




Circular Migration Pattern and Their Impact on Academic Procrastination of Social Sciences Education Students, State University of Surabaya

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Abstract. This study focuses on the circular migration phenomenon among students enrolled in the Social Sciences Education Study Program (IPS) at Surabaya State University. It is a common trend among students from different cities and districts in East Java. The study aims to understand the patterns and reasons for circular migration and its impact on students' academic procrastination. This qualitative study adopts a phenomenological approach, with data collected through in-depth interviews with student respondents engaged in weekly circular migration activities. The findings reveal that students typically travel weekly using bus transportation due to its flexible departure times. Adequate transportation facilities further facilitate circular migration. Distance, travel time, loneliness, and homesickness are identified as the main motives driving students to return to their hometowns every weekend. The habit of weekly circular migration negatively impacts students' academic productivity, often leading to procrastination and delayed completion of assignments. This, in turn, affects their overall academic performance at the university.

Keywords: circular migration, migration motives, academic procrastination.

1 Introduction

In today's era, people from all over the world have the convenience of interacting, thanks to the development of various technological devices that connect them through the internet. Face-to-face activities through online systems have become commonplace for many people. Not only are interaction activities carried out online, but human mobility is also increasingly seamless. This is supported by the development of modern transportation facilities and infrastructure, making the movement or migration of humans from one place to another easier and faster.

Human migration is not a new phenomenon. Long before the classical and modern eras, humans in prehistoric times also engaged in migration. The need for food drove humans at that time to engage in hunting activities to explore new areas. Additionally,

agricultural activities using shifting cultivation patterns were employed, leading to migration from one place to another in search of fertile soil.

During this time period, people are motivated to migrate to a new place due to a variety of reasons, including economic conditions [1], lack of job opportunities [2][3][4], business prospects, education, and even vacations. Migration doesn't just take place within cities, but also between cities, provinces, and even countries. When deciding to migrate, people often consider factors such as distance and travel time, as these are related to their interests. Additionally, the state of transportation facilities and infrastructure also influences human migration decisions. The nature of human migration varies, with some people migrating temporarily and others permanently [5]. The reasons for human migration in this era are certainly more complex. In addition to the various factors that have been previously explained, events occurring in various parts of the world often drive human migration. War events that affect a country force its population to be expelled from their home country and seek refuge in another country. Political conflicts are also often the reason for someone to migrate [6][7]. Additionally, disaster events frequently cause people to migrate to safer areas, and outbreaks of diseases affect people's decisions to migrate [8][9]. Migration can also be caused by the influence of weather and climate, which affect agricultural communities in a particular area [10].

The need for survival, such as finding work, often drives people to migrate to another area. The limited job opportunities in their original area often push people to migrate, while the higher wages in the destination area attract them to move [11][12][13][14]. The success of those who have migrated to a new area can also motivate others to do the same, as they are hopeful of achieving the same success. This migration activity is common in rural communities moving to urban areas, a phenomenon known as urbanization [15]. Individuals with lower levels of education may take up any available job in the city, including working in the construction sector, in order to improve their economic status. Lower levels of education can greatly influence the decision to migrate [16].

A comfortable working environment is one of the factors that attract migration [17]. Migration can also be triggered by educational factors. For example, the lack of educational facilities in one's area of origin may lead someone to seek out other areas with better educational resources, especially in big cities with more adequate infrastructure. This phenomenon is often observed in big cities, where students move to attend universities. In Indonesia, big cities like Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta, Semarang, and Surabaya are popular destinations for high school graduates seeking to continue their studies at the university level, whether in state or private institutions.

Surabaya State University (UNESA) is a popular choice for students in Surabaya and surrounding areas looking to pursue higher education. While many students come from Surabaya itself, others travel from different parts of East Java. Students from nearby cities and districts are the main contributors to the student population at UNESA. Typically, these students will reside in Surabaya, either by renting accommodation or staying with family. Many students also engage in circular migration, returning to their hometowns on weekends. This pattern is particularly common among students in the Social Sciences Education (IPS) study program at UNESA.

The phenomenon of weekly circular migration activities carried out by several students majoring in Social Sciences Education at Surabaya State University is not uncommon in the student community. However, the motives or reasons behind these activities are unclear. It is crucial to explore this phenomenon to understand the reasons behind the activity and its impact on the academic procrastination experienced by participating students. Procrastination, defined as the tendency to postpone academic tasks, often leads to problems related to delaying or neglecting the tasks.

This study aims to describe the pattern and uncover the reasons for students' circular migration, as well as its impact on students' academic procrastination. The study is urgent because it aims to reveal the reasons behind students engaging in weekly circular migration activities and how it affects their tendency to procrastinate on academic tasks, both individually and in groups.

2 Method

Based on a phenomenological approach, this study was conducted at the Social Sciences Education Study Program, Surabaya State University, between February and May 2024. The research focused on students of the Social Sciences Education Study Program who engaged in weekly circular migration activities to their place of origin. The study included 18 student subjects from various areas in East Java, with 5 male and 13 female respondents. Data collection involved in-depth interviews and literature studies, and data analysis was carried out using the Miles and Huberman interactive model. The table below shows the distribution of students based on their region of origin.

Table 1. Table number of respondents based on region of origin

Student Region of Origin	Number of students
Kediri	4
Bojonegoro	3
Lamongan	2
Tuban	2
Jombang	2
Mojokerto	2
Pasuruan	1
Malang	1
Bangkalan	1

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Circular migration pattern

The migration activities of humans exhibit various patterns, classified as unique in terms of nature, such as permanent and non-permanent, migrating every weekend or at the end of the month, and migrating at certain moments, such as religious activities.

Family composition also plays a role in the decision to migrate, as the number of children in a family can influence the decision [18]. For example, the size of the family can contribute to an individual's consideration to migrate [19]. For IPS students, travel activities to their hometowns are routine, usually conducted once a week. They typically return to their hometowns on Thursdays or Fridays, depending on the weekly lecture schedule. This tends to occur around 3-4 times a month. Students return to Surabaya every Sunday because they need to attend campus activities starting on Monday, following a regular lecture schedule. For these students, this circular migration activity is a weekly routine that is an essential part of their lifestyle, given their decision to study in the city of Surabaya. Their ties to their hometowns are still strong because their status is that of temporary migrants, driven by educational needs that are not met by their hometown. They had planned for this circular migration when choosing Surabaya as their place of higher education. Besides being the largest city in East Java, Surabaya was chosen as it was considered affordable for their weekly travel needs. This choice was also supported by the transportation facilities and infrastructure, making student mobility convenient.

Transportation facilities and infrastructure have a significant impact on commuters' mobility, making it easier to reduce travel time despite long distances. When it comes to circular migration, students generally prefer using public transportation buses because they offer more fleets and departure schedules compared to trains. Bus transportation is also relatively affordable and comfortable. Most importantly, students appreciate the flexibility of bus schedules, as they can make reservations on the day of departure without the risk of forfeiting tickets due to last-minute changes in plans. Furthermore, bus routes are often more convenient, requiring less additional transportation to reach their hometowns.

The distance is an important factor for students who engage in circular migration activities [20][21]. On average, they travel 90-120 km back to their hometown, taking 2-3 hours. In geography, distance is a key factor affecting accessibility between regions. Most students have a maximum tolerance limit of 150-170 km for their circular migration activities. If the distance is greater than that, they may only engage in circular migration monthly instead of weekly.

Regarding circular migration activities, the travel time, similar to the distance, also impacts respondents' decisions. In a study, student respondents mentioned that the longest travel time they are willing to endure for weekly circular migration is 3.5 to 6 hours. Their limit is influenced by the fatigue they experience during travel and their body's ability to withstand it.

3.2 Circular migration motive

All human activities with a purpose have a motive behind them, just like the weekly circular migration activity carried out by student respondents. Many respondents mentioned homesickness as the main reason for the weekly circular migration. They expressed that they couldn't stay away from their parents or family for too long [22][23]. The familiar environment of their hometown and the warmth of their parents are irreplaceable to them. Being used to having all their needs met at home, they find

the living environment in Surabaya less comfortable, despite its simplicity. Interestingly, only female respondents mentioned homesickness as a reason, as none of the male respondents cited it. In addition to homesickness, a few respondents mentioned that they engaged in circular migration because of their parents' request to ensure their well-being. Some parents even cover the cost of their children's trips home, in addition to their monthly allowance. In cases where the respondent doesn't go home for a week, the parents visit Surabaya to see their child and enjoy a vacation.

More than half of the student respondents stated that they engaged in circular migration activities because they felt lonely in Surabaya. They found that there were limited weekend activities, their living environment was quiet, and they lacked friends from the same area or study program, making it difficult for them to socialize. Admitting to being introverts, they faced challenges in interacting with their surroundings. These feelings of loneliness highlight the fact that humans are inherently social creatures and depend on the presence of others for a fulfilling life, both physically and socially. When experiencing loneliness, individuals seek activities to alleviate boredom. Most student respondents turned to traveling back to their place of origin, where they could interact with their parents and people they knew, in order to overcome their feelings of emptiness and loneliness.

One of the reasons that emerged was the discomfort felt by students staying with relatives in Surabaya while attending school. These students typically stay with their uncles, aunts, or grandparents in Surabaya. Despite living with family, they feel uneasy during weekends due to the lack of activities at home. This discomfort led them to prefer returning to their hometowns every weekend to spend time with their own parents. This suggests that the social environment plays a role in their migration decision [24].

The interview participants did not find the travel costs associated with their circular migration activities to be problematic. The majority of them spent 50,000 to 80,000 rupiah for a round trip, which they considered relatively affordable. This amount did not pose an obstacle for them to travel every weekend. They indicated that the maximum cost they were willing to expend for a weekly circular migration trip was 100,000 rupiah. Any amount beyond that would lead them to reconsider making the return trip.

The availability of transportation facilities also encourages students to engage in circular migration. Various transportation options and good road infrastructure make travel more efficient, which supports the mobility of people who choose to migrate to different areas for various reasons. Moreover, the state of transportation facilities and infrastructure can indirectly improve the socio-economic conditions of the communities surrounding small cities near the provincial capital, which serves as a hub for growth.

3.3 Academic procrastination

The tendency to always postpone academic tasks and always experience problems related to the act of postponing or leaving the task is known as procrastination [25][26]. The habit of postponing assignments has an impact on assignments being

done in a hurry, resulting in less-than-optimal quality assignments and causing a decline in academic quality [27]. These symptoms are also experienced by students who do weekly circular migration. They generally admit that whenever there are college assignments, they are rarely done on productive days, they often postpone assignments when they are in their hometown where the student comes from. Various reasons were put forward by respondents, starting from needing a comfortable place to do assignments, and never concentrating on working in boarding houses or at relatives' houses because they are often invited to chat with relatives on weekends. environmental conditions that are not supportive [28], and all of that makes them in a good mood or not motivated to do academic assignments as soon as possible [29].

The habit of procrastinating on academic assignments improved when faced with group assignments [30]. Generally, respondents said that when there was a group assignment, they would propose to immediately divide it into small parts in the work and tend to hang the work between group members. Then, student respondents also proposed to hold meetings not in person but chose to use Zoom or google meet meetings. Respondents said that working on group assignments in this way could reduce their habit of procrastinating, this was because they did not want their circular migration activities to be hampered by assignment problems. However, if there was a complicated group assignment, usually student respondents would postpone the return schedule and even not go home that week.

Some respondents admitted that academic tasks that were postponed would be completed closer to the maximum submission deadline and there were some tasks that were late in being submitted. This habit clearly has a negative impact on students' studies in college. However, the term is always an oasis in the middle of the desert, very few of the respondents did not postpone doing academic tasks, these respondents preferred to do the tasks as soon as possible so that when they returned home they would not be disturbed by the burden of doing college assignments.

4 Conclusion

The analysis results indicate that social studies students' weekly circular migration is driven by various factors, with loneliness, homesickness, and feeling embarrassed at a relative's house being the most dominant. These feelings prompt them to travel to their hometown every weekend. Besides distance and travel time, the availability of transportation facilities and infrastructure also influences the frequency of their circular migration within a month. Engaging in circular migration serves as a coping mechanism for students experiencing loneliness, helping them maintain their mental well-being. However, this practice negatively impacts their academic performance by causing disruptions in attending lectures and delaying assignment submissions. Procrastination leads to lower quality work, posing a significant challenge for students who engage in circular migration. It's important for these students to address this issue by altering their habits, such as completing assignments promptly, to avoid being overwhelmed by academic responsibilities upon returning to their hometowns.

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6 Author Contribution

The authors consist of five lecturers who contributed to the writing of the article. The writing of the article was separated into several stages of research and writing which were completed in approximately 4 (four) months. The first author was tasked with coordinating the team in conducting the research. The second author was tasked with compiling interview guidelines. The third, sixth and seventh authors were tasked with collecting research data. While the fourth and fifth authors assisted in data collection and also processed the data obtained in the research. The five authors contributed fully to this research. After the research process was completed, all authors analyzed the data together to draw conclusions.

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