international transportation so that at this time we can mobilize between countries, even with long distances. People can easily travel outside and within the country just for a vacation

to find a job to get a more decent life. The existence of transportation that is able to facilitate people's mobility will certainly further support the increase in migration rates. Discussing migration, gender roles will always be one of the most important components in migration flows, especially the role of women in international migration. Women migrant workers play a quite crucial role in the labor market, especially in making a significant contribution to the economy and society in receiving countries. Gender inequality is a strong factor that causes the phenomenon of migration, namely when women face situations of inability to achieve certain expectations such as economic, political and social expectations that cannot be realized in their country of origin. In addition, changes in the global labor market caused by the acceleration of trade and industrial flows as a result of globalization have increased the number of female workers. Although women have benefited from the growth of international trade and the effects of globalization which have increased women's participation in paid work, the feminization of migration has also been linked to worsening working conditions which has also led to the feminization of poverty and the development of greater migration by women, with women being more vulnerable, against the double danger of experiencing more intense discrimination and various forms of inequality than male migrants.

Currently, the number of female migrants has reached half of the global migrant population. With an increase in industrial activity, the number of migration flows of female workers is also increasing. This happens because of the need, especially in social and economic aspects. Through the various data above it is shown that there are many positive sides to be gained from the influence of globalization such as open access for migrant workers to get jobs and improve life in destination countries. Even so, the phenomenon of labor migration does not always have a positive impact. There are also negative impacts from the flow of labor migration, such as the occurrence of various cases of violence and crimes against female workers, especially against Indonesian women workers in Saudi Arabia.

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