CAUSES OF IN-MIGRATION IN HLAINGTHARYAR TOWNSHIP, YANGON CITY

Htay Htay Naing[*]

Abstract

According to the 1973 census, the population of Yangon City was just a little over 2 million (2,015,230) and it increased to 2.26 millions in the next 10 years in 1983. When the latest population census was taken in August, 2014, the population of Yangon City rose to over 5 million (5,209,541) with 1,093,200 households representing 10.13 percent of the total population of the country (Immigration and Manpower Department of Yangon, 2014). The increase of population in Yangon City was largely due to in-migration from different parts of the country for seeking higher income and better job, being the largest commercial city of the country. Out of 33 townships of Yangon City, migration is highest in Hlaingtharyar Township. The main aim of this study is to give suggestions for solving problems related to migration in Hlaingtharyar Township. The objectives are to understand the factors that cause migration and to inquire the push and pull factors of migration in Hlaingtharyar Township. Primary data collected from the field observation through structured questionnaires have been used in this study. A number of variables causing migration have been identified. To assess the strength and weakness which can bring about opportunities and threats due to in-migration SWOT analysis is applied.

Key words: migration, push and pull factors, SWOT Analysis

Introduction

Population growth rate of a country or a place basically depends on the birth rate and death rate, but it is also affected by the migration of people. The abrupt change in the number of population is usually related to migration. If anyone wishes to leave one's own homeland and relocate in other place, one can try to accomplish it. However, only a small proportion of the population usually migrate and settle in other places, mostly young men and women, educated persons and skilled workers. Migration can affect the number of population in an area. In examining the population change of a certain area, it is necessary to analyze the migration change component. Migration also

[*] Lecturer, Department of Geography, University of Yangon

influences population growth and structure of the population. There are two main factors that cause migration and these are push factor and pull factor.

The increase of population in Yangon City was largely due to in-migration from different parts of the country for seeking higher income and better job, being the largest commercial city of the country. In-migration rate to Yangon Region was 194.7 persons per thousand, out-migration rate 56.3, net migration 138.4, gross migration 250.9 and return migration 41.2 per thousand people. With the rapidly increasing population, the number of squatters have also increased. To allocate the squatters and provide living space for the fire victims, new towns have been extended, including Hlaingtharyar (686,827), Shwepyithar (343,270), Dagon Myothit (north) (203,883), Dagon Myothit (South) (371,579), Dagon Myothit (East) (165,518) and Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) (167,346). Among the new towns, Hlaingtharyar has the largest population. The township population was 686,827 persons in 2014 with a density of 26,406 persons per square mile with a growth rate of 14.24 percent per annum. A large number of people are still moving into the township which in turn increases the number of squatter settlement units.

Migration can be found in some townships of Yangon Region including Hlaingtharyar Township. As a result, the growth of population increased in the study area. Migration is a fundamental element determining population growth and structure in an area. Push and pull factors encourage people to migrate. This study focuses on the causes of migration into Hlaingtharyar Township in Yangon Region.

Research questions

Why migration is higher in Hlaingtharyar Township?
What are the causes of migration in Hlaingtharyar Township?

- ❖ **Aim**
- ▶ The main aim of this study is to give suggestions for solving problems related to migration in Hlaingtharyar Township.
- ❖ **Objectives**
- ▶ To examine the migration pattern of Hlaingtharyar Townshipto understand the factors that cause migration and to inquire the push and pull factors of migration in Hlaingtharyar Township.

Data and Method

According to the population census taken in 2014, Hlaingtharyar Township had 148,736 households in which 686,827 persons were living. Instead of calculating by certain formula, about one percent of the households were purposively taken to be included in the sample size. For selecting samples among the households, stratified sampling method is used, dividing the urban and rural areas. The wards are selected based on the number of squatters recorded in the Township General Administration Office. Ward No. 2, 3 and 5 with greater number of squatters, Ward No. (10) that has no squatters, Ward No. 13 and 18 with small number of squatters, Ward No. 4 with FMI Housing Project and Ward No.6 that has Nawaday Housing Project and Kyansitthar Housing Project are selected. The reason why the wards with squatters are selected is on the conception that though all migrants are not squatters, but all squatters are migrants. The choice of village tracts for sampling is based on Random Table. The township has 9 village tracts of which Yeokkan, Apyinpadanand Kasin are selected (Table 1).To get detailed information and primary data, field survey were conducted by questionnaires during the period from 30-6-2016 to 7-8-2016.
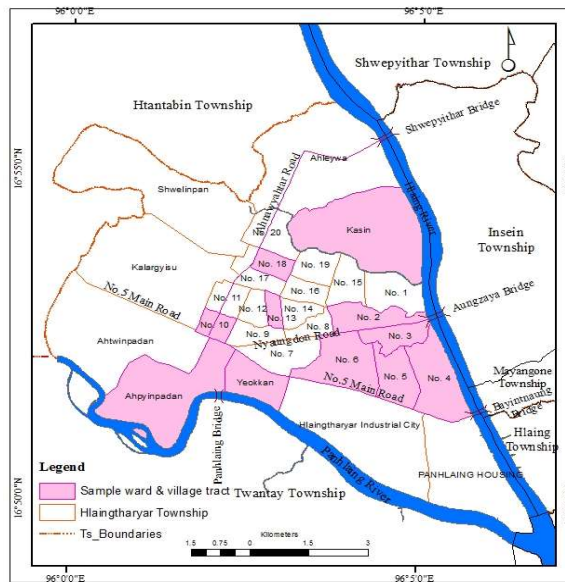

Figure 1. Location of sample wards and village tracts in Hlaingtharyar Township

Source: Survey Department and General Administrative Department, Hlaingtharyar Township

Household Heads for sampling are identified by the help of heads/ chairmen of the wards and village tracts who are supposed to know heads of each migrant family settling along the different roads and different sections of the wards or village tracts.

Heads of households as identified by the chairmen of ward/village tract are asked the questions mentioned in the questionnaires. Some male household heads were absent, being occupied at their respective worksites. Under such situation, housewives are asked to answer the questions.

Study Area

Hlaingtharyar Township occupies the western suburb of Yangon City between the Panhlaing and Hlaing Rivers. It is located between north latitude 16° 49' 30"and 16°54' and between east longitudes 95°59'30" and 96°06' 45". The township comprises 20 wards and nine village tracts, and shares borders with Htantabin Township on the north and west, Shwepyithar Township on the northeast, Insein Township, Mayangon Township and Hlaing Township on the east across the Yangon River, and Twante Township on the south.

Hlaingtharyar is the most developed among new satellite towns founded in the 1985. Hlaingtharyar Industrial Zone is one of the largest industrial areas in the country established in 1995. There were 13 industrial zones and 918 factories in 2014. The total area of industrial land uses was 1879.84 hectares in 2015. After Cyclone Nargis, the township experienced a jump increase in population due to storm victims. The total population was 374,698 persons in 2010 and 686,827 persons in 2014. The population growth rate was (141.56) percent during the four-year period.

Results and Findings

Demographic Characteristics of Migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township

Among the 1500 heads of household, 1448 (96.53%) are not native; they came from different parts of the country including Yangon Region. Only 52 (3.47%) are natives of Hlaingtharyar. Therefore, the migrants outnumber than the natives in every ward and village tract of Hlaingtharyar.

Occupation of Migrants

Occupations by which the migrants earn their living are classified into 11 categories. Generally the distribution pattern of migrants in each work category corresponds to the distribution pattern of the 1500 family heads. The majority of migrants are engaged in random jobs, construction work and factories for industrial production.

Table 1. Occupation of Migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township

Type of job	Number	Percent
Government employees	18	1.24
Retired	21	1.45
Agriculture	5	0.35
Manufacturing industry	200	13.81
Company	81	5.59
Transportation	144	9.94
Construction	222	15.33
Commercial	94	6.49
Services	100	6.91
Random / informal	385	26.59
Dependent	178	12.29
Total	**1448**	**100**

Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Education Standard of Migrants

The education standards of the majority of migrants are of basic education level, greatest in number with basic middle school level which represented a little over one-third (37.22%). Those with monastery education and basic primary school level accounts for 26.93 percent, followed by those with basic high school level (21.96%). Generally, the education level of the heads of most migrant families is lower than basic high school level. The number of migrant family heads with graduate or diploma or post-graduate level represents only 7.73 percent of the head total.

Table 2. Education Standard of Migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township

Type	Number	%
Illiteracy	13	0.90
Monastery Education	76	5.25
Primary School	390	26.93
Middle School	539	37.22
High School	318	21.96
University	30	2.07
University graduate	75	5.18
Post-graduate	7	0.48
Total	**1448**	**100.00**

Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Household Size

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines 'household' as 'the people in a family or other group that are living together in one house. In the 1448 sample households, some households have more than one family living together in one residential unit. The households that have 1 to 3 members are considered as small size, 4 to 6 members as median size and 7 and above as large size. The sample households include 652 (45.03%) small size households, 704 (48.62%) medium size households and 92 (6.35%) large size households. The average household size is 4 persons and the total population of the 1448 sample household is 5,616. Generally the median household size is the most common.

Table 3. Household Size of Migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township

Household Size	Number of Household	%
Small size households (1 - 3 persons)	652	45.03
Medium size households (4 - 6 persons)	704	48.62
Large size households (≥7 persons)	92	6.35
Total	1448	100

Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Working Population

Generally one or two family members are engaged in certain jobs. The number of households with 3 or more than 3 workers is small representing only 26.59 percent of the total migrant households.
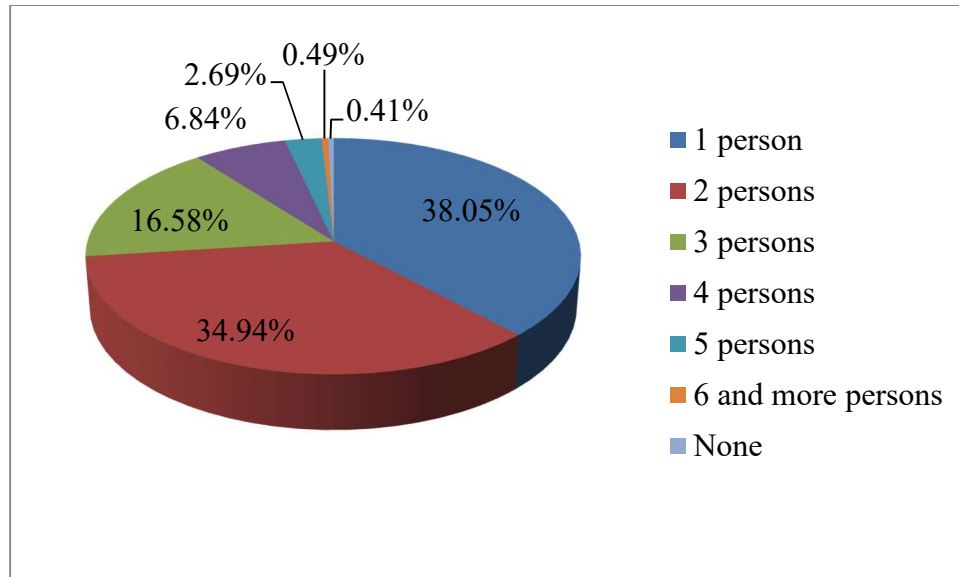

Figure 2. Working population in a migrant household
Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

House Ownership

The majority of the migrant households have no own house. Only 12.64 percent of the heads of household have their own house. Among the 1448 households, 1232 households (85.08%) have to live in the rented house or apartment for shelter. There are a few families that live together with their relatives and some few families built their own house or hut on the empty space belong to someone by renting the vacant land. In the long run, such type of living is more economical than by renting house or apartment. The current house/apartment rent is between Ks 30000 and Ks 65000 per month and the rent for land is Ks 15000 to Ks 20000 per month.
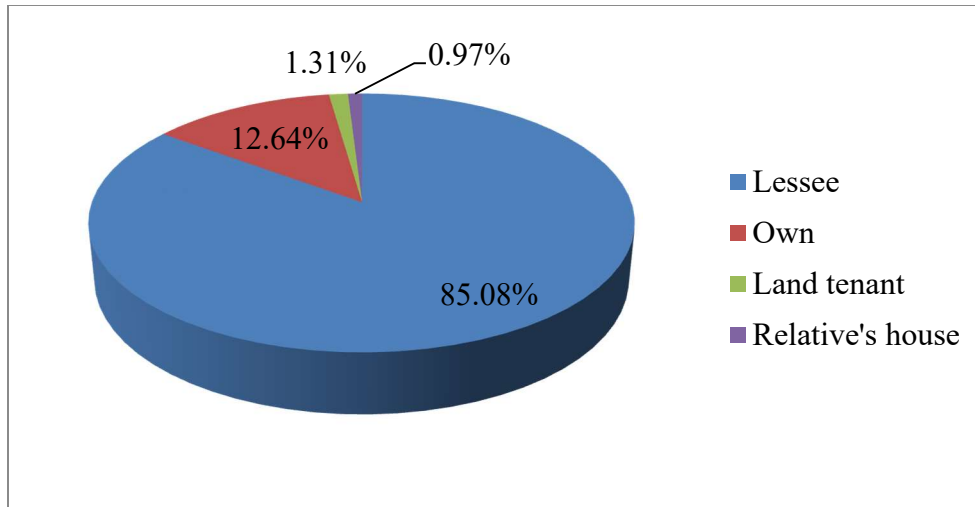
Figure 3. Ownership of House of migrants
Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Pattern of Migrant Movement

Migrants to Hlaingtharyar lived for a certain period in the native land or other places before moving to Hlaingtharyar. Some came from the urban areas, but the greater proportion came from the rural areas. The migrants include that came from Yangon Region, other states and regions as well as from abroad.

Among the 1500 sample households 96.53 percent are migrants and only 3.47 percent are natives of Hlaingtharyar. The number of the migrant family heads that came from certain urban areas was 606 (41.85%) and the remaining 842 (58.15%) came from different places of the rural areas.

Among the 842 families that came from rural areas 549 (65.20 %) lived in Ayeyarwady Region before they moved to Hlaingtharyar, 85(10.10%) in Bago Region, 80 (9.50%) in Magway region and 67 (7.96 %) in Yangon Region. The number of migrants from other regions and states are very limited. For instance, there are only 18 (2.14%) that moved from Rakhine State and the number of migrants is even smaller from other states. No people have ever migrated from Kachin and Kayah States to Hlaingtharyar.

The migrants who came from the urban areas lived in different regions and states, except Kachin and Kayah states. There are 606 families that migrated from the urban areas of which 284 (46.86 %) are from Yangon Region, 168 (27.72 %) from Ayeyarwady Region, 56 (9.24 %) from Bago Region, 28 (4.62 %) from Mandalay Region, 23 (3.80 %) from Magway Region and one each (0.17 %) from Chin State and Naypyidaw, but nil from Kayah State.

The number of migrants is largest from Ayeyarwady Region with 717 (49.52 %), followed by Yangon Region with 351 (24.24%), Bago Region with 141 (9.74 %) and Magway Region with 103 (7.11%). Only 5 (0.35%) migrants came from Tanintharyi Region, the least among the regions of the country. Among the 7 states, Rakhine State ranks first in the number of migrants to Hlaingtharyar with 33 (2.28%) and Napyidaw is at the bottom with only one (0.07%) migrant. There is no migrant that moved to Hlaingtharyar from Kayah State. The number of migrants from the remaining states is very limited (1.04%). For the whole Union, the number of migrants to Hlaingtharyar is least from Naypyidaw and Chin State and nil from Kayah State.

Table 4. Migrants from regions and states to Hlaingtharyar Township

No.	Region / State	From Urban		From Rural		Total	
		Family	%	Family	%	Family	%
1	Ayeyarwady Region	168	27.72	549	65.20	717	49.52
2	Yangon Region	284	47.36	67	7.96	351	24.24
3	Bago Region	56	9.24	85	10.10	141	9.74
4	Magway Region	23	3.80	80	9.50	103	7.11
5	Mandalay Region	28	4.62	29	3.44	57	3.94
6	Sagaing Region	7	1.16	1	0.12	8	0.55
7	Tanintaryi Region	4	0.66	1	0.12	5	0.34
8	Rakhine State	15	2.48	18	2.14	33	2.28
9	Mon State	8	1.32	7	0.83	15	1.04

No.	Region / State	From Urban		From Rural		Total	
		Family	**%**	**Family**	**%**	**Family**	**%**
10	Kachin State	4	0.66	0	0.00	4	0.27
11	Kayin State	0	0.00	3	0.36	3	0.21
12	Kayah State	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
13	Shan State	7	1.16	1	0.12	8	0.55
14	Chin State	1	0.17	1	0.12	2	0.14
15	Nay Pyi Taw	1	0.17	0	0.00	1	0.07
	Total	**606**	100.00	**842**	100.00	**1448**	100.00

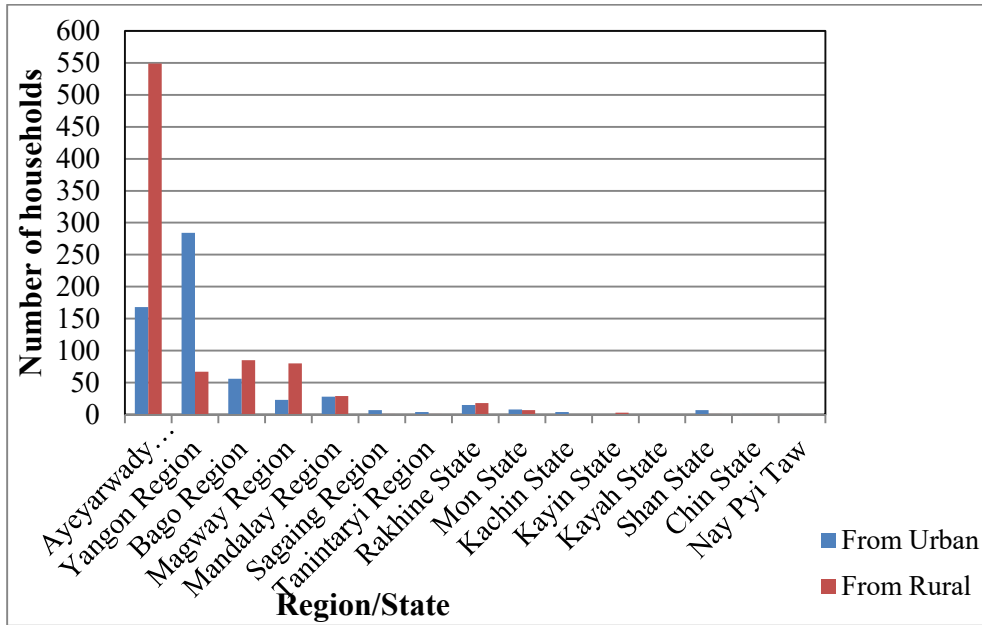Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Figure 4. Migrants from regions and states to Hlaingtharyar Township
Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Generally the greater proportion of migrants to Hlaingtharyar came from the rural areas, but as for Yangon Region, three-fourths of the migrants are from the urban areas. There is no migrants that moved from the rural areas of Kachin State and Naypyidaw. In contrast, there is no migrant from the urban area of Kayin State to Hlaingtharyar.

Times of Migration

When the heads of sample households were asked the time of migration to Hlaingtharyar Township, they could not respond the month and year of migration from their natives. However, most household heads could answer to the question how many years have they been living Hlaingtharyar Township. Based on the answers, the period from 1985-86 when the township was established to 2016 were divided into 6 shorter periods for comparative study.

In the beginning of sampling, 1500 households were included in the sample. As 52 households had been occupying the area since before the constitution of the new township, these households were excluded in this analysis. Households from other places have gradually migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township, since after the establishment of the township. The influx of migrants escalated in the 1997-2001 period, after the establishment of industrial zones in the township. The number of households that migrated were 173 (16.78%) in the 2002-2006 period, 348 (24.03%) in the 2007-2011 period and 511 (35.29%) in the 2012-2016 period. The increasing number of migrant people in the later years indicates that the township has more jobs and space to offer to the migrants.

The coastal area of Ayeyarwady deltaic region was hard hit by the storm Nargis in May 2008, flattening a great number of households and damaging widespread cropland. As such a number of people left their natives to the places where they could survive. Hlaingtharyar Township has been one of their targets. Of the 1448 sample households, 632 (43.65%) had migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township before the storm Nargis battered the southern part of Ayeyarwady Delta. The number of sample households that migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township was 816 (56.35%) after the storm. Therefore, it can

be said that the migration of people to Hlaingtharyar Township was somehow related to the destructive Storm Nargis.

Changes in Occupation before and after Migrating to Hlaingtharyar

Occupation before Migration

Most family's heads of the migrants to Hlaingtharyar earned their living by engaging in farm work or fishery in their native land. Out of 1448 migrants, 490 (33.84%) were engaged in the farm work or fishery. Their main livelihoods were growing crops on 'Le' and 'Kaingkyun' lands, livestock breeding and fishing. The second most important group includes those involved in random jobs before leaving their homeland. This group accounts for 23.0 percent of the total migrants to Hlaingtharyar. The third group comprises jobless dependents, including who had no job, students and other types of dependents, representing 18.44 percent of the total migrants. Among the migrants, there were only a few engaged in government services, transportation, construction, trade and service businesses. The number of migrants involved in private companies and factories was the least. No one was a pensioner among the migrants before moving to Hlaingtharyar.

Present Occupation

Among the heads of sample households of the migrants, 385(26.59%) are engaged in various random jobs in Hlaingtharyar. This group is the largest in proportion among the migrants, followed by the group engaged in construction work with 15.33 percent. Those who engaged in private mills and factories rank third in number with 13.81 percent, followed by those who have no job or dependents with 12.29 percent, in transportation sector with 9.95 percent, in services with 6.91 percent, in small-scale trading with 6.49 percent and in private companies with 5.59 percent. A little over one percent each are government service personnel and pensioners. Only less than one percent (0.35%) earns their living on agriculture. (Table 3.1)

Table 5. Changes in Occupation before and after Migrating to Hlaingtharyar

Type of job	Dependent	Agriculture	Random job	Manufacturing industry	Company	Government servants	Retired	Transportation	Construction	Commercial	Services	Before HTY (Total)	%
Dependent	30	0	51	42	20	6	4	48	35	14	17	267	18.44
Agriculture	52	4	144	67	39	5	0	34	86	32	27	490	33.84
Random job	48	0	131	51	3	1	0	27	42	10	20	333	23.00
Manufacturing i	1	0	4	7	3	0	0	1	2	0	2	20	1.38
Company	2	0	1	2	4	0	0	1	3	2	4	19	1.31
Government ser	6	0	2	4	2	5	14	2	3	3	3	44	3.04
Retired	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Transportation	4	0	4	5	1	0	1	22	6	0	1	44	3.04
Construction	4	0	10	2	0	0	0	0	37	1	1	55	3.80
Commercial	23	0	27	12	4	0	1	5	1	3	25	101	6.98
Services	8	1	11	8	5	1	1	4	7	29	0	75	5.18
Total (Current)	178	5	385	200	81	18	21	144	222	94	100	1448	100.00
%	12.29	0.35	26.59	13.81	5.59	1.24	1.45	9.94	15.33	6.49	6.91	100.00	

Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

The Changes in Occupation

Before migration, 33.84 percent of the total migrants earned their living on agriculture and fishery, but only 0.35 percent are new engaging in such activities. Of the people, the majority (60.61 %) are now involved in random jobs, construction work and in factories and manufacturing plants. This implies that it is relatively easier in seeking job at Hlaingtharyar Township. Of the remaining some 40 percent, 7.96 percent are now engaged in private companies, 6.94 percent in transportation, 6.53 percent in trading and 5.51 percent in services activities. A very small proportion (1.02 %) becomes government service personnel. There is no one who has become dependent or retired person.

The migrants, who were dependents in their respective homeland which represent 18.44 percent of the migrant total, now share only 12.29 percent. Of the total dependents and jobless persons before migrating to Hlaingtharyar 19.10 percent are now engaged in random jobs, 17.89 percent in transportation, 15.73 percent in factories and mills, 13.11 percent in construction work, 7.49 percent in private companies, 6.37 percent in services, 5.24 percent in commercial activities and 2.25 percent become government service personnel and 1.50 percent pensioners. For various reasons, 11.24 percent have become dependents, but no one is engaged in farm work.

Among the migrants, 23.0 percent were random job workers before migration and the proportion has slightly increased to 26.59 percent after migration. Of the total former random job workers, 39.34 percent are now involved in random jobs in Hlaingtharyar, 15.32 percent in private factories and mills, 12.61 percent in construction work, 8.11 percent in transportation, 6.01 percent in service activities, 3.0 percent in trade, 0.90 percent in private companies, and 0.3 percent in government services. Among the former random job workers, 14.41 percent have now become dependents, but no one has turned to become pensioner or farm worker.

The number of migrants who earned their living by trading before migration accounted for 6.98 percent of the migrant total. Among the migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township, 6.49 percent are now involved in commercial activities, decreasing slightly in proportion. According to questionnaire survey, 3 (2.97%) out of 101 former traders now continue their former occupation. Most of them (27 or 26.73%) have become daily wage earners in random jobs, followed by services activities with 25 (24.75%), private factory or mill workers with 12 (11.88%), transportation workers with 5 (4.95%), company workers 4 (3.96 %), each pensioner and construction worker 1(0.99%) each. There is no one who get involved in government service and farm work, but 23 (22.77%) have become jobless persons or dependents.

The former number of migrants who earned on service activities shares 5.18 percent of the total migrants, currently 6.91 percent of the migrants in Hlaingtharyar Township are engaged in services for their livelihood. However, no former services workers continue the same occupation in Hlaingtharyar Township. The majority 29 (38.67%) have become small traders while 11 (14.67%) are engaged in random jobs, 8 (10.67%) in private factories and mills, 7 (9.33%) in construction work, 5 (6.67%) in private companies, 4 (5.33%) in transportation, and each one in farm work and government service. Another one is retired and 8 (10.67%) has to depend on the income of others.

Among the migrants to Hlaingtharyar Township, 3.80% were construction workers before they left their native land. Now, in Hlaingtharyar Township, 15.33 percent are engaged in construction work, increasing by fourfold. Among the former construction workers 67.27% continue their old

occupation in Hlaingtharyar Township, and 18.18 percent are engaged in random jobs, 3.64 percent in factories and mills, and 1.82 percent each in commercial and services activities, and nil in government service, farm work, company and transportation. No one has become retired person, but 7.27 percent have become dependents.
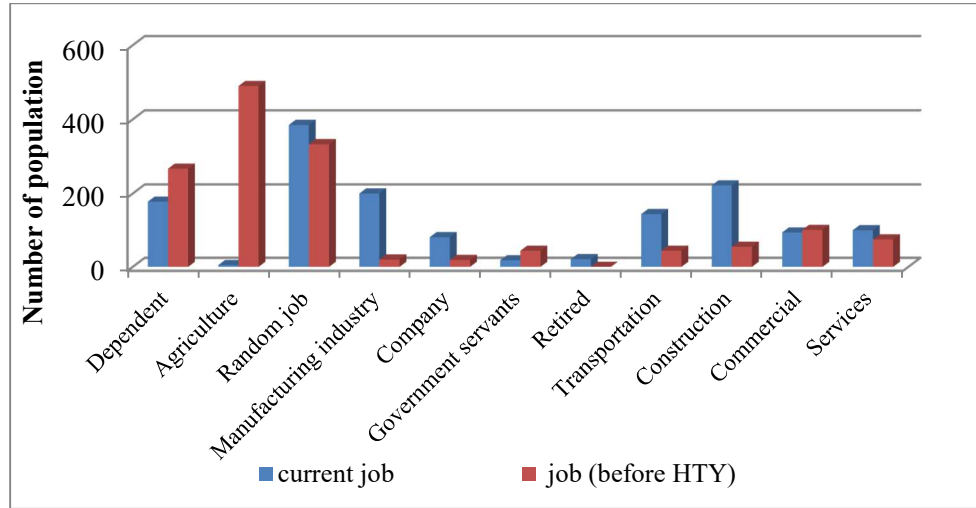

Figure 5. Changes in occupation of household heads in Hlaingtharyar Township

There were 3.04 percent of the total migrants whose occupation was transportation before they migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township. At present 9.95 percent of the total migrants are engaged in transportation. The number of former transportation workers was 44 of which 22 (50%) are now carrying on their old job whereas 13.64 percent are now engaged in construction, 11.36 percent in private factories and mills, 9.09 percent in random jobs, 2.27 percent each in companies and services, and another 2.27 percent are retired. Those who have become dependents or jobless persons account for 9.09 percent. No one of this group has become farm worker, government service personnel and sellers or buyers.

The number of migrants those who were engaged in government service share 3.04 percent of the total migrants. After migration only 1.24 percent is working in government services. Before migration 44 were

government service personnel of which 11.36 percent continue to work in government departments while 31.82 percent have retired and 6 (13.64%) have no job or become dependents. Among the remainder, 4 (9.09%) are now engaged in private factories and mills, 3 (6.82%) each in construction work, commercial activities and services, and 2 (4.55%) each in transportation, company and random jobs, but nil in farm work and fishery.

Before migration to Hlaingtharyar Township, 1.38 percent of the total migrants were involved in private factories and mills. Now the number of migrants those who are engaged in the same occupation accounts for 13.81 percent of the total migrants, increasing ten-fold. Of the former factory or mill workers 35 percent now continue to work the same job in Hlaingtharyar Township, while 20 percent are engaged in random jobs, 15 percent in private company, 10 percent each in construction work and services and one in transportation. The remaining one has become dependent.

Before migration to Hlaingtharyar Township, 1.31 percent had their employment in private companies, the least occupation category in the migrant workers. In Hlaingtharyar Township, 5.59 percent of the total migrants are now company workers, increasing by about four-fold. Of the total former company workers, 21.05 percent continue to work the same job in Hlaingtharyar Township, while another 21.05 percent are engaged in service activities, 15.79 percent in construction work, 10.53 percent each in commercial activities and factories and mills, 5.26 percent each in transportation and random jobs, but 10.53 percent have become jobless dependents. There is no one who earns living on farm work, government service or is retired.

No one was pensioner among the migrants before they left their native, but 1.45 percent of the total migrants are now retired persons.

Push Factors and Pull Factors

Out of 1500 sample households, 1448 (96.53%) are migrants. The migrants have left their native lands for various reasons which can be differentiated as push factors and pull factors. Some migrated because of push factors and some due to pull factors or both. Push factors can be categorized as economic factor, social factor, environmental factor and governmental

factor, while pull factors constitute economic factor, social factor and environmental factor. According to the responses by heads of sample households, there is no migrant migrated due to governmental factor relating to pulling effect the government policy.

Push Factors

Economic factor is concerned with low job opportunity, difficulty to make both ends meet, lack of shelter and being government service personnel. Among the heads of migrant households 24 (1.7%) had no regular job and not sufficient income to support the family. They can get random job easily in Hlaingtharyar Township and the income is fairly sufficient for their livelihood. There are 22 heads of households (1.5%) who have been transferred to Hlaingtharyar Township as government service personnel. Among this category, those who could not support their families with their income share the largest proportion with 28 households (1.8%). with a limited income they could hardly resist the hardship of being poor. That is why they have migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township with the expection of getting better job and more income. There are 4 households (0.3%) with no shelter to live in and sufficient food for survival. This type of households is the least among the migrants.

Table 6. Push and pull factors of immigration in Hlaingtharyar Township

Reasons			Frequency	Percent	Total
Push	Economic Factor	Under employment	24	1.7	386 (26.66%)
		Job transfer	22	1.5	
		Survival	30	2.1	
	Social Factor	Family migrate	50	3.5	
		Married	72	5	
		Demise parents	9	0.7	
	Environmental Factor	Natural disaster	84	5.8	
		Worry for fire hazard	10	0.7	
	Governmental Factor	Government Policy	85	5.9	
Pull	Economic Factor	In search of job	958	66.2	1062 (73.34%)
		better shelter	32	2.2	
	Social Factor	To live with parents	60	4.1	
		better educational opportunities	7	0.5	
	Environmental Factor	more convenience in life	5	0.3	
Total			1448	100	1448

Source: Field Observations, (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Migrants due to social factor can be differentiated into 4 types: migration of all family members, migration due to marriage, migration due to the demise of family member or members and migration due to lack of effective healthcare services, of which migration due marriage are the largest

in number with 72 households which represented 5.0 percent of total migrant households. The newly wedded couples believed that if they persisted on living in the rural area they could not overcome the vicious circle of poverty. They wanted to improve their living condition. They had good images of urban area, particularly Hlaingtharyar with high accessibility, high employment opportunity, fairly low house rent, easy access to the downtown and they also considered the education of their coming offspring. There are 50 households (3.5%) whose all members of families have migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township, the second largest group due to social factor. Some members were still young when they migrated together with their parents. After living several years in HTY, they got married and now become heads of the migrant households in HTY. In HTY Township, although their living standard is fairly low, they do not want to go back to their homeland where job opportunity is low. A few migrated due to the demise of their close relatives. Such types of migrants constitute a few, only 8 (0.6%) households. Having no kinship in their respective villages and they ventured to migrate as the Myanmar saying goes 'One cannot prosper unless one move to another place (village)'. Among the migrants who moved HTY Township on the ground that the rural area had no effective health care service include only one household (0.1%).

Migration related to environmental factor includes mainly due to disastrous effect of powerful and destructive Storm Nargis. Some lost their land; some could not continue fishing because of serious habitat changes, while others had no job even as a daily wage earner. A few migrated due to being afraid of fire that might break out at anytime among the rural huts.

The Storm Nargis battered the Ayeyarwady Region on 2nd May 2008, killing over 100,000 and a greater number of those living in the coastal area became homeless; a wide tract of farmland was heavily inundated; the invasion of saline water destroyed the planted crops. Losses of family members and draught animals, serious destruction of home, damage of planted crop caused depression to many a local inhabitant to start their live again in their rural homeland. As a result 84 (5.8%) out of 1448 sample households migrated to HTY Township. There are 10 households (0.7%) that moved from their native due to anxiety over the possibility of fire breakout.

Government factor over migration is solely related to rehabilitation of fire victims of Mayangone, South Okkalapa, Thingangyun and Kamaryut townships as well as squatters from other townships of Yangon City. This type of migration includes 85 (5.9%) out of 1448 sample migrant households.

Among the 4 types of migrants related to push factors, the number of households is largest due to social factor with 131 households which account for 9.2 percent of the total sample households, followed by on account of environmental factor with 94 (6.5%) and of governmental factor with 85 (5.9%). The number of households migrated due to economic factor is the least with 76 households (5.3%). Table (1)

Pull Factors

Pull factors of HTY Township over migrants includes economic, social factor and environmental factor. The most important is economic factor, the availability of job in HTY Township. The majority, 958 out of 1448, migrated to HTY due to better chance of job availability which account for 66.2 percent of the total migrants. This clearly shows that the migration of a greater number of people to HTY Township is mainly due to job availability. According to the responses of heads of sample households, there are many factories and mills in HTY and they can easily engage in certain job. The cost of living is relatively lower than in the inner part of Yangon City. There are 32 households (2.2%) that migrated to HTY due to having better shelter.

As regard with social factor, some migrated to live together with their relatives, while some expected better educational opportunities for their off springs. Among the sample households 60 (4.1%) migrated to live together with their kins while 7 households (0.5%) decided to move to HTY Township with the expectation of better educational opportunity for their children.

Environmental factor is concerned with the privileged who want to shun away for the stress of urban congestion and decided to settle at an apartment or house in FMI compound. Therefore such migrants are limited in number, only 5 (0.3%) among the sample households. Only the upper class can afford to purchase an apartment or a house in FMI. The existence of high-price residential buildings in the study area together with mostly low-price ones shows explicit economic polarization and class distinction, essentially the outcome of free economic system.

Summing up the pull factors, the greater proportion (958 or 66.2%) of the migrant households made decision to move to HTY Township on the fact that they could get certain job there which can solve their basic essentials. Other pull factors such as for living together with their close relatives, availability of better educational opportunity and living in stress-free area with high-prize modern style building are less effective in decision making for migration to HTY Township. Those households migrated due to pull factors highly outnumber the households that moved by the push factors with 1062 (77.3%) and 386 (26.7%) respectively. These figures clearly indicate that the pull factors are more powerful and important in the migration of people to HTY Township.

Table 7. SWOT Analysis on in-migration of Hlaingtharyar Township

Strength	**Weakness**
- Large human (manual) resource - Cheap shelter - Can seek job easily for basic livelihood than in the native	- Low skill labour; the nature of job is different from the native - Causing housing shortage problem - Housing and drains are not in systematic pattern - No systematic plan for the in-migrants as well as administration
Opportunities	**Threats**
- High job opportunity - Investment opportunity for new economic activities (e. g house renting, selling certain items) -More incoming of migrants having industrial zones; can reap the benefit of agglomeration - Unskilled labour can be trained to become skilled lobour	- Labour shortage in their origin - Emergence of squatter settlements - Can increase crime rate - Low wage, unemployment and underemployment may increase squatter settlements

Source: Field observations and interviews (30/6/2016 - 7/8/2016)

Discussion and Conclusion

This paper analyzes the causes of in-migration to Hlaingtharyar Township, Yangon City. To have comprehensive understanding of pull factors and push factors, open and structured interviews (questionnaires) are conducted on 1500 sample households. The data and information from the respondents are analyzed, essentially including demographic characteristics, causes of migration, profile of the household members and employment status.

Among the sample households 96.53 percent are migrants to Hlaingtharyar Township. The education status of most migrants is of basic primary or basic middle school levels. They came to Hlaingtharyar Township mostly from the rural areas than from other urban areas. The rural migrants include a greater number from Ayeyarwady Region and the urban migrants mostly from Yangon Region. Generally most migrants are from Ayeyarwady, Yangon and Bago regions. Among the remaining regions and states, those who came from Rakhine State are greatest in number, as the state is vulnerable to natural hazard and economic hardship.

Being hard hit by Storm Nargis in May, 2008, and serious flooding, some rural people of the Ayeyarwady deltaic region lost their farmlands and property leading to more difficulty to persist on living at their rural natives. Such effect of natural disaster and scarcity of job to earn a living drove them to move to other places, particularly to Hlaingtharyar Township. The negative impact of Storm Nargis has been the strongest push factor for migration. According to the responses of heads of sample households, 816 (56.35%) were migrated to Hlaingtharyar Township after the Storm Nargis.

Therefore, the main cause of migration to Hlaingtharyar Township is the scarcity of job in the rural area to make both ends meet. Among the heads of sample households 66.2 percent have migrated to Hlaingtharyar to get a job with fairly high income. Due to the pull factor of high job opportunity, the township population has been increasing rapidly.

There are 490 (33.84%) heads of households who were engaged in the farmwork before shifting to Hlaingtharyar Township. The nature of available

job in Hlaingtharyar Township is unlike that of farmwork and thus they are mere unskilled labour in Hlaingtharyar.

Before moving to Hlaingtharyar, 18.44 percent of the heads of households were dependents. The proportion of dependent slightly decreased to 12.29 percent. Those who were engaged in farmwork in their natives, the majority (98.97%) are now working in different work categories, particularly in random jobs, but 0.35 percent remains as farmers in the new place.

Among the heads of sample households 183 (12.64%) have own house while the majority (1232 or 84.41%) have to live in the rented houses or small apartment, indicating high housing requirement for the migrants.

According to responses of the household heads, 74 (5.11%) want to move to other better place. Half of them want to migrate due to economic reason, and another half to social reason, particularly to the place where their relatives are residing. Among them 50 percent want to resettle in their natives. One of the heads cannot make decision whether to stay on in Hlaingtharyar Township or go back to his natives. However, the large majority (1373 or 94.82%) have decided to settle forever in Hlaingtharyar Township.

Migration of people in greater number to Hlaingtharyar Township results in scarcity of labour in the rural area to carry out farmwork. On the other hand, the rapid increase of population in Hlaingtharyar Township enhances housing problem and the emergence of squatter settlements. By establishing agricultural trading centres in the rural area, the inertia of push factor can somehow be reduced. As the great majority of in-migrants are not willing to go back to their natives, more job opportunity should be created with reasonable wage or salary. At present, the government of Yangon Region is collecting data of the squatter houses to relocate at a suitable place with low-cost housing or apartment. Such undertaking is highly welcome to the squatters as well as to the townships concerned. According to field survey, not all the squatters are so poor. As they do not need to pay house rent, some could have saved extra money and ever built a strong semi-brick house. However, as the majority have to live in rented room, the number of squatter units is likely to increase over time, unless the authority concerned can solve the problem. Therefore, the government should also take consideration for the migrants who are currently living in rented houses.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my special thanks to supervisor Dr. Zin Nwe Myint, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Yangon, for her encouragement and valuable suggestions. I also would like to recognize the gratitude indebted to the editors of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science who give me permission to publish this paper.

References

Aye Aye Mauk (2011) *Socio-economic development of Hlaingtharyar Township*, Unpublished PhD Dissertation, Department of Geography, University of Yangon, Yangon.

May Thu Naing (2008) *A geographic study on migration in Mandalay City*, Journal of Myanmar Academic Arts and Science, Vol.VI.No.5.

Nagle G. and Guinness P. (2014) *Cambridge International A and AS level geography*. Hodder Education, UK.

Rubenstein J. M. (2003) *The cultural landscape: an introduction to human geography.* Pearson Education Inc. USA.

Saw Yu May and Hnin Khaing Aye (2013): *Migration patterns of Hpa- an Township, Journal of Myanmar Academic Arts and Science,* Vol.XI.No.6.

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□ ၊ □□□□ □□□□□ □□□□□ □□□□ (၁၉၈၇) □□□□□□□
□□
(□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□ 　　　□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□)၊
□□□□□□□□□□□□□ 　　　□□□○j□□□□□□□□□□□□တ□တ ၃ □□□□□□□
□□□□□□□□□□□□ □