

اینستیتوت قشاجین اسیان



Associate Professor
Dr Md Mizanur Rahman

“Beyond Business Immigration: Development of New Immigrant Enterprises in Canada”

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IAS Meeting Room 2.27, Level 2, FASS Building

Abstract

The history and the economic development of Canada have been closely intertwined with immigrants and immigration. Canada's immigration policy can be broadly categorized into three programs: economic, family and humanitarian. Canada's skilled worker program is designed to attract those educated and experienced individuals from around the world who are eligible to integrate into Canada's labour market upon arrival. However, many skilled and other non-business-class immigrants do not find suitable jobs upon arrival in Canada. Some of them choose to open their own businesses and eventually transform themselves into entrepreneurs. Drawing on the experiences of selected new non-business-class immigrants, this paper examines how new immigrants reposition themselves from the rank of non-business-class immigrants to that of entrepreneurs in the settlement process. The paper reports that immigrant entrepreneurship is embedded within the dynamics of immigration trajectory and the broader factors on which this depends. Even though many new immigrants are driven towards the lower end of the economy, innovations have expanded the breadth and depth of their businesses and made their businesses different and rewarding.

Speaker's Profile



Md Mizanur Rahman is associate professor of sociology at the Institute of Asian Studies. His areas of research interest are migration policy, immigrant entrepreneurship, labour migration, migration and development, migrant remittances, migrant integration, and other related fields of international migration. His recent book examines international migration in Singapore (Springer, 2017). He is currently working on new immigrant entrepreneurship in North America. His research articles have appeared in leading international migration and population journals such as *International Migration*, *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, *Population, Space and Place*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, *Asia Europe Journal*, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, and *Asian Population Studies*. Four of his journal articles were ranked among the top ten cited and/or downloaded articles in impact factor journals. Dr Rahman is a member of Migration Research Leaders Syndicate for the 2018 Global Compact on Migration, organized by International Organization for Migration (IOM) – the UN Migration Agency - based in Geneva