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Submission to JSCM on “**Enquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia**”

From the beginning of human civilisation trans- regional and trans-cultural migration was a fact of human behaviour, and civilisation.

In today’s modern, Globalized World no nation is exempted from cultural admixture. Certain nation such as Canada (1971) and Australia (1973) were declared multicultural societies by legislation. Other western counties such as United States of America, England, Germany, Spain, and Netherlands are undeclared multi cultural societies.

Migrants, regardless of their motivations; runaway from ethnic disturbance, religion or political prosecution or simply opportunistic all have one thing in common, the stamina and the courage to take the risk, and to abandon their familial land and their comfort zone to face challenge in the new unknown lands.

Migrants are highly motivated and often highly educated people, they should be considered as a human resources gift to the host nation. It is to the hosting nations to rationalised and maximise the benefit of this in joining human gift.

Migrants usually add values to the host nation from simply culinary art to most sophisticated area of Scientific and technological knowledge and abilities. Migrants bring new ethical and moral values to their new host country.

The followings are some suggestions to maximise the benefit of the migrant intake:

1. Migrants should be **encouraged and provided incentives, such as tax rebate** for voluntary residence (3 to 5 years) in the area of Australia, such as rural Australia, where the manpower is more needed instead of settling in the urban centres.
2. In the migrant assessment centres (or detention centres) **rapid trade training centres should be established** and to encourage the potential migrant to under take professional training for those industries where the skilled manpower is most needed such as building industry, agriculture ...etc.
3. The new migrant should be encouraged to **educate them selves on Australian values, Australian constitutional and political systems**, and to participate in Australian politics
4. Australian Citizenship and naturalisation process should emphasis on the knowledge of Australian values (multiculturalism, freedom of religion, acceptance morality instead of tolerance morality), Australian history and Australian ethnicity composition.
5. School curriculum in addition to the history of Australia, should **includes history of various migrant groups**

6. One day in the year should be nominated as **migrant day** and to be celebrated officially by the states and migrant values to Australian society to be acknowledged.

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Who migrated to Australia in 1983?