## GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF

**ASIAN INDIAN IN CHICAGO: 1980-2000** 

An Abstract of

A Thesis

Presented to the

**Department of Geography** 

**Western Illinois University** 

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

By
SATYA CHATAUT

## **ABSTRACT**

United States has been a nation of immigrants. The emigration of persons of Asian Indian origin to the United States is a relatively recent phenomenon. Although the number of Asian Indian in the country is steadily increasing, very little research has been done on this population.

This study examined the geographic concentration of Asian Indian in the Chicago Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) from 1980 to 2000 and assessed the socioeconomic factors of the neighborhoods responsible for this concentration. The study was carried out at census tract level, considered as neighborhoods, in the seven counties of the Chicago MSA.

The analysis of the Asian Indian population in Chicago MSA showed that their concentration in central city was decreasing and they were more suburbanized in 2000 than compared to 1980. The regression model was designed to see which socioeconimic factors influenced the choice of residential location in suburban neighborhoods. The three explanatory variables that influenced the variation within the dependent variables were number of professional population, median family income, and number of owner occupied housings in the neighborhoods.

Further the result of the simple regression model indicated that the South Asian mainly the Pakistani immigrants were living closely with the Asian Indian. Other Asian American groups that are closely living with Asian Indian were Filipino, Chinese, and Korean.