

histories unbounded

**SELECTED PAPERS OF
THIRD KERALA HISTORY CONGRESS**

**GENERAL EDITOR
T MUHAMMEDALI**



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'Histories Unbounded' brings forth a collection of research articles which offers a semblance of what is happening in the frontiers of historical writing particularly on Kerala. An outcome of the third session of Kerala History Congress held at Farook College in December 2017, this volume constitutes the papers of the renowned historians, promising scholars and research students. Resonating the embryonic trends in the regime of historiography, the collection contains papers that spread out positivist factography, endeavour critical historiography and experiment with cutting edge methodologies that bend to blur the boundaries of the regime. With a commendable pick of readings on power, spatialities, body, community and environment this volume could be a destination for meaningful reading.

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General Editor
T. Muhammedali



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Gulf Migration and Malayalam Cinema

Ms. Jincy S. R.*

The increased income of Gulf countries earned from high oil prices in the early 1970s and the lack of skilled labours in the industrial sector, necessitated large number of employment opportunities in the Middle East countries, which accelerated the Gulf migration by 1970s. Among the migrants from India, a sizeable number were from Kerala especially from northern part (Malappuram, Kozhikodu, Kannur and Kasargode). The migrations begin by 1970s reached its peak with a mass migration by 1980s and 1990s. This Gulf migration was different from that of the earlier other migrations (like inter-state and migrations to Ceylon, Malaysia, Singapore, U.S.A. etc.). The large scale migration to the Middle East countries resulted in unprecedented socio-economic changes in Kerala.

The basic motivation for migration is predominantly economic considerations. People move out of the state in search of better employment opportunities, higher income and economic security, with the hope of raising resources for improving the standard of living of their and their families¹. The demographic factors like high population growth rates and high population density considered as the one of the major cause for unemployment as well as migration. Thus the migration is a reaction to the increasing population pressure in the state.

Kerala has been very successful in developing the social opportunities related to education, health care, social security etc. but it failed to create income generating employment opportunities within the state. As a result the people of Kerala have been much more inclined to make use of economic opportunities outside the state than at home².

Migration has played a vital role in the socio-economic and political changes in Kerala in the last four decades. Gulf migration has a very significant impact on the size and structure of families. In the case of Gulf migration, men migrate than women to support their families. Thus in many families, married women are left back at home to shoulder

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