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**Residential Patterns, Living Conditions, and Social Network:
A Case Study of Nang Rong Migrants
in Urban Settings, Thailand
(Extended Abstract)**

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Although migrants' settlement in big cities has become a major concern, aspects of migration in the context of destinations seem to be less studied compared to research on migration in perspective of migrants' home of origin. This study uses the case of rural-urban migrants in Thailand, a context where rural-urban migration is a common passage into adulthood, to examine migrants' residential patterns in urban destinations, particularly in Bangkok and in the Eastern Seaboard areas. As migration of rural populations, especially those in reproductive age, is one among contributing factors to the growth of population in Bangkok, migrants' settlement as well as the quality of lives of migrants has increasingly become a main concern in urban planing. However, studies regarding migrants' residence in places of destination have received much less attention in Thai migration literatures, as compared to studies on the determinants of migration.

This study takes advantage of a rich dataset of a migrant follow-up study that followed migrants from Nang Rong, a district in the northeast of Thailand (Isan)- a region from where the mainstream of rural migration to Bangkok is. The study especially focuses on the home of origin of migrants' neighbors in destinations. A descriptive analysis suggests that more than three fourths of Nang Rong migrants in popular urban destinations live in a neighborhood where at least 50% of their neighbors are from the same region—the region of Isan. How this residential pattern comes about and how it affects migrants' well-being remain unclear. To elaborate this

descriptive analysis, this study seeks to understand two things: 1) possible explanations for migrant's residential patterns, and 2) consequences of residential patterns for migrants' way of life.

Regarding explanations for residential patterns, past studies focusing on segregation suggest that segregation is associated with low socioeconomic status. Therefore, this study especially examines how much the patterns can be attributed to migrants' socioeconomic status, measured by educational attainment, type of occupation, and income. Alternatively, we assess whether migrants are susceptible to residential segregation, regardless of their socioeconomic status positions.

Regarding the consequences of residential patterns, an extant literature describes profound effects of residential segregation such as physical deterioration and social environments that may reduce residents' chances for social and economic success. Deleterious neighborhood conditions associated with segregation may create disadvantaged environments that in turn may lead to progressive isolation, geographically, socially, and economically. The dataset used in this study allows for two models to test the effects of residential pattern. The first model tests whether residential pattern is associated with physically deleterious conditions. A variable to measure housing conditions is created as a dependent variable to explore if residential segregation of Nang Rong migrants is associated with low quality of housing conditions. The other model tests if residential pattern affects social network, which, in this study, is measured by number of persons who are not from migrants' home region, who are mentioned by migrants as people that the migrants can depend upon in time of need in the destination.

The study hopes to provide insightful information for policymakers in developing and implementing appropriate policies concerning the migrant settlement process, particularly migrant settlement processes in urban settings of Thailand.