

CAUSES & CONSEQUENCES OF URBANIZATION: A CASE STUDY OF BANGALORE METROPOLITAN CITY

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Abstract

Urbanization has become a common feature of Indian society. It is an interesting aspect that not only cities are growing in number but rural community is adopting urban culture, no longer rural communities are retaining their unique rural culture. Rural people are following the material culture of urban people. Urban rural transformation can be observed in the several areas. Growth of Industries has contributed to the growth of cities. The Bangalore Metropolitan Region situated between $12^{\circ} 14' 16''$ to $13^{\circ} 30' 26''$ north latitude & $77^{\circ} 2' 51''$ to $77^{\circ} 57' 45''$ east longitude. The total geographical area of Bangalore Metropolitan Region is 8005 sq Km. The selected study concentrated on two objectives as follows: To know the causes and effect of Urbanization. To know the urbanization in Bangalore. The current study attempts to identify the determinants that have brought about the changes with respect to urbanization of Bangalore.

Key words: Urbanization, Pollution, Industrialization.

Introduction

Urbanization has become a common feature of Indian society. Growth of Industries has contributed to the growth of cities. As a result of industrialization people have started moving towards the industrial areas in search of employment. This has resulted in the growth of towns and cities. Urbanization refers to migration of humans from rural areas to a particular region in view of its large infrastructure, job opportunities and potential skill development and also can be defined as a process of concentration of population in a particular territory. According to Mitchell urbanization is a process of conversion of a territory to urban area by built up of facilities, changing land-use by changing from agriculture to other activities common to cities. Urbanization denotes a diffusion of the influence of urban centers to more rural areas and there by conversion of those areas to urban agglomerations. Thus urbanization to : Urbanization is a process – concentration of people and activities into areas classified as urban. It is an index of transformation from traditional rural economies to modern industrial one.

Study Area

The study region lies in the southern maiden region of the state and is by and large an open country which is lacking in natural barriers. Bangalore metropolitan region bounded on the north by Chikkaballapura district; on the east Tumukr & Mandya district; on the south Mandya & Chamarajanaraga district; on the west Kolar & Tamil Nadu states; The Bangalore Metropolitan Region situated between $12^{\circ} 14' 16''$ to $13^{\circ} 30' 26''$ north latitude & $77^{\circ} 2' 51''$ to $77^{\circ} 57' 45''$ east longitude. The total geographical area of Bangalore Metropolitan Region is 8005 sq Km.

Objectives

The selected study concentrated on two objectives as follows: To know the causes and effect of Urbanization. To know the urbanization in Bangalore.

Methodology

The current study attempts to identify the determinants that have brought about the changes with respect to urbanization of Bangalore. The city's historical and current land-use maps were prepared using AutoCAD ver. 2010. The transformations were examined alongside the stages of urbanisation from the times of the city's 'founder' - Kempe Gowda, to the various phases of development through Tipu Sultan's regime, the British rule, Pre-independence struggle, Post-independence bloom, the era of Industrial revolution and the current decades of IT & BT revolution.

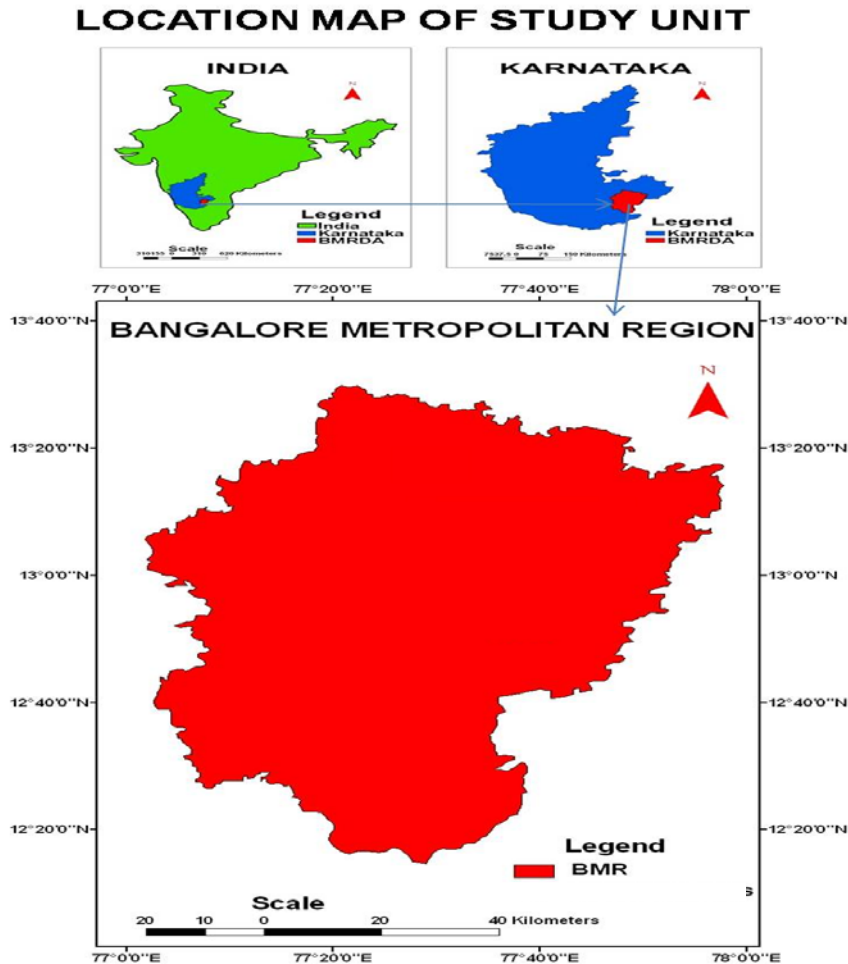


Figure 1. Location map of study unit.

Features of Urbanization in India

India after independence has grown by leaps and bounds through large scale industrialisation, manufacturing, agriculture etc. This has led to development of several

urban centres such as Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad etc. The rapid growth of these population centres with insufficient infrastructure and resources have led to several issues such as: Unequal urbanization - growth of class I cities. Occurs without industrialization and strong economic base. Mainly a product of demographic explosion and poverty led rural-urban migration. Rapid urbanization leads to massive growth of slum followed by misery, poverty, unemployment, exploitation, inequalities, degradation in the quality of urban life. Urbanization occurs not due to urban pull but due to rural push. Poor quality of rural-urban migration leads to poor quality of urbanization. Distress migration initiates urban decay.

Factors of Urbanization

The urbanization is initiated with the inflow of capital funds and migration of rural human resources to an area or region where natural resources are available and certain infrastructure such as transport, communication, education facilities are available. The main factors leading to urban development are: Industrial growth, Trade and Commerce Employment opportunities Increased amenities – education, health.

Causes of Urbanization

The development of nations through use of industrialisation, science applications, new job opportunities etc. have led to emergence of several urban centres in the world. Several such urban centres have grown to mega cities. The various reasons have led to the growth of cities. They are as follows:

Employment opportunities

In rural sector people have to depend mainly on agriculture for their livelihood. But Indian agriculture is depending on monsoon. In drought situations or natural calamities, rural people have to migrate to cities.

Social factors

Many social factors such as attraction of cities, better standard of living, better educational facilities, need for status also induce people to migrate to cities.

Industrialization

Industrialization is a major cause of urbanization. It has expanded the employment opportunities. Rural people have migrated to cities on account of better employment opportunities.

Rural urban transformation

It is an interesting aspect that not only cities are growing in number but rural community is adopting urban culture, no longer rural communities are retaining their unique rural culture. Rural people are following the material culture of urban people. Urban rural transformation can be observed in the following areas.

Modernization Urban areas are characterized by sophisticated technology better infrastructure, communication, medical facilities, etc. People feel that they can lead a comfortable life in cities and migrate to cities. There has been considerable structural transformation in developing countries during the post globalization era. There is a substantial reduction in agriculture along with a rapid increase in industrialization & urbanization. Forests and wetlands (hotspots of bio-diversity) have been reduced and degraded/., Indiscriminate discharge of wastes into water bodies has damaged the environment with enormous and sometimes irreversible impact. Inadequate water and sanitation facilities, housing system such as ineffective waste disposal facilities struggle to support growing population. Hotels, including small eateries & darshinis in Bangalore City along generate

around 750 tones of waste every day. This is further complicated by factors associated with city living, increased water, air and industrial pollution, not to mention the surge in crimes like alcohol and drug abuse, tobacco use, unhealthy diet and lack of exercise.

Urbanization trends across the globe

Post World War II, the countries across the globe had rapid growth due to scientific innovations, industrialization and large scale growth of demands for food, health products and amenities. The various aspects of this growth are: One of the most significant of all post-war demographic phenomena & the one that promises to loom even larger in the future is the rapid growth of cities in developing countries. One of the most significant demographic development during post-war period is rapid growth of cities in developing countries. Cities are expected to grow faster with emergence of many mega cities. Largest urban will take place in India, China & Nigeria. By 2050 India is projected to add 440.4 million urban dwellers. 404 million to urban areas, China 292 million and Nigeria 212 million. The World's urban population is expected to surpass 6 billion 2045. Much of the expected urban growth will take place in countries of developing regions, (particularly Africa). As a result these countries will face numerous challenges in meeting the needs of their growing urban populations, including for housing, infrastructure, transportation, energy & employment as well as for basic sources such as education and health care. Managing urban areas has become one of the most important development challenges of the 21st century. By 2050, 66% of the world's population will live in urban areas. Close to half of the world's urban dwellers reside in relatively small settlements, while only around 1/8 live in the 28 mega-cities with more than 10 million inhabitants.

Effects of Urbanization

With a high rate of urbanization significant changes have taken place. There are positive and negative effects of urbanization. Let us review the effects and impacts of urban development. The positive effects of urbanization can be summed up as :

Positive effect:

Employment opportunities in urban centers. Migration of rural people to urban areas. Educational facilities. Increase in the standard of living. Transport and communication facilities.

Urbanization can yield positive effects only if it takes place up with in desirable limits. Indiscriminate growth of cities and extensive urbanization will result in adverse effects on environment and quality of life besides crunch in essential resources such as water, food and air.

Negative effect

Cost of living: High cost of living is a major problem of cities. In Metro cities like Mumbai, Bangalore etc. it is very difficult for lower income groups to maintain a decent standard of living.

Disintegration of Joint family: Joint family can't be maintained in cities on account of high cost of living: People prefer to live in the nuclear type of families.

Problem of over population: Concentration of population is a major problem of cities. It has resulted in accommodation problem, growth of slums etc.

Impersonal relations: Urban centers are characterized by highly secondary relations. The concept of neighborhood, community life are almost absent in cities. Urban life is highly monotonous. This may have an adverse psychological effect on individuals. People are often self centered and they have no concern for the fellow human beings.

Increase in Crime rates: Urban centers are known for high rate of crimes. Theft, Dacoit, Murder, Cheating, Pick pocketing, rape etc. are common in urban centers.

Stress: Urban life is characterized by stress which may even strain family relations. In cities employment of women is almost inevitable to meet the increasing cost of living. Changing role of women in the family creates stress in the family which may result in divorce or strained relations.

Problem of Pollution: In industrialized cities pollution is a major problems. It may be caused by industries or by excessive movement of vehicles. Thus urbanization has its own positive and negative impacts leading to severe stress on a large part of the population. By suitable application of scientific planning and solutions the negative impacts can be reduced.

Result & Discussion

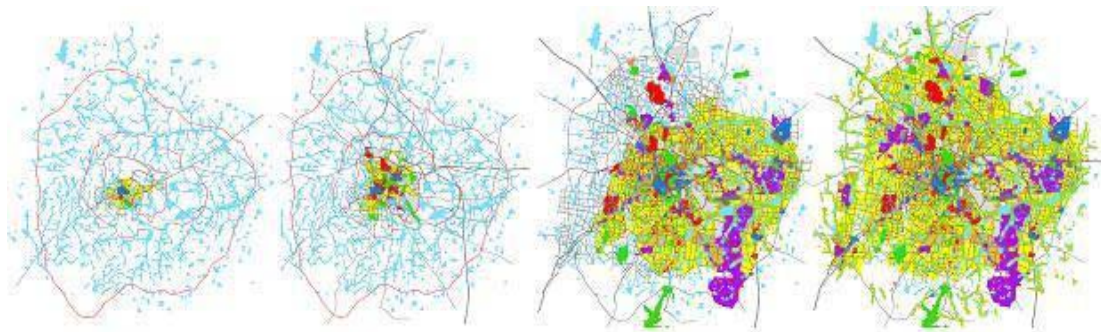


Figure 2. 1537-1799

1800-1947

1960-1980

1980-2010

As per the gazetteer, the city was founded by an agricultural chieftain Kempe Gowda-I in 1537 AD. The farsighted founder dotted the city with numerous tanks in and around its limits (figure 1), to ensure that its citizens would always have abundant water to drink, irrigate their lands and for secondary purposes. The settlements happened along the ridges, and a series of tanks were built in accordance with the natural valley systems. Centuries later, Nawab Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, planned Bangalore as a vacation town with the Summer Palace and Lal-bagh. This complimented the 'Pettah' area to the north of the Fort, a mixed development with commercial and residential land-use (Uday, 2004).

During the British rule, the city had more tanks (Maya, 1997) with its urban fabric reflecting a city with two centres (the old city and cantonment) leading to a radical shift in economic, political & social structure of the city, accompanied by British colonial control. The Fort area (Pettah/City Market) developed parallel with the Cantonment area (General Bazaar/ commercial street and its surrounding areas), conjoined by the Majestic area between them. Urban land-use was prone to change with many social and economic forces shaping them. Towards the end of the century, several extensions were added such as Seshadripuram, Chamarajpet, Malleshwaram, Basavanagudi, Richmond Town, Richards Town, Frazer Town, Cox Town, Gandhinagar etc. 1940 onwards, increasing land demands resulted in laying of recreational spaces over the dry tank-beds of parts of Ulsoor and Domlur tank, Dharmabuddhi, Shule and Sampangi tank. Koramangala tank was completely breached to accommodate a vegetable garden (Shadia, nd). The above citations clearly indicate that the lakes have faced the consequences of Bangalore's urbanisation. The same is represented in the figure 2, where the water-cover is slowly displaced by other land-uses in the phased development of the city.

Demographic Growth of Bangalore

The growth of Bangalore from a town to metropolis has been a result of five growth events, Shifting of the state capital from Mysore. Establishment of the cantonment, Setting up public sector, Academic institutions. Development of textile industry and development of information technology/ ITES/ Biotechnology based industries.

The demographic growth of Bangalore can be categorized as three phases. These phases unit the economic activities and the resultant growth that occurred in population. Phase-I is the time period of 1860 to 1931, when military establishments were operational in Bangalore and there was a boom in textile industries. Phase-II is the time period of 1941 to 1971 when Bangalore was the state capital and military based industries were established, Period of 1971 to hitherto can be called as Phase-III. It is during this phase Bangalore had seen an unprecedented growth in all directions and by all means. There was a front role of software industries and services in the economy of the country and Bangalore became a back office for MNCs.

Table 1. Population growth in Bangalore city.

Census Year	Persons	Area in Sq. Km
1951	786343	65.86
1961	1206961	113.31
1971	1664208	177.30
1981	2921751	365.65
1991	4130288	455.91
2001	4397711	531
2011	8443675	709

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