

## **Diaspora and Globalization: A Potential Threat to the Malaysian Security**

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**Abstract:** The world conflict caused diaspora but diaspora has also triggered conflicts. The movement of diaspora is no more conservative where it used to be from developing countries to developed countries, now diaspora is moving towards developing countries. As a result of that the effect of diaspora is no more focused on developed countries alone but developing countries are also exposed to diaspora activities. One of the major effects from the movement of diaspora is a threat to the national security. A close analysis was done using data from secondary cases of diaspora movement in a few countries. Research result shows that evolution of globalization gives effects to the movement trends and diaspora activities and Malaysia has the environment to allow diaspora to operate actively.

**Key words:** Conflict, diaspora, globalization, security, Malaysia

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Despite world's veto powers claim that they are responsible of making sure world peace and conduct monitoring duties, world turmoil still continues. In the Middle East, the Arabian countries still struggle with internal politics in their respective countries. In Tunisia, the Jasmine Revolution witnessed the ruling of a dictator for 23 years before President Zine Abidine Ben Ali went down from the presidential seat and ran off to Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile in Egypt, the rise of the people caused President Hosni Mubarak to surrender his title and power. Same goes to Libya, the government of Muammar Gaddafi ended with his death. The phenomenon known as Arab Spring had spread to Syria, Yemen, Bahrain and Jordan. The rise of the people against the ruler of the respective countries was caused by problem, such as unemployment, bribery, misusing authority, dictatorship and many more. Even then although, the leaders of those countries were successfully brought down by the rise of the people, peace is still being searched for and seems to be very vague. The new ruler still fails to acquire peace as wanted by the people. In fact, the public has become a victim of conflict and few of them have escaped to other countries. The Norwegian Refugee Council an observatory body that observes refugee, reported conflict in Syria resulted in 230,000 people leaving the country. This total is part of the 830,000 refugees detected from the Arab Springs phenomenon.

The refugee problem not only occurred from the Arab Springs phenomenon. Other countries with conflicts have also contributed to the escalation of total number for refugees. United Nations High Commissioner for

Refugees (UNHCR) reported that conflict in Afghanistan has forced Pakistan to accommodate >1.7 million refugees and Pakistan is a country with the highest number of refugees in the world. The report also states that 3.5 million refugees were stateless in over 64 countries while over 876,100 refugees demanded for refugee states in a few developed countries. In 2011, South Africa received the highest number of applications, i.e., 107,000 followed by the United States of America (76,000) and France (52,100).

Even then lately, the movement trends of refugees have shown changes. If previously refugees migrated towards more developed countries compared to the country of origin, now the refugees are moving towards developing countries to search for a better life in terms of economy, politics and socially. In fact, this trend is said to have already existed since the 1990's, although rarely given attention to by the mass media and researches (Weiner, 1993). The South East Asia territory alone has 35-40 million residences crossing the international border each year. For a long time now, Malaysia has received the entrance of Indonesians and Philipinos looking for job opportunities.

As a result of that the migration of large amounts of people is no more a challenge to developed countries alone but also to developing countries. The US State Department of Trafficking in Persons Report June, 2009 accuses Malaysia for failing to handle refugee problem in South East Asia. What is worse is the fact that Malaysia is identified as the human trafficking transit point. The report has given negative effect to Malaysia and it has taken a few steps to handle those problems. Even then, a few foreign reports have mentioned that Malaysia has not

done enough in order to handle the refugee mobility problem and human trade. The United States of America has included Malaysia alongside Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Sudan, Syria and Qatar as countries that have human trafficking issues. In accordance with that putting aside classic stereotype of migration of refugees due to hunger, disease, poverty, lack of nutritious food, etc., this study discusses the refugee phenomenon (diaspora) in globalization era and its given effects and potential threat to the Malaysian security. This study's discussion focuses on finding the solution for three questions. Firstly, what is meant by diaspora and its relationship with globalisation? Secondly why is Malaysia, a developing country, able to attract the entrance of diaspora? Thirdly, how is diaspora able to give threat to the national security? This study justifies that Malaysia has an environment that is able to attract the entrance of diaspora and provide opportunities for diaspora to threaten the national security.

#### **DIASPORA AND GLOBALISATION**

Diaspora's concept is very wide and is used by many social scientists according to the suitability of respective fields. The usage of this concept is usually inter-changeably used with the concept of migration, refugee, exiles, ethnicity and minority (Lahneman, 2005). Socialologists and anthropologists for example, see diaspora as a group of humans living in foreign countries but still has cultural ties, enthusiasm and certain criteria and at the same time still have contact with those in their country of origin. Political scientist on the other hand has the opinion that diaspora refers to the people living in foreign countries but still believe or is believed to have their citizenship in their country of origin (Biswas, 2004). Columbia Encyclopedia refers to diaspora as the Jewish community who were forced to leave their holy land. The Jewish community were spread everywhere until they were finally given a country in 1948 that is Israel. Even then, the Jewish community still remains mainly in the European countries; such as Italy, Greece and in the Central and Eastern part of the continent.

Bharathi (2012) agrees with the definition given by Sheffer which refers to diaspora as socio-political formation, created as a result of either voluntary or forced migration whose members regard themselves as of the same ethno-national origin and who permanently reside as minorities in one or several host countries. Members of such entities maintain regular or occasional contacts with what they regard, as their homeland and with individuals and groups of the same background residing in other host countries.

The discussion regarding diaspora involves various perspective. Kenny (2003a, b) discussed the location of Irish diaspora in the American history. According to him, the Irish migrated to the US due to hunger problem in their homeland, i.e., Ireland. It is estimated that in 1840, the Irish community reached up to 45% of the total number of immigrants in the United States. Smith (1986) looked thoroughly into the Palestinian diaspora in terms of size of the citizens, economy and the social life of the people in other countries. In 1947, the Palestinians summed up to >3.0 million people and 70% of them lived in rural areas. Total 34 years later, the number of Palestinians reached up to 4.5 million people but 2.6 million lived outside the country, such as in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United States of America. Palmer (2000) discussed a few stages in the out movement African diaspora in their continent. Most of them moved out because of slavery system. Many reviewers have done studies and discussed about the Indian diaspora.

Bhat and Narayan (2010) studied about the Indian diaspora and its relationship with globalisation and international networking. Discussion also touches on numbers of Indian diaspora that reaches 20 million people in over 70 countries. The case studies on Chinese diaspora is also interesting because it attracts a lot of reviewers. The Guardian newspaper reported that Chinese diaspora has existed since the early 19th century. Today, the newspaper estimates that there are about half a million Chinese diasporas in Africa, 7 million in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. Over 1 million in Burma and Russia, 1.3 million in Peru, 3.3 million in the United States of America, 700 thousand in Australia and 400 thousand in the United Kingdom. The total Chinese diasporas in the world is nearly 40 million.

In the mean time, the term globalisation is most often used by many social scientists to explain closely the communication technology all over the world. There are writers that connect it with the spread of economic power, especially from the world's veto power, such as the United States of America and Japan. Some say that there are connections with the efforts from the world body such as International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank which organised the global market for the production of products and services. Since a couple of decades ago, globalisation has given a new paradigm to the evolution of technologies such as transportation, communication and microelectronic revolution (Bhat and Narayan, 2010). The evolution of transportation technology is not only about the release of faster, more extravagant new vehicle but also consists of the overall management of the human resources,

transportation, public transport system, ticket reservation, immigration, customs, etc. These components evolve into something more efficient and faster with the introduction of new technology. For example, purchasing ticket is now available online. Same goes with the process of getting passport stamped, they do not have to wait in long queues anymore, they can directly use electronic machines to record the entry of and exit out of countries. The transportation technology increases the production of various sources of human needs for the usage of all mankind (Rakyatigie, 2009). In global economic situations, the production of goods is no longer limited to domestic usage alone. Air, land and sea transportation technology facilities has give rise to the opportunities of producing goods for the usage of people all over the world. Therefore, a country that produces goods is able to export those goods to countries worldwide. This is because transportation technology reduces the cost of transportation from one place to another. As a result, a country is able to increase its export revenues, as well as import goods from other countries at a cheaper rate. At the same time, the importation of goods from overseas will be able to fulfill the country's domestic demands while increasing the citizen's living cost.

Globalisation process provides world class transportation infrastructure such as the building of airports and harbours. The building of such infrastructures is complete with computer systems and latest technology. In South East Asian region in the 1980-1990s decade, Singapore and Hong Kong harbours were very busy and had high reputation among international investors. The Singapore harbour in the 1990s managed to conquer 80% of the contenna traffic in South East Asia, whereas the Hong Kong harbour conquered 56% of the South East Asia's trading (Slack and Wang, 2002). Unfortunately with the current era of globalisation, situations haves changed. Now Malaysia has emerged as the leading competition to Singapore, Shanghai and Hong Kong harbours. The rise of Tanjung Pelepas harbour in Johor has given a little, if not more, pressure to Singapore harbour (Utusan Malaysia, 22 August, 2000). This evolution shows how the people's demands towards global goods have been increasing and there is a need for more infrastructures like harbours for ships to anchor.

Besides that the building of new airports is in need to support the increasing movement of humans who are more widely using air transportation as their mode of mobilization. In Hong Kong a new airport, known as Chek Lak Kop is now one of the ten busiest airports in the world. The Thai Government also made a decision to build a new airport to support the demands of consumers who are increasing rapidly. The Suwarnabumi airport is one of

the six busiest airports in Asia and in 2011 it handled up to 47.9 million passengers. Malaysia is not far off in increasing their transportation capacity. In 1998, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) was built and is now supporting >35 million passengers per year. This airport is the fifth busiest airport in Asia.

Globalisation has also increased the flow and spread of information, as well as change the way humans communicate. Today, human communication is no more separated by distance but rather the speed of sending and receiving information becomes the determinant in evaluating whether or not a communication is effective. Infrastructures such as the internet enables human communication determine whether or not it is effective. Infrastructures such as the internet enable human communication to overcome the barrier of geographic border and time. Human communication uses the telephone, email, fax, video conference, etc., via the internet. The communication tools are supported by infrastructures such as satellite and optic cable system. Satellites and optic cable systems are able to send information that is large in size, as well as at high speed. Internet allows humans to access information at a faster rate and more effectively. The website on the internet sums up to millions and contains various sources of information. Whatever that is associated with the human life is reachable on the internet.

At the same time, the internet also changes human lifestyle in solving all sorts of field, such as business, individual and socially. Huge companies are now selling commercial product via the internet which is accessible by humans all over the globe. For those living in different continents from companies selling the product, they can now access the product catalogue without having to pay a visit to the supplier's goods store. This is proven totally different from the traditional business ways like in the 1950s. A Brazilian coffee company, for example could sell its products worldwide having to open shops overseas. Same goes with individuals who want to express their messages to friends across countries will not need to write long letters and wait up to two weeks to make sure the information has reached. Electronic letter, i.e., email is able to send news or information so fast. Internet also enlarges the human social network.

The social website such as Facebook, Myspace and Friendster are able to widen a person's social network. In fact, such websites have successfully brought together those who have lost contact for years. Nevertheless, the most important is that these social websites have become a site for those with common interests to gather. There, they exchange thoughts and share certain materials; such as information, ideology, interest and many more.

The introduction of microchip technology in communication tools such as portable phones has vastly changed the way humans organise their lives. The microchip is very tiny and can be embedded in a communication tool. By using the radio wave, the microchip functions as an information provider inside it to a scanner machine. When the scanner machine gets in contact with the microchip, the information embedded inside it is very quickly attained. The microchip technology is used widely in various fields; such as automobiles, medicine, telecommunication, education and many more. As an example in developed countries like the United States of America, dog owners put a microchip inside their respective dogs. Their intention is to provide information to the authorities regarding the states of health, breed and the dog's demographic location. Therefore if the authorities found a dog without being accompanied by its owner then immediately the microchip functions to provide information when scanned using the authorities' scanner.

From the liberal and capitalist economy, globalisation has given a huge advantage to businesses. The world economic system barrier is becoming thinner by the day where an economic advantage is not only achieved by developed countries alone. Developing countries such as Malaysia also functions to share businesses involving billions of dollars in the world market. Customers are not limited to residence of the country of the business only but consist of residences from all over the world. There are a few reports that show internet entrepreneurs were born as a result of conducting business on the internet. On the internet, entrepreneurs do not have to go to the bank to receive their payment, same goes to customers. They are able to complete business transactions by visiting only a few websites. In fact, most banks now already have virtual services with its customers. The business transaction process is now a lot more different from traditional way. In fact the internet, billions of traders and customers' data are kept and more importantly, it is accessible 24 h a day without having to go through paper files manually like in the past.

In developing countries, satellite television facilities ables them to watch TV shows from other countries. For example, live broadcast of football matches, golf, concerts and so on. This exposes them to the popular Western culture which was once difficult information to get access to. Therefore, it is not a wonder that residence of a country are able to update the latest fashion, music, etc., very fast.

Nevertheless, globalisation that brought a huge difference in terms of communication and transportation

technology also has its weaknesses. Globalisation did not censor what was brought in and spread by the globalisation tools. World democracy has not completely gotten better as a result of globalisation. Communication facilities are not used as a tool to find peace agreement. Likewise, communication tool is sometimes misused by extremist groups to easily spread ideologies to the world. As a consequence of that extreme ideologies are spread and become stronger when it gets support from those who agree with the ideology. They are many dark syndicates (kongsi gelap), gangsters, political and religious extremists using the internet to communicate with their members. In 2009, the United States of America's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported over 28,000 gangsters in >50 states in the country. In that country, internet plays a major role to gangster groups for them to organise crimes, deliver blackmails to the victims and access high profile data in the government departments. These gangster groups commit crimes such as supplying drugs, smuggling, prostitution, robbery and many more. This evolution really is scary and is a danger to the public, especially children. This is because websites owned by these gangsters also teaches the public how to commit crimes and how to refrain one's self from being spotted by the local authorities.

The world economy has also not gotten any better due to capitalist who are keener in obtaining multiple folds of profit alone. Currency and share markets which were once limited due to communication are now more widely available. But due to introduction of certain regulations, most businesses are dominated by the West. For example, most businesses online are dominated by large companies that are based there. This is not a strange phenomenon because the internet server suppliers are owned by those living in the developed countries. In fact, there are so many scams involving losses up to millions of dollars to internet consumers all over the world. In the United States of America, a report generated by the FBI for the year 2011 showed that 300,000 reports were done by the public regarding internet scams. The loss recorded in the country reached up to USD 485.3 million. These scams involved business deals in shares investment, product sale, fraud identity, etc.

Globalisation failed to handle issues such as hunger, disease, political chaos and so on. This is because globalisation maintains the gap between developed countries and poor countries. Technological development in any production industry, now no longer requires a large number of operators compared to before. This is because production process using machines can be done at a much higher speed compared to the usage of human energy. This phenomenon is clearly seen in developed

countries, deployment crisis happens due to the decrease in the human function in producing goods in factories. Industrial technology also causes many industries to relocate their operation to poorer countries where labour charge is so much cheaper. This is because technology can be transferred without involving high cost and physical movement of the industry. For example in the Asian region in China, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia etc., are becoming factories to the production of goods originating from developed countries. Provided with cheap labour and raw materials, world's big companies in developed countries are able to save millions of dollars per year in terms of production cost compared to doing production in their own countries. This will multiply their profit by multiple folds, as their products will be sold according to local market price in their respective country of origin, not the country where it was manufactured in. Likewise in the poorer countries, the cheap labour cost keeps the labours maintained in poverty.

Basically, globalisation has changed the human lifestyle. This change can be witnessed in various life contexts whether in economic, political or social system. In reality, globalisation also has its disadvantages and has given negative impacts to countries that are not prepared and lack the ability to compete with one another.

#### **MALAYSIA- DIASPORA DESTINATION**

Since, the economic crisis in the South East Asian region in the mid 1990s, the Malaysian economic performance has become much stronger. In 2010, Malaysia's economic growth rate was recorded as 7.2%. The symptoms showing Malaysian economic strengthening can be seen from the increase in confident investors until the Malaysian share index recorded the highest level, over 1570 points in early year 2011. Foreign investments alone in the making industry reached up to RM 29.1 billion in the year 2010, compared to the only RM 22.1 billion in 2009, an increase of 31.7%. The biggest investors are from countries such as the United States of America, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Germany. The reason for the Malaysian economic strength was not only due to good economic management but also because of the commitment of the country to maintain peace and stability, plays an important role in its achievement.

Malaysia has received independence for over 50 years now. Throughout that period, Malaysia has been well known as a peaceful and stable country. The country's stability is not only the people's pride but also the envy of other countries. In fact, there are countries that want to follow Malaysia's footsteps, especially on

how to preserve peace in a multiracial country. But, unfortunately stability, peace and security that has been achieved by Malaysia has made it a target destination by diasporas among the South East Asian region. World Peace Index 2010 puts Malaysia at the 2nd best position in Asia and at the 22nd place in the world. Only one unforgettable black mark in history has given a bad reputation to the Malaysian peace history that is the 13 May, 1969 incident. Racial conflict due to the two major races in Malaysia at the time. But, fortunately that incident has given a major lesson to the Malaysian leaders as a whole. A few cases which nearly threatened the peace of the Malaysian soil emerged after the 13 May, 1969 incident but fortunately the authorities managed to take effective actions before it spread and threatened the country's peace.

Besides that at the time when the world was busy fighting violence, Malaysia successfully ended the Malayan Communist Party (PKM) battle against violence on 2nd December, 1989 via the Hatyai Agreement. This agreement gave a huge meaning to Malaysia efforts in battling violence in the country. In fact Malaysia shared its experience fighting violence other countries.

The end of PKM violence gave a relief to the people so that they can finally feel free and enjoy their independence fully. Compared to when PKM was active and at its peak, thousands of soldiers and public became the victim of PKM's violence. During the period when Malaya was still under British's colonisation, various efforts were done among which was Briggs Plan which restrained PKM's propaganda and the communication between PKM and the public. The effort was continued by the Malaysian government via army and police force operation. Anyhow, Malaysia has been very fortunate because in the end, PKM's violence was solved during the negotiation in Hatyai, Thailand.

Recently, the Malaysian government has set goals via National Key Results Area (NKRA) to reduce criminal cases in the country. The country's initiative to reduce crime index not only to provide a peaceful environment for its people but also as an effort to attract outside investors to Malaysia. In year 2010, Malaysia successfully reduced its overall crime index as much as 15% and street crimes up to 35% and this was much higher than the target. Even then, the crime low crime rates in Malaysia not only managed to attract outside investors, it also managed to attract uninvited guests, diasporas. No wonder Malaysia has become a popular target destination for diasporas, compared to many other foreign countries. Compared to its neighbouring countries, Malaysia is known as a peaceful country, although cases categorized as heavy crime still occurs.

In terms of politics, Malaysians are free to join a any political party of their choice. Since its independence, Malaysia has never failed to conduct its election to give the citizens their opportunity to decide and choose its government via the democracy process. Political parties are free to campaign and get as much support as possible from the people. In fact after a few elections, the opposition party has won and formed its governance in few states in Malaysia. For the past 2 decades, the victory of the opposition party in Malaysia has become a norm and is acceptable by the supporters of both parties. Not once has victory or failure been responded with gunshots or bombing such as what happened in other countries. But, then we cannot deny the fact that the people to become divided but in the end, the situation was controlled well. Up to today, there is not one political party that is banned or disallowed to contest in the election due to difference in ideology or opinion.

Majority of the Malaysians are friendly, polite and considerate, making the country prosperous and easily accept guests from other countries. Therefore, it is no wonder why diasporas have made this country its gold mine to look for jobs and conduct any personal affairs. Actually if we look closely, since the British colonisation itself, the Malaysia as the majority race has never officially declared war with outsiders brought in by the British. In fact, the entry of foreign workers during the British colonisation was welcomed with open arms, resulting them in being very happy to stay in a country that is dominated by the Malaysia. When Malaysia received its independence in 1957, the good attitude of the Malaysia shown towards the foreigners was continued, even though this friendly environment gave diasporas advantage to move to this country.

Since it was free from British, Malaysia emerged as one of the leading developing countries. Compared to other countries that achieved independence around the same time, Malaysia is a country that has actually been through many developing schemes. These developing schemes were formed to follow the current needs and were customised to fit its nature which is a multiracial country. Recently, Malaysia has launched the 1 Malaysia plan, a Government Transformation Program which consists of six National Key Results Area (NKRA) and Economic Transformation Program based on the New Economic Model, as well as the 10th and 11th Malaysia plan.

The Government Transformation Program and Economic Transformation that were introduced are steps taken for long term purpose and a brave one indeed to guide Malaysia into becoming a high income generating developed country. As much as 12 National Key Economic Areas (NKEA) have been identified to

generate funds costing up to RM 1.3 trillion with 92% of private sectors. Implementing NKEA will not only give an overall impact to the people via the existence >3.3 million job opportunities in various fields.

It is undeniable that many critics were thrown at Malaysia because it is said that its development plans sides more to a certain race alone. Nevertheless, it is proven that up to now, the development plans have been conducted and have given benefits to people of various racial groups. Even though, Malaysia has its own development plans, it cannot separate itself from the world economy. Currency attack at the end of the 1990s for example, has caused the country to revise back its pre-planned development plans. As a result of that, the Malaysian government gained people's reaction and developed development plans that were based on the people's needs.

Malaysia has been very committed in maintaining the prosperity of the people, including those living in rural areas. Facilities such as roads in the rural areas, public infrastructure, clean water supply and electricity as well as telephone for the people in the rural area were focused upon. In year 2010, nearly 800 km of new and upgraded roads, 16900 houses for the poor, clean water supply for 35,000 houses and electric supply for 27,000 homes were done all over the country. Good communication infrastructure facility has become an attracting factor for diasporas to enter a certain country. Communication infrastructure facility such as internet, telephone and so on will aid the diasporas in keeping contact with their country of origin. Since the 1990s, Malaysia has been keen on developing its communication infrastructure, mainly the ones based on internet. The government provides internet facility not only for its people in the cities but also for the people living in the rural areas. As a result of this internet facility, the Malaysian government which is dominated by the UMNO party had to go through the consequences. Due to the internet facility, UMNO failed to gain favourable results in the past two general elections that is in the year 1999 and 2008. In both the elections, usage of the latest media, i.e., the internet by the opposition party to campaign for the election had successfully increased their supporters. Nevertheless, although the government received a major setback from the usage of internet, the Malaysian government has never stopped the development of internet communication infrastructure. Reversely, the internet facility has been spread all over the entire country and this can be clearly seen in the Malaysian government's budget nearly every year.

At the same time, Malaysia happens to be one of the top famous tourist spots where it sits at the 9th place according to Unites Nations World Tourism Organization

(UNWTO) list in year 2010. In 2010, Malaysia recorded an arrival of 24.6 million tourists, an increase of 7.2% compared to the previous year which was 23.6 million. The arrival of those tourist in 2010 gave a revenue of RM 51.5 billion to Malaysia. The total arrival of tourist the following year 2011 was 24.7 million and financial returns were valued at up to RM 58.3 billion. The data obtained on number of tourists that visited Malaysia shows how the country became a popular tourist destination in the world. The Malaysian Tourism Ministry website shows the various programs implemented to attract the tourists to its country. Among the programs are such as sports, tourism, education, agricultural tourism, home stay and many more. In fact if you visit Kuala Lumpur, you will find many tourists from the Middle East occupying a large part of the hotels in the city.

Briefly stability and peace were achieved by Malaysia has managed to attract the attention of diasporas from all over the world to visit the country. This is because as a developing country, the news of Malaysia's victory in developing its country was spread worldwide and acknowledged by many developed countries.

**Potential threat by diaspora:** When will diasporas threaten the security of a country? What kind of situation causes diasporas to react and threaten and country's security? The next part discusses on questions that were developed using the Weiner (1993)'s scheme. The Weiner scheme sets 4 categories where diaspora could portray threat to countries involved with them. Firstly, diasporas that are against their own country; secondly diasporas that threaten the receiving country's internal politics; thirdly diasporas that threaten the receiving country's cultural identity and fourthly, diasporas that burden the receiving country's economy and society.

**Diasporas that defy their own country:** Diasporas could consist of individuals or group of people. Individuals consist of politicians, entrepreneurs, government officers, organization leaders and the public. Groups of people on the other hand, consist of political parties, non-governmental organisation group of agitators and so on. They come from various backgrounds, either economically, political or social background. These groups also have various ideologies and organisation goals among one another. In fact criminal group also end up being diasporas. Briefly, diasporas consist of individuals and group that have different background in terms of economy, social and politics. The presence of diasporas in a certain country has the potential of giving threats to receiving country. This is because diasporas usually defy their own government in their country.

In Britain, the Arab Springs phenomenon, for example moved the Syrians to roads in big cities such as London. The National online newspaper reported thousands of Syrians living in London demonstrating in front of the Syrian and Russian embassy. They were shouting their slogan against the ruler Bashar Al Assad while hitting the people's council hall, singing and dancing. The Syrians defiance in Britain started since March, 2012 in a few cities in Britain. They were Syrians who have migrated to Britain a long time ago, searching for jobs, to further studies and so on. They realised that Syria is struggling with the un-democratic leadership, therefore by participating in the demonstration, it will show their moral support to the Syrians in their own country.

Even then, the defiance or demonstration by the Syrians in Britain has ruptured chaos to the British in the cities. Traffic jams, damage of public property, garbage issues and noise were problems that were inevitable from demonstrations. The British local authority conscripted security teams to control peace of the public and the demonstrators. British Broad Casting (BBC) reported 6 people were arrested in front of the Syrian embassy for trying to break in to the building. However, the series of demonstrations by the Syrians were said effective because the ambassador of Syria in Britain, Khaled Al Ayoubi, resigned as an act protest against the government's violence on the Syrians there (The Guardian, 2008).

In India in June, 1984, the Indian government sent soldiers to trespass the Sikh's holy temple in Amritsar. The attack sacrificed hundreds of Sikh and caused a major damage to that temple. Many of the holy scriptures belonging to the Sikh were burnt Sikh and caused a major damage to that temple, gold jewellerys were robbed and the structure of the temple collapsed due to the attack. The action by the Ghandi government at the time erupted protest in cities like London, Vancouver, New York, Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto, San Francisco and Los Angeles (Biswas, 2004). As a reaction to this event, the Sikh diasporas overseas established a few special groups to fight for the Sikh in India. This event also brought to murder of the Prime Minister of India, Ghandi, in October 1984 by his own bodyguard who was a Sikh.

Biswas (2004) observed the organization growth of the Sikh community from across the sea. According to him in the Unites States of America, World Sikh Organization (WSO) was established in July 1984 by millionaires, Didar Singh Bhullar. This organization fought for the Sikh's basic rights in India at the same time handling Sikh community issues there. At one point, the organization had members reaching up to 16,000 people. They were lobbying the American government to interfere in solving the Sikh community issues in India. On the other hand in Canada, a Sikh organization with military traits was

established by Harpal Singh, also known as The International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF). Harpal Singh ran away from India and his organization managed to attract many members from the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Canada. Another Sikh association with military characteristics known as Babbar Khalsa is located in Vancouver, Canada. This organization received support from most Sikh employees all over the world. A member of this organization has been accused of involving in various violent acts and the most tragic was the explosion of Air India in June, 1985 which sacrificed all 329 passengers and cabin crew.

Over 30 years after the incident of attacking the holy temple of the Sikh, diasporas are still active in conducting attacks in Britain. The National Post (2012), an online newspaper, reported that Lieutenant General Kuldi Singh Brar, a Sikh was stabbed by a group of four who were believed to have connections with the nationalist Sikh diasporas' activities in Britain. Lieutenant General Kuldeep underwent injuries in the neck and face due to multiple stabs. At the time of incident, Lieutenant General Kuldeep was walking with his wife at Oxford Street, London. Lieutenant General Kuldeep already retired from his military service in India in 1992 and he spent most of his time monitoring the Sikh movement in India. The attack on the former Indian army shows that diaspora activities are still active across the ocean and is able to give negative effects to the security of the host country.

#### **DIASPORAS ARE A THREAT TO THE HOST COUNTRY'S POLITICS**

A few countries welcomed diasporas out of humanity to provide shelter in terms of place to live, job opportunity, medical supply and so on. In fact, political protection is also given due to sympathy and be tolerant to diasporas. Even then, protection given due to diasporas is not a guarantee that they will not go against the host country. There are diaspora activities that threaten the host country's politics when the diasporas' interest contradicts with the host country's political stand. This can be seen when Iraq trespassed into Kuwait in the 1990s decade. The intrusion by Iraq lead by Saddam Hussein received support from Palestinians working with the Kuwait government. Diaspora gave pressure to the Kuwait government in this matter because their political stand contradicts with Kuwait's interest.

Weiner (1993) related the defiance between the Palestinians and the Kuwait government when the country was attacked by Iraq. According to him, there is a large number of Palastinians who have positions in the Kuwait government administration. When Kuwait was attacked by the Iraq government, Palestinians supported

the Iraq government. Palestine Libration Organisation (PLO) leader at the time, Yasser Arafat announced his support towards the Iraq government, lead by Saddam Hussein. Due to Yasser Arafat's statement, the Kuwait government took revenge by chasing out the Palestinians from Kuwait. Kuwait considers the Palestinians' act of supporting Iraq is not acceptable. Therefore, it is deemed as threatening the national security and so they must be expelled from Kuwait. It is estimated that in year 1998, number of Palestinians living in Kuwait was only 20,000 people.

Before Iraq's attack on Kuwait, >400,000 Palestinians lived in Kuwait. They started going to Kuwait in the early 20th century due to the invitation by the Kuwait government who used religion as a reason. Even then, the number of Palestinian diasporas increased with the emergence of Israel which was opened in year 1948. As a result of that many Palestinians became refugees and entered other countries in the Middle East such as Kuwait, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. According to Smith (1986) in accordance to the opening of Israel in 1948, hundreds of thousands of Palestinian diasporas went out looking for shelter due to war that erupted in their homeland. Most of them ran off to the Gulf countries that are rich in oil. In Saudi Arabia in the year 1953, it was estimated that over 3000 Palestinian diasporas worked with the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco). There, they did various jobs such as foreman, contract work, tutor and many more. Most of the Palestinian diasporas had skills and education therefore, they could easily obtain jobs. Although in the mid 1950s, due to inconducive working environment, the Palestinian diasporas conducted demonstration and strikes to protest the way they were treated. The demonstrations and strikes by the Palestinian diasporas spread to Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar.

The receiving country's security is also threaten by diasporas' subversive activities. Life depression is a factor causing diasporas to get involved in illegal activities in receiving country. Smuggling, drug distribution, prostitution, robbery and human trafficking are among the most committed crimes associated with diasporas. Diasporas' actions have given a negative description and threaten the receiving country's security. Foxnews website reported Mexican diasporas in the United States of America widen the distribution of drugs into Europe and cooperate with drug dealers from countries such as Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Ghana and Nigeria. The collaboration between the drug dealers includes Latin America, Africa, Asia and Australia. This statement was released by Drug Enforcement Aministration (DEA) by the United States



federal law enforcement due to the exposure of mafia drug dealers via the Atlantic ocean by two Italian siblings who collaborated with the Mexican dealer in the United States.

In Ghana, diasporas from that country formed drug dealing network from the African Continent to Asia, Europe and North America. Akyeampong (2005) narrated the drug dealing network in Ghana. According to him, with only \$20,000 per dealer, they are capable of doing a triangle trip. Triangle trip refers to the journey to India or Pakistan to buy drug and with the cost of \$4,500 kg<sup>-1</sup>, later return to Ghana to be packaged for the American market. Another trip is from Accra to Addis Ababa and back to Bangkok using the Ethiopia airlines to obtain the drug supply. Depending on the amount of drugs brought, a dealer is able to gain \$100,000-150,000 from the sale in the United States. The transportation cost is very minimal that is between \$5,000-10,000. The profit from the drug sale will be transferred to Ghana via various ways, such as through purchase of textiles and clothes for their stores in Ghana, import cars or counter transfer via money changer.

The drug diaspora network in Ghana not only involves the public but also those with high profile. In the mid 1980s, Ghana was famous as the international drug dealing hub, Said Sinare, the CEO of global medical supply which later on became a parliament member who collaborated with Emmanuel Boateng Addo, an international drug dealer. They later on collaborated with Mamouna Quattara, ex-embassador of Burkina Faso in Ghana. Using diplomatic passport given by Mamouna Quattara, both of them (Sinare and Addo) were going to take a flight from Accra to Bombay via Abidjan to get their drug supplies there. When they return from Bombay, they will repackage the drugs in Mamouna Quattara's diplomatic vehicle before the both of them brought the drugs to Paris, France. But then in June 1986, Addo was arrested by the French authorities with 7.5 kg of cocaine brought by him. In November 1993, a drug dealing network lead by ex-football star from Ghana, papa Arko was defeated by the local authorities with the collaboration with the United States DEA. This drug network involved dealers from Ghana, Nigeria, Turkey and Vietnam. A few dealers from that group were arrested in New Jersey, America.

Crimes committed by the diasporas damaged the safety of both countries. Even, then for countries that take in diasporas, drug dealing activities give bad reputation, especially in the effort to bring in foreign investors into the country. The diasporas receiving country and forced to bear huge consequences from the criminal acts of the diasporas. In fact, there are a few developing countries that label these countries as world's

major drug suppliers. As a result of that given label, trading, tourism and citizen's movement in and out of countries, especially developed countries are jeopardized. This is because drug dealing activities during this period is associated with their contribution to world terrorist.

### **DIASPORAS THREATEN THE CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE HOST COUNTRY**

A country's physical security is like a major fort that needs to be guarded well by the government from any subversive activities. Even then, a country's cultural identity aspect also plays a major role in making sure a certain race's civilization takes place. From world history, researchers can see how a civilization collapses due to losing its cultural identity as a country's fort, although it is physically still visible up to now. A few large civilisations, such as the Indus Valley in Pakistan, Khmer Empire in Cambodia, Anasazi civilization, New Mexico in United States of American and Moche Civilization in Peru are lost. Though, the location of the civilization can still be detected but the civilization can still be detected but the civilization has lost its cultural identity such as language, traditional attire, music, food and so on. The introduction of nation state by colonialism in the modern decade also caused the loss of cultural identity among some societies of the world. The Indian civilization and Malayan civilization disappeared with the arrival of Western power such as British, Portuguese, Netherlands and France during their own period. The cultural identity's disappearances occurred slowly, in line with the period of colonisation by the large Western powers.

The arrival of Western power to colonise the new continent was not only about taking charge of the physical border of the certain place but also involves the attainment of the local residence's epistemology space. British colonialism in the African continent, India and South East Asia is a clear evidence of their colonisation of the local epistemology space. British also colonised the epistemology space in India and Malaya by introducing a few new knowledge to both the countries. In the education for example, British introduced new terms to replace old ones used in the previous civilisation. Whereas in the administration system, new laws involving property, citizenship, commerce and so on were introduced to the locals. The introduction of these new things were generally seen as helping to ease the British administration alone, although through the movement of time and space, cultural identity of the local people slowly started fading (Shamsul, 1999). The agents to this colonisation process of local's epistemology space are the officers working for the coloniser and the locals who conspired with them.

Those who came with colonisers were either paid to work or slaves. They were placed in certain location in the colonised country. After nearly decades, a few of them refused to return to their homeland even though, the colonisation had ended. They were more comfortable living there and developing their lives in the colonised states. With them came their respective race's identity and it was inherited from generation to generation. As a result of that a new racial identity started to exist among the society at the demographic level pre-colonised land. Not all new identities are assimilated with the local's cultural identity. There are a few who were against local's cultural identity. But due to the introduction of new laws during the colonisation, the identity of the immigrant (diasporas) had to be acknowledged by the locals. In terms of national security, cultural identity war became like a time bomb to the country's government. Even then, the process of cultural identity assimilation among diaspora and the locals carried on through wedding, food sharing, festivities, mixing with one another in schools, mosque/temples, office and so on.

Globalisation has given a new life for diasporas around the world. Globalisation tools such as communication for example, have brought diasporas closer to its cultural identity. Tools like the television, cinema, telephone and the internet, functions to allow the communication between diasporas with its country of origin. The flow and strengthening of diasporas' cultural identity was aided by the existence of good communication infrastructure. In certain countries diasporas not only get access to communication system but also get facilities such as school, health, office and many more. Via basic infrastructure facilities, the process of cultural identity transfer not only happens among diasporas but also venture out to the locals, As the result of the diaspora's cultural identity transfer in the long run, the local may start to lose their own cultural identify. This probably could happen if diaspora's cultural identity is much higher compared to the local's cultural identify.

The arrival of diasporas into a country must not be looked at as a migration process problem alone. This is because history shows that in a few regions of the world, the entry of diaspora has already caused identity loss to the locals. Therefore, the government of the host country must always be on the lookout regarding their movements and this has become more and more challenging with globalisation affect in the current surroundings.

**Diasporas burden the host country's economy and social:**

According to the World Bank in 2009, Egyptian diasporas remittances reached up to USD 7.8 billion to their country. This total is 5% of the Egypt's Gross Domestic Product. In 2007, the Chinese diasporas sent

>USD 26 billion back home which was the second highest remittance after India. The sum of remittance by Chinese diasporas in 2008 increased up to USD 48.5 billion. In that year, India too was said to receive >USD 50 billion from diasporas of that country placed all over the world. Other countries that received highest remittance after India and China were Mexico (USD 26.3 billion), Phillipines (USD 19.1 billion) and France (USD 15 billion). Even then, it is believed that the amount of remittance by China and India still failed to overcome the amount sent to Israel by the Jewish diasporas all around the world. The remittance sent by diasporas are to support their families' expenses back home as well as help develop their homeland.

As a consequence of diasporas sending remittance, the diasporas' host countries are forced to face money out flow from their country and this affects the liquidity of the economy. Money that is supposed to be used to develop the economy has lost its function. This does not help increase daily economy activities by the host country. Inversely, the money out flow profits the diasporas' homeland. The sending of remittance is basically done in small quantities for every transaction, although the transaction happens frequently. Money sending agencies, such as Moneygram and Western Union helps and supports the diasporas in sending remittance.

Socially, the entry of diasporas in large quantities causes population dumping to the host country. The problem with population dumping is that various social problems start to occur, such as squatters, health, increasing criminal cases and so on. For diasporas entering a country for the first time and do not own any families, they will have to explore government land to build a shelters. Problem starts to arise after the house is built. The shelter will need electricity, clean water and food supply. Some countries give facilities under humanity. Although at the same time their actions are in reality increasing the number of squatters. As time passes, by the diasporas will have the understanding that they actually have the right to continue staying there. At that instant, the government will have to face diasporas who refuse to move from a squatters. This gives a negative effect to development activities planned by the government.

New placements built by diasporas are mostly widely spread, dirty and becomes the immoral activities hub, such as drug dealing and prostitution. In corners of big cities; such as New York, Paris, London and so on, the local authorities face social problems due to opening of new illegal squatters by diasporas. Social problems in those areas have evolved with the locals participating to receive prostitution services and drug supplies. Basically, these places are controlled by gangsters and are dominated by black market economy. In fact, fights often

occur among gangster groups in their effort to dominate a certain place and their black market economy. These problems become bigger when gangster groups tie themselves with local political leaders and the local community council members.

Briefly, the incoming of diaspora may cause economic and social burden to host countries. The economic burden in terms of cost due to spending remittance is not small in amount. This problem is long term and is difficult to solve when it erupts various social problems. It becomes even more complicated when locals start to get involved in the black economic market and social activities started by the diasporas.

### CONCLUSION

Globalisation helps movement of diasporas around the world faster and more widely spread. Communication and transportation technology evolution contributes to the changes in movement pattern and diaspora's lifestyle in a foreign country. Compared to the past, the movement of diasporas is no more obstructed by differences in shape of the earth, weather, distance and time constraint. Inversely, the evolution of technology and transportation has made diaspora's movement much easier and open. As a result of this movement, the relationship between diaspora and country of origin remains close and continuous. This helps maintain the diaspora's cultural identity across the ocean, even though they are all over the world.

Like other colonised countries, Malaysia also strives to achieve maximum development. All sorts of efforts were done using various development plans and some even show success. In fact, Malaysia is often complimented by more developed countries because it has successfully managed to develop the country compared to other countries that achieved independence around the same time. Unfortunately, Malaysia's success also managed to attract attention from diasporas, all over the world. Prosperity and peace are among factors that made Malaysia a potential target location for diasporas. This potential is also a cause for Malaysian security threat due to irresponsible activities by the diasporas. Based on the experiences by other countries in the world, arrival of diasporas most definitely comes with various problems. Therefore in Malaysia, local authorities must monitor diaspora's activities closely from time to time in order to maintain the country's security and peace.

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