

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

This study was an attempt to examine the nature of occupational, educational and income mobility of the Maranao respondents as compared to their fathers. Furthermore, this study determined whether there was an association in the occupational rank, educational attainment and income between the two groups.

Part of the emphasis in this research was to find out which factors, paternal or personal, significantly affected the occupational and educational attainment of the respondents, as well as the factors perceived by them to have the most influence on their occupational careers.

This study was conducted in Iligan City. The respondents included typical Maranao residents who are employed or unemployed and were chosen through random sampling. There were 414 respondents in this study.

The data-gathering technique used in this study was survey method, employing questionnaires/interview schedules. The interviews were conducted by this researcher and her research enumerators.

The major findings of this study are the following:

1. The mean age of the respondents is 35.36 years old. The data reveal that 60.38% of the cases are between ages 30 to 40 indicating that they are approaching their middle age.
2. Males comprise the majority (57.48%) of the respondents compared to the females, 45.52%.
3. About 85.02% of the respondents are married, 10.38% single, and 4.36% widowed or divorced.
4. There is a trend among the respondents to be living near the city's nucleus (54.83%). Those who are living a little farther from the city

comprise 23.19% of the total cases.

5. Around 75.61% of the respondents were born outside of Iligan City; 23.91% are Iliganons.

6. Respondents are mostly provincial migrants from Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur. About 52% of the respondents come from rural areas and 29.95% are from the urban areas.

7. On the average, the respondents have been in Iligan for 7.71 years suggesting that they are recent migrants to Iligan.

8. Around 92.76% of the respondents are "pure" Maranao and only 6.52% are mestizos.

9. Among the respondents, their sibling ranks are these: eldest children comprise 32.85% of the cases, middle-born constitute 50.73%, and youngest make 15.94%.

10. The respondents have about six to seven brothers and sisters ($\bar{X} = 6.4$). Some 56.28% of them have 6 siblings and below, while 30.92% have 7 or more.

11. On the average, the respondents have 3.80 children.

12. The mean age of the respondents' fathers is 63.5 which is about half of the mean age of the respondents (35.36).

13. The respondents' fathers are mostly rural dwellers (69.81%) rather than urban residents (25.84%), indicating their attachment to their own place and people.

14. Significantly, there is a trend among the Maranao children to enter the white collar and salaried professions as shown in their concentration in the upper occupational hierarchy. Comparably, their fathers are found in the lower occupational categories specifically in farming, fishing and trading/business.

15. One notable observation is the attraction of the respondents to business (market and sidewalk vendors) suggesting some amount of occupational inheritance among the children.

16. A notable occupational inheritance is highest among children whose parents are in trading, market and sidewalk business.

17. The overall findings show that the respondents are upwardly mobile in their career as indicated by their mean occupational prestige score in their first job (37.60) and their current job (40.08). However, there are also signs of both upward and downward career mobility of some

respondents where professional and technical workers have more upward moves than clerical and service professions.

18. There is a declining number of children engaged in fishing and farming suggesting an outflow from these occupational categories to other higher occupational brackets.

19. There is no statistical evidence that relates the respondents' current job with age and sex.

20. Concerning the respondents current job and income at first job, no statistical evidence has been shown that relates both variables.

21. The Chi-Square computations point out that the respondents' current job is related to their first job category, revealing that the higher is the category of the first job, the higher is their current job level.

22. It is also established that the respondents' current job is related to their current income. The higher is the respondents' current job, the higher also is their income.

23. Birth order is also associated with the respondents' current job. The eldest seem to be more upwardly mobile than the younger birth cohorts.

24. The current job of the respondents is preceded by the degree of educational they have obtained. The higher is their current job, the higher is the academic degree they have obtained.

25. Education is significantly related with age.

26. No significant relationship exists between education and sex. Males and females are both likely to be mobile occupationally and educationally.

27. Education is also related to the respondents' first job and current job. Education commands a substantial influence in obtaining for the respondents a higher occupational position. This pattern is suggested in the literature.

28. There is a significant relationship between income and education as reckoned from both the respondents' first and current job.

29. Eldest children tend to achieve higher education (67.9%), followed by the middle-borns (57.49%) and the youngest (46.15%). This pattern supports the common observation that the eldest are likely to be educationally favored.

30. Income comparison of the fathers and the respondents indicates that the children are upwardly mobile.

31. The income changes of the respondents' first job and their current job imply that the higher is the income in first job, the higher also is the income in current job.

32. The findings indicate that no significant relationship exists between income and birth order.

33. Maranaos in general still accord high premium to their family's lineage rank and to the lineage ranking system of their society. However, the respondents do not consider so much the influence of their lineage rank in their present occupation.

34. Parental factors do not account for the present occupational choices among children. The data pointed out that 57.73% of respondents chose their own occupations. However, 8.94% of the children admitted to being influenced by their parents.

35. A little over half (58.31%) of the children did not intend to follow their parents occupation and 43.24% expressed intention of following the occupation of parents.

36. There is an indication of the coexistence of both the meritocratic and ascriptive principles in the job attainment.

37. Family and kinship (17.39%) and friends (14.49%) are important factors responsible for the children's employment.

38. Lineage influence in the employment experiences of the children is confirmed by 32.61% of the respondents. The 58.45% of the cases consider other factors that led to their employment like qualification, promotion, personal initiative/effort, and others.

39. On the whole, the respondents indicated that obtaining a job is possible primarily through educational competence (57.25%), perseverance (25.85%), social connection (22%), luck/"swerte" (17.63%), bribery (9.42%), "utang na loob" (9.18%) and other factors like beauty and personality (11.59%).

Conclusions

Based on the findings, the following conclusions are stated:

1. There are differences between the occupation, education and income of the respondents and their fathers. Children have higher occupation, education and income compared to their fathers.

2. The negative relationships indicated between the fathers' occupation and their children, the father's education and their children, and the father's income with their children as shown in the tau, gamma and Chi-Square computations, lead to the compelling conclusion that paternal statuses are inversely associated with children's current occupational and educational attainments. Furthermore, of these three indices of mobility, education indicates the highest amount of mobility, followed by income and occupation. Personal status factors of children significantly affect their current occupation, namely: occupational level in their job, current income and degree obtained.

3. Age, sex and income in the first job are not significantly related to the respondents' current job.

4. Some personal status factors of children are significantly related to their current educational attainment, namely: age, occupational levels in their first and current jobs, income of the respondents in their first and current jobs, birth order (showing the eldest as more educationally mobile than the rest of the birth cohorts), and degree attainment.

5. Sex is not significantly related to the current educational attainment of children.

6. Despite the high premium the respondents give to the lineage rank of their family and the lineage ranking system of the Maranao society, lineage and parental factors show minimal influence in their occupational choices. They confirm that personal decisions are responsible for their career destinations. This negates the assumption that nobility status could be preserved or improved through parental influences on children's career choices. The ascriptive nature of the Maranao stratification system exists independently of the class system of modern society. Occupational and educational attainment of children do not reinforce their nobility status. The absence or presence of nobility status among children, likewise, is not compensated by their social achievements.

Implications

Theoretical Implications

One of the theoretical implications of this research is the strong link between educational attainment and occupational ranks in obtaining upward mobility. This connection has already been established by the literature and is further supported by data from this study.

The presence of upward and downward mobility among the Maranao children in this study corroborates the contention of Lipset and Zetterberg (1966) that vertical mobility is present across societies. This also confirms Sorokin's (1927) proposition that no society is entirely closed since social mobility is always found everywhere.

The suggestion of Warriner (1975) needs to be considered further regarding the absence of the social class notion in the Maranao society because what exists is the descent ranking among families. Although there are suggestions of non-complimentary nature of the lineage ranking system and status achievement in occupation among children, a more focused study should be done along this dimension.

There is a need to recast the assumption of Blau and Duncan (1967) regarding the relationship of extreme sibling position and educational as well as occupational mobility. It must be noted that only the upward occupational and educational mobility of the eldest is confirmed here. In this study, the youngest tend to lag behind occupationally and educationally among the three sibling cohorts.

Data from this study seem to point out that migration is a factor associated with mobility since the respondents are mostly (75.61%) migrants to Iligan City. This pattern supports Blau and Duncan's (1967) findings regarding selective migration and mobility.

Practical Implications

Political Implications

Education is a potent force in the occupational participation of an ethnic group. Educational institution as a formal agency of cultural integration could be a vital instrument in infusing political policies directed towards encouraging more participation of the ethnic groups in the various

affairs of the government. The educational system could serve as a tool for curbing Muslim-Christian conflict in Mindanao as well as the strengthening of the principle of Filipino nationhood.

At present, attempts to integrate the Muslim minority is mostly an initiative shouldered by the government through its affirmative actions. Ethnic discrimination in the private sector employment remains an unattended issue.

Educational Implication

The positive attitudinal change of parents towards the educational system of the majority group is manifested in the increased proportion of educated children among Muslims. However, there seems to be a benign neglect in the educational system of the Muslims (Madrasah schools) on the part of the government. The curricular offerings of the Madrasah, though in few instances accredited, are generally not in conjunction with the curricular offerings of the majority's educational system. Graduates of the Madaris (plural of the Madrasah schools) could not easily market their training and skills. They would just end up as Madrasah teachers with a meager salary.

Occupational Implications

The Maranaos are represented in the upper and the lower occupational brackets. In the upper job categories, they enter in the professional and salaried occupations. In the lower level job categories, they end up as merchants, traders and businessmen. In many instances, they cannot escape the age-old prejudice and discrimination against them by the majority.

Family Implications

The observed differences in the occupational and educational mobility of the various birth cohorts is rooted in the economic priorities the parents make known to the children. Family expectation as well as socialization may give rise to this phenomenon. However, whatever explanations there might be, one cannot dismiss the complex factors of economic, cultural, parental and children influence coming into play.

Recommendations

For Theory and Research

1. For further research, it is recommended that other Muslim groups be studied to compare patterns of mobility among them.
2. There are several variables which are not controlled in this study which could explain the mobility variations among Maranao families. Further research may include class effects on mobility, family size, educational climate at home and migration.
3. A more focused study on birth order and differences in mobility could highlight some of the possible cultural and economic factors behind the phenomenon.
4. Further research on social mobility among Maranaos may focus mainly on their descent ranking.

Policy Making

1. The government should evaluate and upgrade the state of Madrasah institution in the Philippines so it can be incorporated as part of the Philippine educational mainstream.
2. Sound measures should be implemented to institutionalize changes in the recruitment procedures that are discriminatory against the minority groups in the private sector. Equalizing job opportunities have important repercussions to mobility changes and general social stability.
3. Sectors (government or private) that hire minority groups should allow avenues for a healthy interaction of both groups so both could minimize if not eliminate their false notions (prejudice and discrimination) about each other.
4. Educational institutions should provide for an information system that dispels the prejudice and discrimination that Christians and Muslims have with one another.