

Pull and Push Factors of Migration: A Case Study in the Urban Area of Monywa Township, Myanmar

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Abstract:

Migration is a global phenomenon caused not only by economic factors, but also by social, political, cultural, environmental, health, education and transportation factors. It commonly takes place because of the push factor of less opportunities in the socio-economic situation and also because of pull factors that exist in more developed areas. Monywa is a thriving capital city of North-West command and is located on the India, Myanmar and China trade route. Monywa Township also is the most-developed township in Sagaing Region. Therefore, many people immigrate to Monywa Township. Most moved from the rural areas of Monywa Township. In this study, push and pull factors of migration are studied and inferences are made based on sample migrants. Two-stage stratified cluster sampling method is used to collect the required information. Factor analysis is used to detect the important push and pull factors of migration. Among 389 sample households, 44.5% of households were migrants, meaning they are not native residents of Monywa Township. Concerned with push and pull factors of migration, 18 statements were asked to determine whether these were important or not important for each subject. Based on this information, the important factors were detected using factor analysis. A better living condition is the first and most significant factor with maximum percentage of variance which motivates the people to migrate to Monywa Township. The second most-important factor is better public service with second largest percentage of variance, which is also a push factor because the reasons for migration are that the level of service in their previous location was poor. Subjects also were dissatisfied with public transportation of their previous location and a lack of safety in previous places. Third significant factor is better environment, which includes moving because of dislike of cultural/recreational facilities and the behavior of a neighbor. [Click here to view the entire research report.](#)

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1. Introduction

Migration is the movement of people from one location to another and widely associated with change of permanent place of residence. Reasons of Migration are inter-regional and intraregional disparities at macro level and fundamentally lack of employment opportunities resulting low standard of living conditions among different socio-economic groups at micro level. There are three components of population change. They are mortality, fertility and migration. There are two types of migration: internal migration and international migration. Internal migration is the movement of people from one place to other place in a given country. International migration is the movement of people from one country to another in order to take up employment of establish residence or to increase in living standard.

Various scholars study the migration for different purposes. Sociologists have emphasized social and cultural consequences of migration. While geographers have laid stress on the time and distance significance of migration, economists emphasize on the economic aspect of migration.

2. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to examine the socio-economic characteristics of migrants and to find out the significant pull and push factors of migration in Monywa township.

3. Method of Study

To get the required data for the study, stratified two-stage cluster sampling with proportional to size with replacement at first stage and simple random sampling at second stage was used. And then, socio-economic characteristics of migrants were analyzed in terms of descriptive statistics. The significant pull and push factors of migration were detected by using factor analysis.

4. Limitations of the Study

The present study was restricted to the urban area of Monywa township only. The target population is all of household heads in Monywa township. If the household head was migrated from other places not urban area of Monywa township, he was classified as

migrant. This study was based on only 18 factors although there are many factors which have been developed by different researchers.

5. Factors of Migration

The important factors which motivate people to move can be classified into five categories. They are economic factors, demographic factors, socio-cultural factors, political factors and miscellaneous factors.

(i) Economic Factors

Most of the studies indicate that migration is primarily motivated by economic factors. In developing countries, low agricultural income, agricultural unemployment and underemployment are considered basic factors pushing the migrants towards developed area with greater job opportunities. Thus, almost all studies concur that most of migrants have moved in search of better economic opportunities. The basic economic factors which motivate migration may be further classified as 'Push Factors' and 'Pull Factors'.

The push factors are factors that compel a person, due to different reasons, to leave that place and go to some other place. The common push factors are low productivity, unemployment and underdevelopment, poor economic conditions, lack of opportunities for advancement, exhaustion of natural resources and natural calamities. Introduction of capital intensive methods of production into agricultural sector, and mechanization of certain processes reduce labour requirement in rural areas. The non-availability of alternative sources of income in rural area is also important factor for migration.

The Pull Factors are factors which attract the migrants to an area. Opportunities for better employment, higher wages, facilities, better working conditions and attractive amenities are pull factors of an area.

(ii) Demographic Factor

The differences in the population growth rates of the different regions of a nation have been found to be a determinant in the internal migration. Fertility and the natural increase in population are generally higher in rural areas which drift the population towards the city.

Other important demographic factor in internal migration is marriage because females are used to follow their spouses.

(iii) Socio-cultural Factors

Social and cultural factors also an important role in migration. Sometimes family conflicts, the quest for independence, also cause migration especially, of those in the younger generation. Improved communication facilities, such as, transportation, impact of television, good network communication, the cinema, the urban oriented education and resultant change in attitudes and values also promote migration.

(iv) Political Factors

Sometimes even political factors encourage or discourage migration from region to another. After 1948, most of rural people migrated to urban because of safety in Myanmar. Hence, the political background, attitudes and individual viewpoint of the people influenced on the migration of people.

(v) Miscellaneous Factors

Other factors such as the presence of relatives and friends in urban areas, desire to receive education which is available only in urban areas are factors responsible for migration. Closeness of cultural contacts, cultural diversity, great vitality, individual attitudes are also associated with migration.

6. Socio-economic Profile of Migrants

Most of the migrants were aged between 50 and 59 years. The second highest percentage can be seen in the age-group 40-49. 87% of migrants are males and 13% were females. Education level of most of the migrants was primary level. Most of the migrants were own account workers. Most of the migrants lived in the second important commercial center. Their household sizes were found 6 household members as the highest percentage. Among migrants, 90% migrated from rural area of Sagain region to urban area of Monywa township. These figures were presented in Appendix.

7. Factor Analysis

To identify the factors which influence the migration of residents in urban area of Monywa township, Factor Analysis Approach has been used. The general purpose of factor analysis is to find a way in condensing the information contained in a number of original variables into a smaller set of new, composite dimensions (factors) with a minimum loss of information. The suitability of the data for factor analysis can be tested on the basis of following criterion:

- (i) A visual inspection of the correlation data matrix can reveal whether there are sufficient correlations to justify factor analysis.
- (ii) Anti- image correlation matrix shows the negative values of partial correlation among variables. In order for true factors to exist in the data these values must be small.
- (iii) Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy (KMO) is another measure to quantify the degree of inter-correlation among the variables and appropriateness of factor analysis. The index ranges from 0 to 1. Small values of KMO measure indicate that a factor analysis of variables may not be a good idea, since correlation between pairs of variables cannot be explained by the other variables. A high value between 0.5 and 1.0 indicates that factor analysis is appropriate technique to be used.

To obtain factor solutions two basic models: common factor and principal component analysis are needed to be used. Principal Component Analysis is used to summarize most of the original information in a minimum number of factors for prediction purposes. Common Factor Analysis is used to identify underlying factors or dimensions reflecting what the variables shares in common. In this study, principal component method of factoring was used. It is a statistical technique that linearly transforms an original set of variables into a substantially smaller set of uncorrelated variables that represents most of the information in the original set of variables. The linear combinations of variables are used to account for variation of each dimension in a multivariate space. The variance of factors is called Eigen Values, Characteristic Roots or Latent Root. Communality is the amount of variance an original variable shares with others. Factor loadings are the correlation between the original variable and the factor. Squared factor loadings indicate what percentage of the variance in

an original variable is explained by a factor. There are four criteria to determine the number of factors to be extracted. (i) prior criteria, (ii) latent root criteria (iii) percentage of variance criteria and (iv) Scree test criteria. In latent root criteria, only those factors which have latent roots greater than one are considered. In percentage of variance criteria, that the cumulative percentage of variance extracted by successive factors must be greater than 60 is good enough in social science. At least one factor more than latent root criterion is usually extracted. In this study, firstly latent roots were examined and then the Scree test was used. Percentage of explained variance was also considered.

And then loading are rotated to make them more interpretable by making the loading for each factor either large or small, not in between. For rotation, Orthogonal or Oblique method can be applied. In orthogonal rotation method, the axes are maintained at 90 degree so that the resulting factors are uncorrelated. In Oblique Rotation method, the axes are rotated, without maintaining the 90 degrees angle between them. Within orthogonal method, either Varimax or Quatrimax method can be employed. Varimax method simplifies the columns in a matrix whereas Quatrimax method stresses on simplifying the rows. In this study, Orthogonal Rotation along with the Varimax method of rotation was used in order to have more clearly in factor solution. The Varimax criteria maximizes the sum of the variance of the square loadings within each column of the loading matrix.

8. Factor Analysis of Push and Pull Factors of Migration in Monywa township

The uneven development between rural and urban area has resulted in large scale migration from rural to urban area. Therefore, it is needed to study the significant pull and push factors of migration to solve these inequalities. The 18 selected statements were made and collected the required information.

(i) Stability of Data for Factor Analysis

First of all, it was needed to test the suitability of data for Principal Component Analysis, KMO was calculated. Since calculated value of KMO was 0.74, the sample was good enough for factor analysis. Since the partial correlations from anti-image correlation matrix were low, true factors existed in the data.

According to the results of SPSS output, 6 factors were extracted which together accounted for 63.63% of total variance. The percentage of explained by factor I to VI were 19.12, 11.51, 10.98, 9.22, 6.58 and 6.21 respectively. The percentage of total variance is as used as an index to determine how well a particular factor solution accounts for what all the variables together represent. Communalities show the amount of variance in a variable that is accounted by the six factors taken together. The size of the communality is a useful index for assessing how much variance in a particular variable is accounted by the factor solution. These values were presented in Table (7), the highest communalities was found in the statement “being responsible to move” that is let migrants moved by authority. In this study, the people who lived on the bank of Chindwin River were removed because they were slams. 79.2% of the variance in this variable was accounted by the factor solution.

(ii) Naming of Factor

A factor loading represents the correlation between an original variable and its factor. Positive sign of factor loadings mean that the variables are positively correlated with its factor and negative sign means that negatively related with its factor. The name of the factors and the loadings are presented in Table (9).

Factor I: Better Living Condition

Better living condition has emerged as significant factor accounting for 19.12% of total variance. Six out of eighteen statements are loaded on this factor of which four statements are highly correlated with this factor. All these statements are pull statements of migration. Thus pull factors play vital role in migration to urban area of Monywa township.

Factor II: Better Public Service

Better public service is the second important factor that explained 11.51% of total variation. It can be seen that people left their previous places because they dissatisfied with level of municipal service, public transportation and felt no safety. All these statements are push factors. Thus push factor stand for second significant role in migration to urban area of Monywa township.

Factor III: Better Environment

This is the third important factor with percentage of variance equal to 10.98. Two statements loaded in this factor. These statements are migrant did not like cultural/recreational condition of their previous places and neighbours. These are also push factors. Therefore, better environment also play an important role in migration.

Factor IV: Better Employment Opportunities

This is the forth important factor which loaded two statements; moving because of job/retired/transfer. It explains 9.2% of total variance.

Factor V: Better Socio-economic Condition

Two statements that are moving for better income and getting married loaded in this factor. This factor accounts for 6.58% of total variance. The sign of correlation of better income statement is negative. That is people will not leave their old places for attaining better income and they will migrate for getting married.

Factor VI: Political Factor

It is the least important factor which loaded only one statement naming “being responsible to move” that is let migrants moved by authority. In this study, slams who lived on the bank of Chindwin River were removed for the environmental conservation. It accounts for 6.23% of total variance.

(9) Finding and Suggestion

This study aims at to examine the socio-economic status of migrants who migrated to urban area of Monywa township. It was found that 90% of migrants were migrated from different rural areas of Sagaing Region. Majority of migrants were having low level of education, own account workers and aged between 50 and 59 years old. The main reason of migration was to upgrade living standard and to gain better public service. It shows that it is needed to upgrade the living standard of people in rural areas and to provide for a better public need. These finding highlight that rural people cannot enjoy the same public services as urban residents and it is needed to perform job creation and promote public welfare in rural areas of Monywa township.

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Appendix

Table (1)
Age of Migrants

Age Group	No. of Migrants	%
30-39	18	10.4
40-49	39	22.5
50-59	48	27.7
60-69	35	20.2
70-79	28	16.2
80-89	5	2.9
Total	173	100.0

Source: Survey Finding (2012)

Table (2)
Gender of Migrants

Age Group	No. of Migrants	%
Male	150	86.7
Female	23	13.3
Total	173	100.0

Source: Survey Finding (2012)

Table (3)
Occupation of Migrants

Age Group	No. of Migrants	%
Own Account Worker	96	55.5
Government Employee	7	4.0
Private Employee + Wage Earner	23	13.3
Dependent Persons	47	27.2
Total	173	100.0

Source: Survey Finding (2012)

Table (4)
Education Level of Migrants

Education Level	No. of Migrants	%
Illiterate	6	3.5
Primary Level	71	41.0
Secondary Level	41	23.7
Tertiary Level	29	16.8
Above Tertiary Level	26	15.0
Total	173	100.0

Source: Survey Finding (2012)

Table (5)
House Location of Migrants

Location	No. of Migrants	%
First Important Commercial Center	22	12.7
Second Important Commercial	82	47.4
Third Important Commercial	44	25.4
Sub-urban Area	25	14.5
Total	173	100.0

Source: Survey Finding (2012)

Table (6)
The Reasons for Migration

Variable	Statement
X ₁	To upgrade quality of dwelling.
X ₂	To move to secure dwelling.
X ₃	To be near to family.
X ₄	To be getting married.
X ₅	Because of being dissatisfied with level of service.
X ₆	Because of being dissatisfied with cultural/ recreational condition of previous places.
X ₇	Because of being dissatisfied with public transportation.
X ₈	Because of being dissatisfied with quality of surrounding dwelling.
X ₉	Because of no physical safety.
X ₁₀	To be near to work.
X ₁₁	To be near to school.
X ₁₂	Because of job/ retired/ transfer.
X ₁₃	To move with job.
X ₁₄	To be responsible for moving.
X ₁₅	Dislike neighbor
X ₁₆	Because of health or disability.
X ₁₇	For good business
X ₁₈	Because of scenic/ environmental attractive.

Table (7)
Rotated Correlation Matrix

Statement	Factor						Communalities
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
1	0.84	0.03	0.20	0.07	-0.11	-0.05	0.77
2	0.72	0.05	0.28	0.22	-0.10	-0.09	0.67
3	0.78	0.15	0.14	0.02	0.17	-0.01	0.67
4	0.19	-0.19	0.28	-0.10	0.56	-0.26	0.54
5	0.02	0.53	0.48	0.20	0.21	-0.09	0.60
6	0.02	0.11	0.78	0.20	-0.07	0.11	0.68
7	0.15	0.81	0.08	0.07	-0.10	0.04	0.70
8	0.19	0.42	0.46	-0.02	-0.21	0.18	0.50
9	0.08	0.87	0.10	0.00	0.05	-0.09	0.79
10	0.72	0.11	-0.19	0.15	0.21	0.04	0.64
11	0.69	0.03	-0.17	0.08	0.18	0.09	0.55
12	0.17	0.13	-0.03	0.86	0.06	-0.001	0.78
13	0.27	-0.03	0.11	0.80	-0.01	0.06	0.73
14	0.05	-0.06	0.04	0.04	-0.004	0.88	0.79
15	-0.01	0.29	0.52	-0.07	0.24	0.34	0.54
16	0.15	0.02	0.46	-0.10	0.04	-0.22	0.30
17	-0.11	-0.06	0.09	-0.10	-0.76	-0.12	0.62
18	0.62	0.11	0.35	0.28	0.01	0.07	0.60
Eigen Values	4.55	2.23	1.33	1.19	1.10	1.05	
% of Variance	19.12	11.51	10.98	9.22	6.58	6.21	
Cumulative % of Variance	19.12	30.63	41.61	50.83	57.41	63.63	

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

Table (8)
Naming of Factors

Factor	Factor Name	Statement	Loadings
I	Better Living Condition	To upgrade quality of dwelling.	0.84
		To move to secure dwelling.	0.72
		To be near to family.	0.78
		Because of scenic/ environmental attractive.	0.62
		To be near to work.	0.72
		To be near to school.	0.69
II	Better Public Service	Because of being dissatisfied with level of service.	0.53
		Because of being dissatisfied with public transportation.	0.81
		Because of no physical safety.	0.87
III	Better Environment	Because of being dissatisfied with cultural/ recreational condition of previous places.	0.78
		Dislike neighbor	0.52
IV	Employment Opportunities	Because of job/ retired/ transfer.	0.86
		To move with job.	0.80
V	Better Socio-economic condition	For good business	-0.76
		To be getting married.	0.56
VI	Political Factor	To be responsible for moving.	0.88