Propositions

attached to the thesis

Continuity and Change: Migration and Development in India. The case of Bihar

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- 1. Labour migration is higher than what is estimated by official sources of data. *This Thesis*.
- 2. In rural Bihar, outmigration for work has increased across all social groups, primarily in response to labour demand in distant urban labour markets elsewhere in India. *This Thesis*.
- 3. Migration from rural Bihar remains male-dominated and circular. Migrants spend much of their adult lives in the city and eventually return to the village. The rural areas, thus, bear the cost of production and reproduction of migrant labour, thereby subsidising India's urban development. *This Thesis*.
- 4. While households with migrants experience large income gains, many migrants do not desire to work in urban labour markets. They prefer to live in the village if appropriate employment opportunities are available in the source region. *This Thesis*.
- 5. The subjective experiences of migrants and views of their family members of their migration are different from perspectives of the market and the state on the same migration. *This Thesis*.
- 6. The association between migration and development is diverse, context-specific, and cannot be generalised.
- 7. Migrants are not a homogenous category. Individual migration trajectories and migrant outcomes depend upon a combination of structural factors, migrants' own agency and the interplay between the two.
- 8. Development policy has a sedentary bias and an inherent paternalistic stance that rural people should remain in rural areas.
- 9. Multidisciplinary research is easier said than done.
- 10. Mixed methods approaches that combine quantitative and qualitative techniques can give both convergent and divergent results. Either way, this enriches the research process and results.
- 11. Longitudinal datasets can be a goldmine. And a landmine.