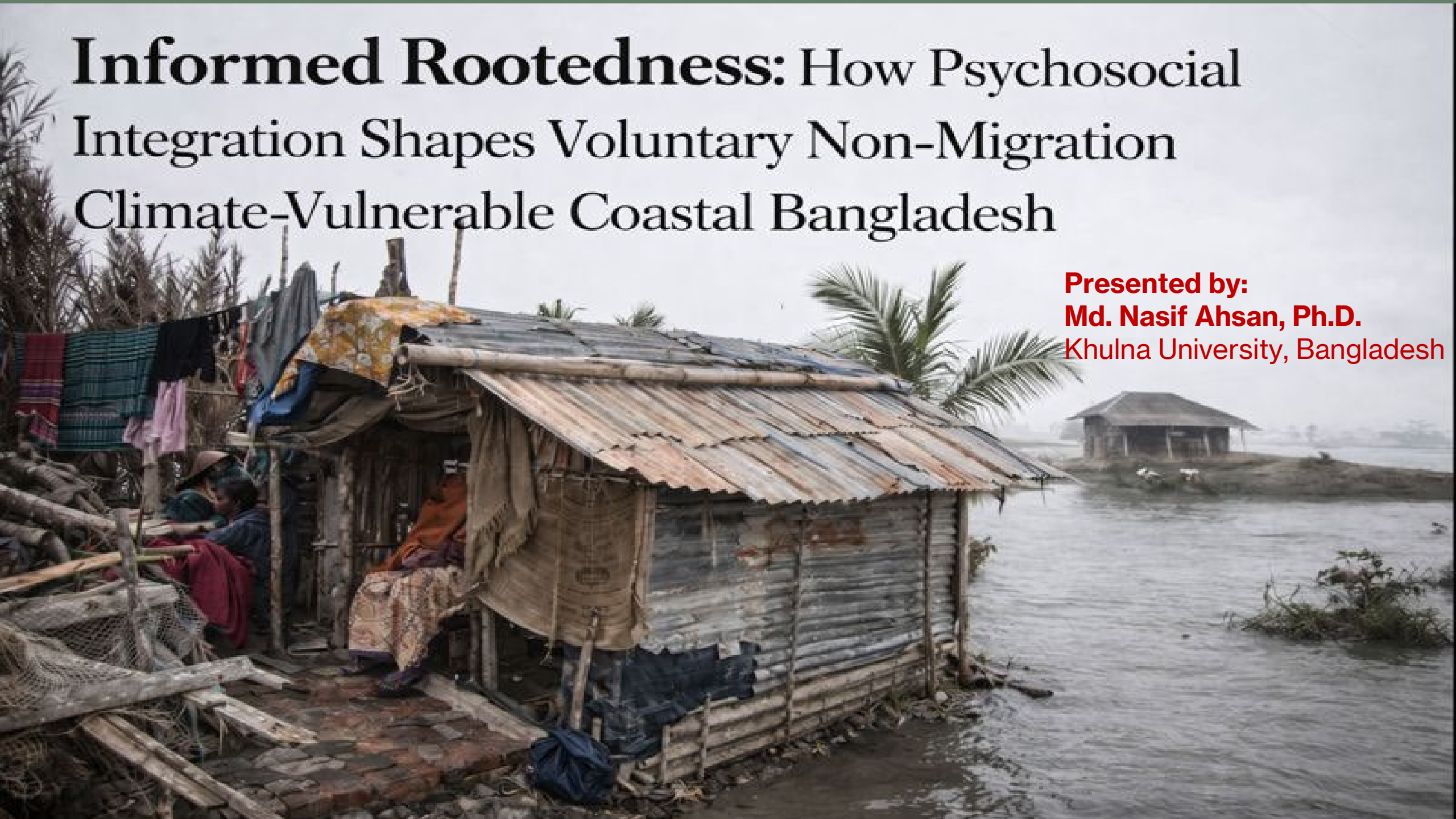


Informed Rootedness: How Psychosocial Integration Shapes Voluntary Non-Migration Climate-Vulnerable Coastal Bangladesh

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Climate Vulnerability and Migration Paradox in Bangladesh

Climate Vulnerability in Bangladesh

Frequent cyclones, tidal surges, and salinity intrusion threaten livelihoods and habitability in coastal Bangladesh.

Displacement and Migration Trends

Between 2014 and 2023, 14.7 million displacement events highlight the scale of climate-induced mobility in Bangladesh.

Paradox of Non-migration

Despite risks and resources, many coastal households deliberately choose to stay in hazardous areas, challenging assumptions about poverty-driven immobility.

Psychosocial Factors in Rootedness

Psychosocial integration influences non-migration aspirations, highlighting the importance of local identity and social ties.





Research Questions and Conceptual Framework

Core Research Questions

The study explores psychosocial integration's role in non-migration and mediating structural factors influencing staying decisions.

Psychosocial Integration Dimensions

Psychosocial integration includes place attachment, social capital, community belonging, and institutional integration as key dimensions.

Research Methodology

Sampling strategy and data collection

STAGE 1

Study Area Selection

Khulna & Satkhira districts (climate-vulnerable coastal belt)

3 upazilas, 4 unions, 27 villages



STAGE 2

Multistage Sampling

N = 411 left-behind households

Criteria: 5+ years residence, adult respondent, migrant member



STAGE 3

Data Collection

Structured questionnaire + 3 KIIs + 3 FGDs

Jan-Feb 2025



Analytical approach

ANALYSIS 1

Sequential Binary Logistic Regression

4 models testing hierarchical predictors:

M1: Demographics → M2: +Economic → M3: +Psychosocial → M4: +Disaster awareness

ANALYSIS 2

Structural Equation Modeling

Direct & indirect effects via mediators:

Place attachment, community resilience, social support (bootstrap: 1000 replications)

ANALYSIS 3

Moderation Analysis

Interaction effects tested:

Gender × Psychosocial integration; Hazard exposure × Psychosocial integration

Key Construct: Psychosocial Integration Index ($\alpha = 0.81$) | **DV:** Non-migration aspiration (binary)

Core Finding: Psychosocial Integration Drives Non-migration

411 left-behind households in coastal Bangladesh (Khulna & Satkhira)

70.1%

of households expressed NO migration interest despite climate vulnerability

$\beta = 0.71$

Psychosocial integration effect
($p < 0.01$)

+10%

Non-migration likelihood per
year of residence

The Counterintuitive Pattern

Households with **higher education** (5.85 vs 4.54 years) and **higher consumption** (BDT 13,472 vs 10,005) showed stronger place attachment—**non-migration propensity**.

Four Dimensions of Psychosocial Integration

Place Attachment — Emotional bonds, environmental knowledge

Social Capital — Neighbor networks, mutual support systems

Community Belonging — Shared identity, collective participation

Institutional Integration — Access to services, governance ties

Theoretical Contribution: "Informed Rootedness"

Reconceptualizing voluntary immobility as active adaptation

Core insight: In climate-vulnerable settings with strong social networks, enhanced capabilities (education, income) reshape aspirations toward *local adaptation* rather than migration—a process we term '**informed rootedness**'

1 Endogenous Aspirations

Amends the **Aspirations-Capabilities Framework**: capabilities can enhance place-based aspirations rather than triggering migration when collective adaptation is viable.

2 Dual-Capacity Education

Re-theorizes education as raising **both** mobility potential and local adaptive capacity—context determines which pathway dominates.

3 Collective Decision-Making

Highlights **collective** dimensions in non-mobility decisions reflect community-level adaptation strategies, not just individual cost-benefit.

Implication: Challenges the "mobility bias" in migration studies—non-migration is not failed migration or passive risk exposure, but strategic, informed adaptation.

Take-home message

¹**Staying** is often a deliberate,
informed choice

²**Psychosocial integration**
matters as much as exposure







Publication from the first year's data collection

Habitat International 153 (2024) 103215



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Habitat International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/habitatint



Displaced by nature, driven by choice: Exploring the factors influencing environmental migrants' habitat preferences in coastal Bangladesh

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When waters turn against communities: Unraveling water governance, security, and household well-being in hazard-prone coastal Bangladesh

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Thank you!