

## **Explanation of Cognitive Characteristics of the Relationship between Politics and Geographical Space in Post Positivism**

**Ehsan Lashgari Tafreshi\***

Assistant Professor of Political Geography, University of Yazd, Yazd, Iran

Received: 2017/01/02

Accepted: 2017/06/10

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

In human science, one concept may have different interpretations in different philosophical schools. Explanation of one concept or its relationship in different cognition schools has very great importance. From philosophical aspects in human science, theoretical structure has very fundamental role in cognition. In other words, ontology, cognition and methodology of one concept are deficient or uncompleted without determination of theoretical structure. In this field, in the geographical sciences, relationship between politics and space as a very important paradigm in the geography could be taken different meaning in different cognition schools. Space consists of mutual relation between human and environment. Geographical sciences analyze this space and its issues with human and physical dimension. Between different aspects of the geographical space, political dimension is more important. In other word, this dimension and its ideological framework for resolving the issues in the space could be varied in different cognitive methodologies. In geographical studies from the 1970s with the arrival of Marxist ideas in Geography, a number of geographers turn away from focusing on quantitative methods and ecological studies. In the Positivism school, space was considered as a perceptual thing. In other words, researcher should use their sense and their experience for detection of things in space. Before that, dominant methodological in geographical studies was defined in positivism school. In this school, researcher should not involve his ideology or his culture for discovering truth. While, in post positivism thinking quantities' planning is not anything except "false consciousness". In post positivism school, meanings, ideas, and theories can obtain their objectivity and ostensible concept by dominant power and ideology. In this school, geographical spaces are also derived from dominant ideological power. In structuralism philosophy, major assumption is that invisible force in behind of any symbol in the space are emerged in any symbol in space. Thus, the space concept does not have actual objectivity.

Since the 1970s a serious theoretical criticism has been conducted on the quantitative methodology in geography. At that time, the philosophy of geography was full of political and ideological conflicts. This condition was due to the cognitive shift in geographical sciences among the different dimensions of geographic space. The political dimension of space as one of the most important was more essential to resolve these challenges. Thus, in this research, we have struggled to understand the relationship between politics and geographical space in post positivism methodology to analyze the effectiveness of understanding this relationship in post positivism methodology.

---

\* Email: Ehsanlashgari80@yahoo.com,

Tel: +989196351008

**Methodology**

This research has fundamental approaches in the philosophy of geography and for compilation of information we have referred to valid documents and bibliography. In this study, we struggled with descriptive and analytical approaches. In first step we defined space concept and cognition. Then, the space definition has been compared with characteristics of post positivism cognition school.

**Results and discussion**

In the definition of geographical space concept, one of the important aspects of production and changes in the geographical space is resulted from political power. The politics and ideology as a process and geographical space as the form and context are always interconnected with each other. In other words, any action that advertently or inadvertently conflicts with political power would be considered as political action and therefore spatial structure is the production of political processes. Generally, the main functions of post positivism for understanding the relationship between politics and geographic space is as follows:

1- Changing in geographic space phenomena are affected largely by political power and patterns of society. Although the trend of geographical space cannot be studied from just one-dimension. However, the discourse not merely considers abstract ideas, in realistic approaches they are as previous existence that takes precedence over any other discovery. Thus, any phenomenon into geographical space is dependent on a discourse. On the other hand, coordination between different levels of space planning regardless of dominant power cannot be achieved in a sustainable way.

2- The study Method for relationship between politics and geographical space is far from qualitative method and there is no character reproducibility on that, because space is affected by the changing ideologies and political actors. The change of power and discourse cannot be predicted. Thus, changes in spatial phenomena cannot be identified and predicted and incommensurability of discourses in different historical periods is one of the inevitable consequences. Therefore, in future studies, a genealogy approach is needed for recognition of relationship between politics and space in trans-positivism. In this approach, there isn't accurate knowledge about the future of geographical space changes as a result of political power transition. In this context, recognizing changes in various aspects of geographic space-based genealogy of power is carried out through the following steps. A) Breaking points of discourse should be determined until its historicity. B) Time period should be determined when the discourse has impacts with current framework on the other aspect of geographical space.

**Conclusion**

Space is a major paradigm in geographical sciences and different aspects of geographical sciences examine the relations between human and environment that produce the space. The space has different meaning in distinct cognition schools. In other words, every school for resolve the issue in the space could make different solutions. So, solutions that presented by post positivism are distinct from those presented by other methodologies. The evolution of human wisdom considers the action as the only way to overcome on the issues in the geographical space. So, studies between politics and space are obtained only by authority and the rule of one politically supported class would be politically dominant over the other social classes. As a result, for studying the ideology and political construction effects on other dimensions of geographical space, we should use post positivism methodology.

**Keywords:** politics, geographical space, methodology, post positivism.

## **Land-Use Planning in the Face of Earthquakes in Worn-Out Texture (Case Study: Abdulabad, Tehran, Iran)**

**Mahdi Nayeri**

PhD Candidate in Geography and Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

**Ismail Shieh\***

Professor of Urban Planning, Iran University of Science and Technology, Tehran, Iran

**Mahmoud Rezaei**

Assistant Professor of Urban Development, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

**Navid Saeidi Rezvani**

Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, Qazvin Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qazvin, Iran

Received: 2017/03/13

Accepted: 2017/06/11

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

As an influential tool for urban authorities, land use planning plays an important role in the increased resilience of urban communities. Given the importance of the subject in different aspects and diverse conditions in the pursuit of justice, land use planning with equitable distribution of resources and services has been ignored by scholars, policy makers and urban planners and managers with no worthwhile results. As the problems of these areas are disregarded, worn-out textures can cause various types of damage. Physical development and rapid growth of cities during recent decades led to poor distribution of urban centers resulting in lack of equal enjoyment of services by the citizens.

#### **Methodology**

Studying land use resilience during the earthquakes in vulnerable textures, with minimum use of facilities, this paper seeks to provide a land use planning and other effective components in order to propose best reaction and least damage during critical conditions. In terms of the method and type, this is descriptive- analytical study, i.e. the issue is handled systematically and its components are analysed. Identifying the variables affecting a problem through descriptive and library methods, an effective pattern and appropriate indicators for the components analysis were provided using expert's ideas. A hierarchical structure of the factors was provided in AHP to determine, prioritize and take optimal components. The AHP was calculated by Microsoft Choice and Microsoft Excel for components rating and prioritization.

#### **Results and discussion**

Results of Expert Choice indicate that, among the measured components, management is in the first place with undeniable role in the evolution of the city and its center. Meanwhile, the

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: es\_shieh@iust.ac.ir

Tel: +989123271494

important point is that a manager should be able to make a relationship between their goals in worn-out areas and urban system as a whole. Economy (0.112), also, is in second place impacting the formation and urban texture content regarding the indicators such as job, income, various activities and services. Distribution of poverty and wealth and creating an average level of life for the residents, appropriate distribution of accessible urban services around the city results in the integration and flow of life in all urban areas and their renewal and prosperity. Citizen's involvement in revival and renewal process is the third component. According to this component, despite community cohesion and strong social text a result of its position is compared with other urban areas, worn-out texture suffers from problems beyond construction methods and similar issues. Accordingly, physical intervention in these textures is ineffective and other solutions such as public involvement need to be considered.

Fabric and land use (0.093) were in fourth place that indicates their importance compared with other components. This type of planning with resilience management to counter natural disasters increases the safety of the spaces used by citizens and easy access by rescue groups. Functioning was in fifth place (0.084) in Expert Choice. Today, creating user diversity in urban space is an important issue. In real life, when working space predominates, compared with residential and touristic spaces, many social and spatial problems occur in that area. Environment was the sixth component (0.082) in which production and emission of land and air pollutions result in declined quality of urban texture, migration, stopped renovation and thereupon, worn-out textures. Population was seventh component (0.081) with considerations such as high population density, high number of children, elderlies, women and disabled people and high household density in housing units result in increased vulnerability. As the eighth component, culture had a great impact on neighbourhoods; especially during earthquakes for preserving and effectiveness during critical situations, factors such as increased social communications, strengthened sense of community, participation in periodical events and ceremonies, satisfaction measurement, reduced social and cultural disorders in the texture are considered. Therefore, the more homogenous the community in terms of culture, the less the vulnerability will occur. Ninth component was society (0.076) according to Expert Choice, indicating positive relationship between emotional satisfaction of people and physical environment. Place attachment depends on people's participation in environment and their cultural interactions considered more important than fabric by some experts. The last component was traffic and transportation considering its unimportant place among other components; it concerns normal conditions of the society.

### **Conclusion**

According to the explanations, the factors resulting in increased risk include: population growth, unplanned urban development, rapid development of informal residencies, overflow of the population of urbanized areas, degraded ecosystem, etc. Therefore, urban planners should attempt to create a quiet, safe and healthy place for residents.

**Keywords:** land use, resilience, old tissue, earthquake, Abdolabad.

## **Identification and Prioritization of Business Opportunities in the Aras Free Trade Zone**

**Morteza Akbari\***

Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Maryam Sadat Reshadi**

MA in Entrepreneurship, New Business Trend in Kashan University, Kashan, Iran

**Hamid Padash**

Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Mohammad Karimian Ravandi**

MA in MBA, Farabi Campus, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2017/01/21

Accepted: 2017/11/29

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Opportunity is a central concept within the entrepreneurship field, and there is now a critical mass of literature on the concept. Entrepreneurial opportunity emerges in individual aspirations with economic and social conditions perceived as favorable to create a new product or service, either in an existing market or a new one. The concept of an 'entrepreneurial opportunity' is central for the study and theory of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs are individuals who pursue entrepreneurial opportunities. Without entrepreneurial opportunities, therefore, there will be no 'entrepreneurship', conceptually speaking. The most important exception is the literature in management and organization theory on opportunity discovery or opportunity identification, or what Shane (2003) calls the "individual-opportunity nexus". The opportunity identification involves not only technical skills like financial analysis and market research, but also less tangible forms of creativity, team building, problem solving, and leadership. While value can be created not only by starting new activities but also by improving the operation of existing activities, research in opportunity identification tends to emphasize on new activities. These could include creation of a new firm or starting a new business arrangement, introducing a new product or service, or developing a new method of production.

Investment in one hand is one of the most important factors in economic growth and development in every country and on the other hand, it is not a casual phenomenon. The identification and prioritization of the investment opportunities in every country could improve the economic growth and development by attracting the investors. Aras Free Trade - Industrial Zone (abbreviated as AFZ) is located in the Northwest Iran at the border point with neighboring Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic. AFZ is located in semi-arid and semi cold North-West part of Iran. Annual rainfall is about 225 to 400 mm per year and average temperature is about 15 degree Celsius. The AFZ is very close to high mountains ranges, which have a cold climate. The facilities include railways and roads, electricity network, irrigation and

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: [mortezaakbari@ut.ac.ir](mailto:mortezaakbari@ut.ac.ir)

Tel: +989126115241

water distribution network, gas distribution network, communication network, branches of all major banks and insurances, border terminals, customs warehouses, airport (Tabriz), government offices and ministerial branches, hotel, motel and restaurants. The AFZ have different business opportunities in the fields of economy, agriculture and tourism. This study has been done to identify and prioritizes business opportunities in the Aras free trade zone.

### **Methodology**

This research is a descriptive survey. Research population consists of 150 people. The mixed exploratory method has been used in data collection. In mixed exploratory methods, the researchers first gathered qualitative data. Then, based on findings from qualitative data, the quantitative data collected can have more generalizability of the findings. Data analysis was done using SPSS statistical software. To describe qualitative characteristics, we calculated percent and frequency distribution and also central and dispersion indexes using one-sample t-test. Finally, for test and prioritization of variables, Friedman nonparametric test was used. The study carried out a qualitative paradigm and the case study method. Using purposive sampling, 10 experts in the field of Entrepreneurship in the Aras Free Trade Zone were interviewed. After data collection, business opportunities in the AFT zone are classified in five categories including agriculture, tourism, trade, services, and industry. In order to analyze the data, all Recorded dialogues were converted into written texts. In the next step, using Sentence by sentence strategy, important statements are related to the subject. Finally, in order to interpret data in this study, we used constant comparative analysis method or open coding and axial. Moreover, to determine the questionnaire reliability, we also used Cronbach's alpha technique.

### **Results and discussion**

The results of encryption, 41 general categories (coded optional) and business opportunities are identified in AFT. The opportunity is classified in five general areas: agribusiness, tourism, commercial, industrial and service. The results showed that among these categories, commercial and agriculture were placed in the first and last priority, respectively. The difference observed between the different domains is a significant error level of less than 0.05. The results also determined the best business opportunities in each category. The best actions are including: building export terminals is the best for trade business opportunity, integrated health and medical tourism services is the best for service business opportunities, the solar heating systems (solar hot water) is the best for industrial business opportunities, he construction of hotel and tourism business opportunities is the best for tourism business opportunities, and sorting and packaging fruit is the best in agriculture business opportunities.

### **Conclusion**

Development of any factor in countries requires investing in economic sectors and activities in that country. One cannot expect to increase employment, production and economic welfare without investing in infrastructure. Establishing and promoting free zones can act as a fast policy and a shortcut for achieving the goals such as attracting foreign and home investments and rapid industrialization in order to develop non-oil exports in a state greatly dependent on oil exports. Thus, the business opportunities in the field of trade and tourism will specially pay attention to the area. With respect to the special position of Aras Free Zone, relevant authorities paid more attention to identify opportunities and create new opportunities with investing in this area, to improve the economic situation and create job. Moreover, given the obtained priority in decision-making for investment this can provide facilities and infrastructures, accelerating in

infrastructure and construction affairs, developing economic growth, investment and increase general revenue, create healthy and productive employment, adjusting the labor market and goods, presence at international and global markets, production and export and finally will be in line with free zone goals.

**Keywords:** business opportunities, Aras Free Trade zones, agriculture sector, business sector.

## **Stability of Water Resources Based On Optimal Loading of Population and Urban Development (Case Study: Yazd, Iran)**

**Mohammad Reza Rezaei**

Associate Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, University of Yazd, Yazd, Iran

**Yahya Alizadeh Shuroki\***

PhD Candidate in Geography, University of Yazd, Yazd, Iran

Received: 2016/12/08

Accepted: 2017/09/25

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Iran is located in an arid region with negligible precipitation, as average downfall is under the third of that of the world average. Yazd province is placed in dry and desert area and has 100 mm precipitation in year. Yazd as one of industrial city in our country was confronted with population traits and migration. This growth caused the requisition for water consumption increase. Requisition has caused the level of underground waters in mean in 30 years period. Thus, answering to the requests and procurement of water require supplying water connected to nonrenewable resources and out of penetration basin. For inhabitation of regional and national tension crisis in the research program, it is required to have solutions for supplying needed water of the city.

#### **Methodology**

To this end, urban development forms were examined by library studies and then sustainability models concerned with water and sewage network. They identified the status of water resources in Yazd province and Yazd Ardakan plain. This was determined using relevant documents and then quantitative analysis to calculate the optimal population of the city based on two options for production and consumption of water. The type and manner of this research is descriptive and analytic using combinational qualitative and quantitative analysis. Using of library researches, civil resistant form were investigated in continuation. Situation of province's water resources, Ardakan-Yazd plain and Yazd city were determined by relevant documents and then by using of quantitative analysis, city optimal population based on water production and water consumption.

#### **Results and discussion**

The present research, first of all, is devoted to the assessment of sustainability of Yazd concerning water resources based on sustainable urban development models and then touches on the optimal population of Yazd according to the options for water supply in 2016 with regard to the water transferred from Zayande rood to Yazd. This is to examine the second phase of water transfer as well as water transfer project from Persian Gulf based on goal setting which

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: Alizadeh0352@yahoo.com

Tel: +989132569480



applied mixed research method. To determine water deficit rate of the inhabitant population, we calculated difference of water need average from inhabitant population and the resources.

To determine excess population in the water deficit rate for the population (30.3 million cubic meter in year), we calculated equivalent to 83 million liter for optimum population.

### **Conclusion**

The results have demonstrated that Yazd –Ardekan plain has just 2 percent of underground water resources. While 82.58 percent of population in the province are inhabited in Yazd city and 80 percent of needed water is provided by surface resources. Water from Zayanderod, this water resources in distance of 330 kilometer of Yazd city based on resistant civil models. Evidently population decentralization as a policy along promotion of people using water include reduction of consumption per capita, management of water system, reduction of casualties, progressive in cease of water rate price and reduction of domesticated consumption. Decrease in drinkable water from consumption can be an effectual step in improvement of water resources situation.

**Keywords:** optimal size, population, sustainability, water resources, Yazd.

## **Environmental Interpretation of Rural Settlements Formation and Exodus Using Spatial (GIS-Based) Multi Criteria Evaluation in Isfahan Province, Iran**

**Abbas Amini\***

Associate Professor of Geography and Rural Planning, Geographical Sciences and Planning,  
University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran

**Nosrat Moradi**

PhD Candidate in Geography and Rural Planning, Geographical Sciences and Planning,  
University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran

Received: 2017/10/01

Accepted: 2017/02/26

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Rural settlements are actually the primary spatial patterns of man and nature interaction, reflecting the environmental effects on community behaviors. Inevitable evolution of these patterns temporally can affect environmental non-environmental factors. One of the major structural evolutions of rural areas, beyond a demographic one, is extraordinary migration depopulating some villages, namely rural exodus, which can be considered as a geographical phenomenon related to the environmental contexts. Transformation of irregular extended rural-urban migrations to the escape of rurality and rural life style is one of the serious environmental, socioeconomic and structural dilemmas of third world under developed countries. Technological evolutions have extended the broadness, impacts and importance of this phenomenon. The problem is originated from the incompetent structures and foundations for encountering the contingences of the new era. These situations are unfortunately reproduced in all of the third world countries such as Iran as an unavoidable reality that generates and expands a significant abnormalities and shortages against the indigenous development process of the societies, especially rural communities. In other words, from a systemic point of view, rural-urban migrations and escape of villagers toward the cities, is one of the chain-work mutual interactivities among the weakened communities to encounter the new world mechanisms. In such bi-polarized societies, the process of development has been imbalanced towards the urban areas. Centralization of investments in the forms of developmental infrastructures and import technologies often in the progressive urban areas has changed them to the destination of mass populations of undeveloped and under developed rural areas. This action is taking place inevitably as a last resort against the new global contingences. This has weakened and disabled the old traditional societies and their orders for living.

#### **Methodology**

This study is aimed firstly at identifying depopulated rural settlements over a quarter century since 1986 in Isfahan province and secondly representing an environmental interpretation of the

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: a.amini@geo.ui.ac.ir

Tel: +989131290940

phenomena using statistical methods and spatial analysis in the geographic information system environment. To do this, the layers of spatial distribution of settled villages in 1986 and identified depopulated areas of the study are based on the detailed reports of public censuses from Iran statistical center in ArcGIS environment. The rural settlements exodus have been analyzed based on the prepared environmental layers of altitude, slope, aspect, temperature, land types and distance from wells and springs.

### **Results and discussion**

Spatial analysis of exoduses in relation to each of these environmental factors indicated that there is a significant relationship between exoduses and environmental factors of slope, land types, altitude and distance from wells. Environment's potential (or poverty) emanates from mutual and especially none compensatory relationships between all environmental factors. Therefore, the land inhabitability necessitates the least liability of all none comprisable environmental functionalities and their simultaneity to guarantee the communal durability and livelihood. Taking this principle into consideration, the exodus of rural settlements have also been analyzed based on the overlaid raster layers of all studied environmental parameters, calculated as their Weighted Linear Combination (WLC), using map algebra in ArcGIS. To do this, the layers normalized linearly and different relative importance of the layers evaluated and obtained using the eigenvector method, based on the experts' pairwise comparison judgement. Like the previous individual indices, two statistical indicators calculated and used for spatial and environmental analysis of rural settlements' exodus; "the density of settled villages at the beginning year 1986" and "relative proportion of depopulated villages over the study period with respect to the total". The indicators calculated separately for each of five environmental potency/poverty classes has been verified using the natural breaks method in GIS. The standardized scores of overall environmental potency/poverty for any of the classes have been calculated using the "zonal mean statistic" function from the spatial analyst tool of ArcGIS. Correlation analysis of environmental potency/poverty and previously mentioned indicators, revealed 80 percent of positive relationship between the environmental potency and settling density, and 56 percent of positive relationship between the environmental poverty and relative exodus.

### **Conclusion**

Although the role of the environment is undeniable in both formation and the exodus of rural settlement, its role is more determinant in terms of formation and continuity of rural settlements compared with their exodus and depopulation. It is perceivable that the exodus and depopulation of rural settlement is affected by various none environmental parameters and mechanisms even more than environmental elements. In this regard, internationally it is mentionable that the predominant industrial development approach caused by the industrial revolution and the information and communication revolution of the contemporary era, have also deepened the gap and inequalities between the quasi-developed urban and undeveloped rural areas of the third world countries. The strategy of rural areas in facing with these undesirable national and international situations interacting with environmental disadvantages has commonly been expansion of the rural-urban migrations, in some instances as a geographical phenomenon of villages' depopulation and rural exodus. Both of the rural origins and urban destinations have disadvantaged from such of unavoidable rural depopulation. In this regard, counter-ruralism is the attitudes and psychological situation of villagers. This drives them to leave the village. It is so developed that the synergic trade-offs between the "poverty of environmental functionalities"

and “socio-economic insufficiencies” reproduce and accelerate this inauspicious phenomenon, conducting subsequently to delay and deficiency of the whole society’s development process.

**Keywords:** environment, rural settlements, formation, rural exodus, Spatial MCE.

## **Analysis of the Proportionality Arrangement of the Spatial Physical Elements in Urban Growth Zone Based on Urban Sustainable Development Approach (Case Study: District 22, Tehran)**

**Rahmat Allah Farhoudi**

Assistant Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Ali Mohammad Naseri\***

PhD Candidate in Geography and Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Tehran, Iran

**Zahra Pishgahifard**

Assistant Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2017/05/13

Accepted: 2017/10/09

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Since Tehran has been chosen as Iran's capital, it has left behind several difficult challenges such as world wars, the transition from traditional to modernism and postmodernism and the effects of global development. Since the primary formation the process of urbanization and urban development has undergone a lot of changes. These changes and vicissitudes, influenced by a variety of conditions such as place, time, and internal and external factors, has made changes in the form, shape and size of the city which in turn lead to a series of new conditions such as the dimension and physical expansion of the suburb. There is a continuously dynamic process during which the physical surrounding of the city is always developing in different qualities and directions. The continuous process of this rapid growth destroys the physical form of the city and loses the balance of the sustainable base of the city. The purpose of this research is to study the formation and development of the physical shape of the space layout and its effects on the present situation and also to study the proportionality of these elements on Tehran, district 22 as a developing zone. In this research, I am going to evaluate the effects of the different factors in making the present situation to predict the future situation.

The city was important as the result of human civilization since the farthest time, and has been the basic reasons for the existence of the primary civilization. At the inception of the recent century, the growth of industry and technology causes the extension of urban development. This physical development growth is influenced by natural and human phenomena and parameters and causes the spans. These changes are continuous and sequential. The effect of this factor has been different and varied in different parts of the world.

Urban growth in nature has rebellious substantiate character, which needs to harness, direct, and control policy makings. Because, in one hand, it must be with intellectual and logical, advocate, control making houses, and on other hand, it could lead to eliminating the causes of reasonable construction of physical abnormalities that prevent arises.

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: [naseria173@yahoo.com](mailto:naseria173@yahoo.com)

Tel: +989128468371

The effects of urbanization changes in Iran in recent century in social, economic, political, and urban population have been increasing. Urban population was, in 1957-%31.6, 1967-%47, 1977-%54.2, from the total population of Iran country. According to the 1991 statistics, population of Iran was 57.8 million people, equal to 54.3 percent in urban areas. Despite awareness of the adverse effects caused by uncontrolled developments in the natural environment it cannot be prevented from development. We believe that the concept of sustainable development is as old as the cities on the planet genesis. This trend has been even more rapid in the next decades. This trends has been taken from past to now. These sudden changes in increase show that the cities of Iran have passed different and hard conditions in postindustrial age that caused new forms in the city. These changes extremely influenced migration, technology and industry growth in Iran and world level and also made changes in oil and petroleum funds dependent on industrial manufactures, social, economic and political macro revolution, and develop transportation capacities. Thus, in new region around the city we usually see infestation of influential beneficiaries. Such conflicts caused anomaly and irregularity in the growth, expansion and development of the city.

Despite the awareness, the adverse effects caused by uncontrolled development cannot be prevented from developing cities today. That is why the sustainable development discussion today is almost important and noticeable.

Reviewing the research about district 22, the question raised here is that: Is there any method for sustainability in the new regions, around the city as the main bases of the city? The recent face, morph and form of the district in Tehran city represent sustainability of nearby cities and potential of this important zone? And how we can try to whit the sustainability view in remaining city morph, the houses of region? How is the high balance making in Chitgar Lake with city sustainable development of city? In this study after saying the bases and a brief history of city sustainability development and completely explain studies of Mantageh 22 Tehran city and accommodating.

### **Methodology**

The method used in this study is descriptive with library studies, field operation and frequent visits to sites, maps, tables and graphs. This study is an applicable descriptive analysis. This research is a descriptive, objective, consistent, and genuine characteristic of Tehran district 22 as a study subject that is the urban sustainability of this zone. The approaches used in this study are data analyses such as random sampling by interviewing the different people in the area as shopkeepers and sightseers of Chitgar Lake, cause-effect analysis, contemporary forms, and structural elements of space and expression of the results in the context of sustainable urban development on individual bases.

In this research, we posed this question that there is any way to reach sustainability in new regions around the city as the bases for urban development. There are many ways to reach sustainability in the city, but these ways are often lost in extant of the subject. On the other hand, there are some ways of resolving the city problems but, it is better than doing nothing. These solutions sometimes are suitable and just need an understanding and knowledge, but they often lose the extant of the subject matter.

### **Results and discussion**

This research is an analysis of the proportionality arrangement of the spatial physical elements in district 22 Tehran with urban sustainable development view. Thus, at the beginning I explain

physical space of the case study to examine the arrangement of the spatial element and any physical space in this district of Tehran city.

The function and situation of regional towns in this district of Tehran and their location show this reality, that distribution of physical space consists of full and vacant spaces. Types of houses are generally similar in, material, forms, quality architecture, density and floors. In older spaces limit and boundary domains are blended, so we can see boundary of towns, in such an area. The high rise buildings can destroy the sky line, porosity, the landscape and the symmetry, and they also cause unsustainability in the design of physical space. Thus, design without modality is the main space, so that spectator is faced with confusion. Spaces are strongly unsustainable, without sense, emotion and spirit, and it seems that these towns are just built for dormitory function. This condition is in the oldest towns, because that's built with the plan in which these problems of space are less seen.

### **Conclusion**

At the beginning of this research we asked a question of how the new regions around the city, as growth zone, can lead to sustainability. It seems that because these regions, are in different condition, they are always in physical growth. The changes are continuing, these changes continue until they get relatively stable. This event may take several years. This may take a long time for the urban growth zone to reach relative stability and to get out to relative balances. Thus, we can say that it may get out to sustainability in urban planning, city design, but to receive that it needs more study of the different and local conditions of the city. It seems there are solutions for the city and but it may be like an exam that includes true and false options.

Another subject that is explained in this research is how we can try to get an optimized image and form of the district 22? It may be said that today this region of Tehran is in bad condition, as some people who have some common and illegal benefits may be interested in misusing the situation. These common interests cause a form of competition. These competitions may result in changes of the image of the city and put it in bad conditions. This is outside the usual rules. These regulations change the image of the city.

**Keywords:** urban sustainable development, physical studies, physical growth of city, growth zone, district 22.

## **Application of Space Syntax Theory in Reduction of the Socio- spatial Segregation of Urban Neighborhoods**

**Faeze Mehri**

PhD Candidate in Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Qazvin Branch, Qazvin, Iran

**Zohre Davoudpour\***

Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Qazvin Branch, Qazvin, Iran

Received: 2017/04/20

Accepted: 2017/10/10

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Unequal distribution of resources and social situations in urban spaces reduces the relations between different social groups. This affects the participation chances in urban life and causes socio-spatial segregation. However, some studies have been executed by the role of urban form in social segregation but there is little knowledge about the impact of urban spatial configuration (relations between spaces) on social networks appearance. The presented study emphasizing on potential of co-presence in public spaces of twelve neighborhoods of Zanjan City to explore the role of urban design in facilitating access to resources and appearance of social networks in order to decrease the negative impacts of socio-spatial segregation. The type of research is an applied one with is descriptive-analytical method. The analysis of spatial integration has been conducted by Space Syntax Tool and UCL Depthmap to study the influence of urban spatial configuration on resource distribution. The social analysis has been implemented by SPSS. The results show that the quality of public spaces and spatial relations in local and ultra-local levels can affect the accessibility influenced from that. These effects have important social results. If the spatial configuration of city provides neighborhoods integration in different scales, the equal distribution of resources and job opportunities reduces socio-spatial segregation and increases social solidarity in city.

#### **Methodology**

In analysis of spatial configuration, the urban zonation is a base for physio-spatial analysis. The neighborhoods are selected from each region. They are different in aspects of spatial arrangement, distribution of non-residential land uses and distance from city center. Neighborhoods not only are studied in relation of their larger context and affected area but also analyzed the aspects like spatial accessibility, distribution of resources and job opportunities.

The emphasis is on aspects that are important for creation of participation chances in life, job and activity in different neighborhoods like the potential of space in creation of social interactions and accessibility to attractive land uses. Local centers and streets can provide possibility of co-presence studied in different functional scales (local, ultra-local, city). The analysis of configuration is conducted based on indicators like integration, choice/betweenness

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: Oljaeto@gmail.com

Tel: +989127459104



and spatial accessibility to determine the relation between urban spatial characteristics and the quality of urban space application. Detailed information about the users of the space has been provided by asking questions through setting up 384 questionnaires. The statistical population is the citizens of Zanjan and the sample was taken from the twelve neighborhoods. Moreover, daily activities have been observed directly in six days in two consecutive weeks at certain times (in the morning and evening). Finally, spatial and social data have been combined with each other through correlation analysis in SPSS.

### **Results and discussion**

The combined results from spatial analysis maps and social data from questionnaires and observations show that neighborhoods are socially, economically and culturally different and give various chances and life qualification. The residents of neighborhoods located in region 3, 4 and 6 are limited to use only some parts of the city. They are faced with limitation in sharing public spaces and their daily life activities as separated and limited. Limited exchange between different parts of the city can hurt the mechanism of social interactions. Neighborhoods encounter with not-directed social contacts and the lack of suitable public spaces which enable the co-presences to be possible. Moreover, the negative impact of unequal distribution of pervasive land uses in micro and macro levels on function of local land uses influence the social life in neighborhoods. Since social interactions are not formed, social networks cannot be generated or regenerated. Inattention to the quality of spatial relations between neighborhoods and the social mobility affected from that can gradually spoil the integrated structure of the city. Accomplished spatial separation, limits the relational, social and economic exchanges between different neighborhoods. Weak social ties that affect social mobility and increase social solidarity are weakened because of weak physio-spatial relation between different neighborhoods. These are the base for socio-spatial segregation. But the space is planned and designed correctly by making different levels of construction and intensity of the patterns of co-presence. This can influence energy level to form impression experiences and the tendency of having relationship with other people. Thus, it can cause group solidarity. On the other hand, spatial inequality increases social inequality. People live in segregated regions have less social opportunities than those with similar social characters in other places. Spatial inequalities reduce social and economic relations between income groups. Not only socio-spatial boundaries cut income flows, but also limit access to existence of social networks in high income neighborhoods which are important for job searchers.

### **Conclusion**

Public spaces are important places for expansion of urban social networks and joining processes in larger community. Living in the areas, people will be able to participate in different social processes. If spatial relations between neighborhoods organized correctly, the residents can utilize the public arenas in different neighborhoods. By supporting social processes which help the creation of weak ties and appearance of social networks, equal distribution of resources and social activities chances can increase social movement. It can cause socio-economic sustainability in neighborhoods and social solidarity in city by reducing the negative effects of socio-spatial segregation. In this regard what is important is:

- 1) Given the role of urban spatial configuration in creation of difference in benefit and spatial nature of public spaces, the processes can influence daily activity routes in terms of time and space.

2) Emphasizing on co-presence in public spaces, suitable resources distribution and facilitating access to them in interventions and policies of urban design in relation to urban spatial configuration. This renders the appearance of participation chances possible in urban life for different social groups. Therefore, these two points by reducing socio- spatial segregation have an important role in creating social solidarity in the city.

**Keywords:** spatial configuration, socio-spatial segregation, space syntax, urban design, Zanjan City.

## **An Analysis on the Role of Socioeconomic Factors in the Formation and Expansion of Informal Settlements of Mashhad Metropolis**

**Rasool Ghorbani\***

Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, Tabriz University, Tabriz, Iran

**Omid Ali Kharazmi**

Assistant Professor of Geography, Ferdowsi University, Mashhad, Iran

**Naeema Torkmanniya**

PhD in Geography and Urban Planning, Tabriz University, Tabriz, Iran

Received: 2017/04/02

Accepted: 2017/11/04

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Informal settlement involves a variety of meanings dependent on the geographical situation, how to capture the land and the legal, physical, administrative and economic dimensions. It refers to a specific term in any political system and human societies. But the most appropriate definition of informal settlements is more adapted to the context of informal settlements of Mashhad. As defined by the Supreme Council of Architecture and Urban Development of Iran: The informal settlements are the tissues that are located mostly on the edge of cities and metropolises and formed outside the formal development plan. Residents of these tissues are low-income groups and rural immigrants. These tissues do not have safety, strength, social security, services and urban infrastructure. The Mashhad metropolis is one of the most prominent centers of informal settlements in the country which make up 33% of the population of Mashhad as marginalized. The population of these settlements in 2014 reached 1183 thousand inhabited in the region, 3894 hectares in area, within the urban development and outside the service area of Mashhad. This demographic and its consequences shows the necessity of attention, identifying the causes and factors of the formation and expansion of this problem, and ultimately necessity of effective planning in Mashhad metropolis.

In this article, we have selected two categories of factors for the formation and expansion of informal settlements, namely economic and socio-cultural factors. Their components and variables have been determined by reviewing theoretical foundations and interviewing experts and then it is determined how effective these factors are in this research through a survey of experts. The degree of importance of each of the factors and variables will also be obtained by completing the questionnaire by the residents of the informal housing areas.

#### **Methodology**

This research is applied and the research methodology is descriptive-analytical. The data collection tool is library documents and survey. A quantitative research approach is based on the use of SPSS for statistical analysis and VENSIM for drawing causal and disability diagrams.

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: ghorbani.rasoul@gmail.com

Tel: +989144156694

Questionnaires are completed in two different communities of related experts and residents of informal settlements in Mashhad. The number of questionnaires for the first community was 55, which was completed several times by Delphi method. The number of questionnaires for the second population was calculated based on Cochran's formula with 384 questionnaires. The reliability coefficient in the questionnaire of the residents of informal settlements was 0.909 and 0.882 in the expert answers, as a good reliability.

### **Results and discussion**

Due to the large number of factors involved in creating informal settlements at different levels, there should be a comprehensive approach to all of these factors. Using systemic thinking, people gain a better understanding of the world by viewing patterns that change over time, not seeing them as unique events. If we have the ability to view the whole system image with its details, it will be determined by the cause of the conflict of activities, the relationships between them, and patterns of results. Therefore, all the factors found in various studies are used in this research. By summarizing theoretical foundations and applying the comprehensive consideration of all factors, these factors are divided into 5 subsystems: macro, managerial, economic, social and physical-environmental indicators that in this research, two economic and socio-cultural factors are investigated.

Economic factors have 10 variables including drought and economic downturn, easy creation of early employment, low land prices, low housing prices, inflation, and housing rental, and low income, job opportunities, rising living costs, unemployment and stagnation in surrounding cities.

Social factors have 12 variables that include immigration, cultural convergence of migrants, and rapid population growth. The variables are including religious attraction of Mashhad, the rate of illiteracy, the increase in the number of children and the need for more space, the need for security and safety along with the relatives, lifestyle changes, social inequality, change in sex ratio, and increase in household size and burden.

### **Conclusion**

The results of the tests indicated that the economic factor had more effect on the formation and expansion of informal settlement of Mashhad. The most important variables are poverty and low income, drought and agricultural recession and unemployment. It can be said that the inhabitants and experts are equally concerned about this and it's just the difference in the more comprehensive view of the experts that the drought and agricultural recession are considered to be the most effective factor. In summarizing the views of residents and experts, one can find out the most effective variables of the social factor: migration, rapid population growth and religious attraction in Mashhad. According to the impact of variables, we can draw the diagram of the socio-economic system of the extension of informal settlement of Mashhad as well as their causal and non-functional relationships. One-way and two-way relationships are formed between the variables that generate cycles. Strong cycles belong to economic variables that perform like primary causes, the reason for this is the decision to migrate and pass from the hometown and take off from the ancestral soil, especially for the villagers. The result is an intra-urban and sub-urban migration cycle that migration from outside the cities plays a more significant role in the formation of informal settlements.

According to the final diagram, the direction and purpose of the strategies and suggestions should be aimed at weakening the effective cycle of expanding informal settlements of these

cycles to be more strategic state in both the regional and national levels. These conditions can present ways to weaken or defeat these cycles including strengthening agriculture in the cities around Mashhad, strengthening small towns on the regional level and strengthening neighboring cities, housing for low-income groups, controlling inflation at the national level, formalizing land ownership in these areas, and social empowerment of these residents at the local level.

**Keywords:** expansion of informal settlements, economic factors, socio-cultural factors, Mashhad Metropolis.

## **Analysis of the Performance of Article 100 Municipality Commission and Its Effects on Urbanization and Urban Planning Using Scenario Planning, Yazd, Iran**

**Hasan Hekmatnia\***

Associate Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, Payam Noor University, Iran

Received: 2017/08/20

Accepted: 2017/11/12

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Urban construction is important from various economic, social and cultural dimensions. Violations in urban construction in conflict with these dimensions and urban development plans could lead to the impact and change in the distribution of urban activities, levels assigned to them and distribution of different land use in the city and their logical relationship together, in common. This has broken down the basis of these plans and has had negative effects on different dimensions; it has deprived the city of proper and efficient texture and skeletons. In this regard, one of the important authorities that can handle these dimensions and lead to urban discipline and urbanization is the article 100 Commission of the Municipality. According to article 100 of Municipalities Law, the owners of land and mortgages within the scope of the services must obtain a building license from the municipalities before construction and the municipality is obliged to prevent unauthorized or unlawful construction operations by their agents on the enclosed ground. In the opposite case, it is prevented from referring to its agents and for referral to the 100 Commission. In the city of Yazd, approximately 1,000 building licenses with an infrastructure of 354600 square meters are annually issued, which is the number of 261 building construction licenses in area 1, 341 in area 2, 543 in area 3 and 34 in historic area. Only in one of the three areas of the city of Yazd in 2011, we can see refer to the commissions under Article 100 of the Municipality Law. In this period, 721 violations have been filed and subsequently it has been tried to issue a statutory vote. Given the statistics and the proximity of violations in a region with the construction license number of the whole city of Yazd, the depth and breadth of the phenomenon of construction violations, which only includes violations that have been reported and the case filed, show that there might be more such issues not reported. The purpose of this research is to investigate the factors affecting the function of this commission and formulate strategies for the positive effects of the commission on urbanization and urban planning in Yazd.

#### **Methodology**

According to the studied components, the method of investigation is functional and the approach taken by this research is "analytical -descriptive". Data collection is sampled through a case of construction violations. The statistical population is the number of construction licenses

---

\* Email: ehsanhekmatnia@gmail.com

Tel: +989138506467

issued as well as the number of cases of violations during different years in different areas of Yazd. In order to carry out the analytical processes, this research has used Schematic planning scenario model and Mick Mack software.

### **Results and discussion**

The studies show that among the 9934 cases examined, 7824 cases were filed scilicet and 78.7% of which were attributed to the Election Commission and 2104 to other cases, which include 21.1% of the total number of cases. Among the votes of the Red Election Commission, the "deconstruction-fine and restoration order" are assigned the largest number of cases with 37.3 percent of the total cases, equivalent to 3715 cases, which unfortunately ended 100 percent for implementation of the Commission's 100-member vote to pay fines. This function of the 100th Commission Committee on Social Dimensions leads to a decrease in the level of social supervision, in the urban dimension of heterogeneity in the skyline, in the environmental dimension of incompatibility caused by inappropriate use of the neighborhood and in the security and safety aspects of the reduction of safety and security due to lack of attention to national regulations.

### **Conclusion**

The variables related to urban laws and the lacks of coordination between organizations associated with the subject have had a great deal of impact on the performance of Article 100 and also the lack of ambiguity in construction laws and regulations. This has had the greatest impact on the performance of Article 100. Among the key factors affecting the performance of the Article 100 Commission in Yazd, the lack of ambiguity in construction laws and regulations has had the greatest impact on the performance of Article 100. The lack of comprehensiveness and transparency in the criteria and even directives and the vacuum of a separate management have been selected in the municipal charters as the most effective factors in the performance of Article 100. The most critical factor in the performance scenarios of the article is the two factors of lack of knowledge and information in of the executives in the field of urban rights and the lack of organizational management of urban projects. The key factor of urban development, with an average of -0.6, shows that there was a lack of integrated urban management in the good and bad performances of the commission. The factor of serious failures in the urban construction control section with an average of -0.44 indicates weak control of urban construction. This has had a major impact on the unsuccessful performance of the 100 Commission. Accordingly, for the desirable performance of the commission in Yazd, the following solutions are suggested: reducing the process of considering construction fines as a source of income for the municipality, identify construction violations as crimes, integrated urban management, reducing the lack of coordination and organizational segmentation of urban management, forming a separate management for the item in the municipal organization chart, increasing comprehensiveness and transparency in terms and sectors, eliminating old laws and reducing the legal misuse by internal and external elements of urban management, increasing the capacity needed to improve the knowledge of executives and reduce legal abuses, increasing volition in the municipality to reduce legal uncertainties and reduce lack of coordination, reducing inter-organizational and managerial disparities at the municipality and higher levels.

**Keywords:** scenario planning, Article 100 Commission, construction violations, urbanization, Yazd city.

## **Analysis on Meaning Quality of Urban Public Places, Yazd, Iran**

**Mohsen Rafieian**

Instructor of Art and Architecture, Yazd University, Yazd, Iran

**Mojtaba Rafieian\***

Associate Professor of urban design and planning, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

**Mohammad Reza Bemanian**

Professor of architecture, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2017/01/12

Accepted: 2017/11/29

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

The discussion below can be read as a call for more rigorous and transparent explication of philosophical commitments and implications of one's chosen methodological standpoint. Physical structure, function and perception are formed and directed to place. Place is defined by imagination and memory. Nowadays, urban public spaces are in the lack of meaning they cannot be perfectly perceived by citizens. The purpose of this research is to propose effective indicators in perception of citizens in urban public places. Meaning quality of urban public places is a big concern. Various indices shape meaning quality of urban public places. Some indices can play more important roles in perception quality. Finding these indices could help planners and designers to improve meaning quality from the perspective of citizens.

#### **Methodology**

The study area is Yazd city in central areas of Iran. Thus, Yazd province is located in the center of the country, and its center is Yazd city. The population of this city is about 582682 people. The city of Yazd is the economic and administrative capital of the province and, therefore, the most heavily populated city of the region. Yazd is one of the best cities containing Iranian Architecture samples. It is one of the major and historical cities in the world as a historic texture portfolio in UNESCO.

The aim of this research is to introduce indices on the quality of urban public places in the view of Yazd (Iran) citizens. Thus, the research method is "descriptive- analytical". Also, we used survey analysis method. At first, the literature was reviewed due to proposed indicators. In order to analyze the indicators the sample size is 384 individuals. We have used questionnaire as data collection instrument. On the other hand, T-test and Friedman test (Non Parametric Test, K Related Samples), in SPSS, have been used for analysis data.

#### **Results and discussion**

Based on research method, we have initially reviewed previous studies. So, we extracted indicators from some ideas mainly from Lynch (1981), Violich (1983), Bentli (2005), Coleman

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: rafiei\_m@modares.ac.ir

Tel: +982182883743



(1987), Alen Jacobs & Appelyard (1998), South worth, (1989), Greene (1992), Haughton & Hunter (1994), Punter & Carmona (1997), and Carmona (2003). Theoretical issues about the quality and the quality of the survey have been developed during the past few decades by national and international institutions such as PPS. According to the components of urban space quality in scientific ideas, we selected twenty two indexes for analysis in the semi Delfi process. These twenty two indexes are including eco-friendly form, visual compatibility, visual character, accessibility, walk-ability, environment for all, social reaction, various land use, customizability, efficiency, happiness, richness, friendly, eligibility, learning, personalization, security, sense of time, culturally, meanings, manifestations and spiritual themes, and permeability.

In terms of gender structure, about half of the respondents were male and half of them were female. Also, more than half of them were single and others were married. The average age of the subjects was 34 years old. In terms of education, about 40 percent of respondents had a master's degree and 30 percent had bachelor degree. The birthplace of half respondents in this study is Yazd city and others were born in other cities of the province. The participants were residing in Yazd city.

The participants were asked to express their judgments about the quality of urban public places in order to evaluate the effects of the 22 indicators on the perception of respondents and their judgment about the meaning quality. Answers were analyzed using one-sample t-test.

The values more than 3 for each indicator represent significant effect on the quality of judgment in the perception of the citizens. According to this analysis, these indicators i.e., variety of land use, social interactions, sense of time, environment for all, friendly places, and culture have been effective to understand the meaning of place quality in Yazd city. The results showed that other indicators are not effective on respondents' perception of the quality squares.

Respondent's prioritization of the meaning quality indices can show the importance of effective factors of perceptual quality. Understanding the importance of each indicator in shaping the perceptual quality of the squares was important result of this study that can be used in the future studies. To prioritize the respondents' perception of meaning quality indicators, Friedman test was used.

The results of Friedman test confirms that there are significant difference between twenty two indicator's impacts on meaning quality of spaces perception. It should be noted that the most important indicator in the formation of meaning quality are environment for all, accessibility and efficiency.

### **Conclusion**

Analyzing the meaning quality of urban public spaces by means of quantitative methods and experimental models is an approach that is used to identify the overall level of quality. Meanwhile, access to reliable results, close to reality, can be used to perform planning and decision-making in proceeding strategy and physical, non-physical intervention on public places. This study was done based on the use of these approaches of measuring environmental quality. This research indicates that among the indices for all 22 indicators, three indicators (Environment for all, accessibility and efficiency) have the highest influence on percept meaning quality. As a place like Amir Chaqmaq or Besat Square has historical and cultural background values, the historical and cultural values are the main index in meaning quality of urban public places. It can be concluded that meaning quality indexes have different ranks according to the place. Some of them are more common in various places and some of them are

only considered in especial places. Formal indices are more common but that the indices related to culture and history, are not based on quality judgment in the places. Therefore, planners and designers can establish their projects based on more common indices like Environment for all, accessibility and efficiency that are not related to culture and history for supporting the places with minimum meaning quality.

**Keywords:** place, urban public places, meaning quality, perception, Yazd.

## **Analysis of Cause Effect Relationships of the Indicators Influencing Integrated Management of Tehran Periphery, as the Capital of Iran**

**Nobakht Sobhani**

PhD Candidate in Geography and Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Tehran, Iran

**Parvaneh Zivyar\***

Associate Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Yadegare-Imam Branch, Shahr-e-Rey, Tehran, Iran

**Rahim Sarvar**

Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2017/08/14

Accepted: 2017/12/12

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

At the beginning of the 21st century, the population of the world was 6 billion, and now more than half of that is living in cities, also it is expected that it would increase in the future decades. Thus, by 2050, the world's population living in cities is projected to reach over 70% all over the world. Therefore, this high growth of urbanization over the last two centuries and the expansion of cities, have caused a lot of quantitative and qualitative changes in urban spaces, including City Peripheral. In the last few decades, Tehran metropolis has witnessed numerous and varied transformations in various demographic, social, economic and physical-spatial fields due to the policy of focusing on Peripheral space. This problem, in one hand, with increasing interest in residential and non-residential construction outside the legal area of Tehran, and on the other hand, with regard to the monetization approach of the land around Tehran and the creation of an intense competition to takeover more stakeholders contributions has become a crisis.

#### **Methodology**

This present study is an applied research with a descriptive-analytical method. In this process, the library and reference resources have been used based on the data requirements of the research. The main data collection tool of the research was a questionnaire designed as a paired comparison to identify effective and impressionable indicators on integrated Peripheral management of the capital based on the structure of the Fuzzy Dematel technique in two phases of weight determination and prioritization. Statistical population of this research contains all experts of the Tehran city Peripheral offices and University experts and professors in this field. According to statistics, the total number of the population is 30, of which 11 are specialists in the field of Peripheral and the rest are the specialists and experts in the subject. In this research, statistical population was surveyed through census because of the limited number of statistical

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: zivyar@yahoo.com

population (experts of the Tehran city Peripheral office and specialists). According to the data, respondents were 66.7% male and 31.3% female.

Most respondents (45.8%) have a bachelor's degree and then they have a Master's degree and a higher degree (39.6%). Content validity method has been used for justifiability of the measure. In other words, after setting up the questionnaire, it was shared by several experienced professionals who verified the validity of questionnaire, and then the questionnaire was prepared. Also, the reliability of the research has been confirmed by Cronbach's alpha coefficient (0.8) which shows that the questionnaire has a desirable reliability and questions have a suitable internal correlation. Fuzzy Dematel technique was used to analyze the findings.

### **Results and discussion**

Horizontal vector ( $D_i+R_i$ ) is the amount of causation of the intended factor. Vertical vector ( $D_i-R_i$ ) indicates the effectiveness of each factor. Usually when  $D_i-R_i$  is positive, the factor is cause and otherwise  $D_i-R_i$  is negative representing that the factor is effect. Looking at the diagram of cause, it is clear that the evaluation factors are divided into cause and effect groups. In terms of management, the caused groups include the weakness of information infrastructure for integrated urban management and the effected groups also include improvements to the intelligent control system and so on. Moreover, in terms of good urban governance, the caused groups include participation and so on, and the effect groups also include community-based, etc. The cause groups include lack of management in providing infrastructure to provide affordable housing and so on, and the effect groups also include space irregularities in the structure of settlements, etc.

### **Conclusion**

Among the criteria, the management criteria are considered in terms of effectiveness and importance. In good urban governance, the sub-criterion of efficiency and effectiveness with a score of 0.0467 is in the first place, also in the physical section, the sub-criterion of the lack of management in providing infrastructure to provide affordable housing with a score of 0.0661 is in the first place. Finally, the sub-criterion of the economic sector including the existence of an informal economy in the peripheral residential areas is in the first place with the highest score (0.0605). Therefore, these sub-criteria are most important and effective in terms of earning points and being in the first place because they have the strongest relationship with other factors in the changes of the capital's Periphery. In terms of effect factors, it is possible to mention management criteria (lack of intelligent control system), good urban governance (central focus), physical (dense building development), and economic (profitable look at government sectors).

**Keywords:** peripheral, integrated management, Tehran, Fuzzy Dematel technique.

## **Opportunities and Constraints of the International System and Foreign Policy (Case Study: Iran and Malaysia)**

**Kimia Mohammadi**

PhD Candidate in International Relations, Islamic Azad University, Sciences and Research Branch, Tehran, Iran

**Bahador Zarei\***

Assistant Professor of Political Geography, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2016/05/28

Accepted: 2019/01/15

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Foreign policy is a phenomenon influenced by a combination of structural factors, internal political dynamics regional and international issues. The structure of the international system is limiting behavior of the states. Waltz argues that the international system to define behavior of states and foreign policies is mainly an attempt to adapt to the pressures of the international system. Waltz says that international politics is the politics of the great powers; He believes that the structure of the international system after the Cold War has a unipolar structure in which America is the undisputed power. Despite the weakening of America's economic hegemony in the past three decades, USA is still the most influential international actor. However, small and medium-sized states in the existing structure, are the relatively able to pursue their development goals. Among these countries, we can compare Iran and Malaysia. Malaysia is located almost in the heart of the East Asian region, South-East Asia, and now became one of the important regions in the global economy, living in peace and stability; Iran is located in the Middle East as an unstable region, war of all against all. This status of regional issues is affected by the influence of great powers on foreign policy of the two countries. The conditions in the Middle East, in addition to the constraints of the international system, have failed Iran foreign policy. The presence of several powers such as China and Japan, along with America, in the East Asia, provided Malaysia's with economic competitive advantage they enjoy of the international system. In other words, presence of foreign powers in East Asia gave a good opportunity to Malaysia and the presence in Middle East was not an opportunity for Iran. The membership of Malaysia in "ASEAN", A functional subset of the local conditions of access to capital and technology, provided economic benefits for members. But membership of Iran in the ECO is not a good benefit. In other words, Malaysia was able to take advantage of the opportunities but Iran was not able to use them and considered the opportunities as a treat to security.

#### **Methodology**

In this study, we used a comparative method by which the two countries of Iran and Malaysia

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: b.zarei@ut.ac.ir

have generally been compared. Then, the two countries have many in common in three dimensions of "the regional system", "benefit from the advantages of regional organizations", and membership in the ECO and ASEAN. These have positive and negative effects on economic development of the states.

### **Results and discussion**

The structure of the international system can create opportunities for policy. Many of the decisions and foreign policies are in response to the behavior of other international actors. International systems of all activities can shape international relations. Malaysia is located almost in the heart of the East Asian region and is composed of two parts, East and West Malaysia an area that already has become one of the raised areas of the global economy with peace and stability. Malaysia has a good and constructive relation with all countries of the world and in taking its own development policies, could play important role in economic development as a newly industrialized country. Iran is a country in Southwest Asia, and has geopolitical and geostrategic potentials in the Persian Gulf, in the heart of the Middle East. Iran has two major oil fields of the world in Persian Gulf and the Caspian Sea. Iran is in the Middle East, a region critical and convulsions. The regional conditions have changed the impact of the structure of international and major powers over foreign policy between the two countries. Conditions in the Middle East, America gives obstacles, particularly in terms of its impact on Iran's foreign policy, and has limited the development process at the same time; while in East Asia, China and Japan with America, in addition to adjusting the limits of this power, improved technology, capital and the Malaysian economy.

### **Conclusion**

The international system and the major powers as "independent variable" and the sub-region as "intermediate variables" have affected foreign policy of Iran and Malaysia. Political and economic cooperation in the region could limit the power of Malaysia's foreign policy and have taken advantage of the competitive power in favor of economic development. Despite the harsh positions, especially during the critical Malaysia Mahathir Mohammad, the state has a foreign policy that successfully pursued its development. While America's hegemonic supremacy in the Middle East and the impact of the sanctions and the use of existing multilateral presence in the world order as the independent variable limited Iran's foreign policy. Lack of economic integration, as the independent variable in the international system, creates limitations for Iran's foreign policy. It has strengthened Iran's foreign policy in reaching the development goals. America in the Persian Gulf is the main power that influences the region, including Iran. Using tools such as sanctions, multilateral pressure on international organizations and countries, especially Iran's neighbors in southern boundaries, the US attempts to create limitations and obstacles in the way of Iran's foreign policy. The dominant power in Southeast Asia with other major powers such as China and Japan and strong institutions "such as the ASEAN" are competitive in the balance. That is why the countries like Malaysia with a more suitable space can advance their foreign policy towards economic development.

**Keywords:** international system, restrictions, neorealism, Iran, Malaysia.

## **Critical Review of Epistemological Principles of Phenomenology with an Emphasis on Geography**

**Mahmoud Vasegh\***

Assistant Professor of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Ahad Mohammadi**

PhD Candidate in Political Geography, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Javad Heshmati**

PhD Candidate in Political Geography, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2018/10/11

Accepted: 2019/01/19

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Phenomenology is one of the dominant philosophical schools that gradually entered the western philosophy in the late 19th century, and then attention has been paid to different scientific domains particularly in humanities, geography and human geography. Phenomenology is the study or recognition of phenomena and the phenomena consists of everything that appears to the mind. In other words, phenomenology is direct perception and intuition, without the intermediary of objects and phenomena. The purpose of the mediator in knowing everything is the conventional philosophical and scientific hypotheses, theories, categories and templates, and particular pre-assumptions of the reader. Knowing anything without using conventional formats will be possible only through direct intuition of nature. Thus, this approach seeks direct intuition of objects and phenomena, and in this regard refuses the hypotheses, categories and pre-assumptions. Therefore, phenomenology is considered as a realistic but experimental approach toward realities. Thus, seemingly this traditional philosophy of science must be classified under the realistic viewpoint. Nevertheless, due to emphasis of the school on suspending the realities of external world, as a mind-independent character and full emphasis on phenomenological character of realities, subjective character of phenomena, and eventually due to the phenomenological tradition relying on the intuitive experience approach, against some realistic attributes, this traditional philosophy of science must be classified under the realistic viewpoint. Nevertheless, regardless of positive aspect of this approach, with immediate experience of objects and phenomena, the approach mentioned above has some basic and epistemological insufficiency which will encounter serious hardships as a scientific approach in the geography domain. Therefore, it lacks the efficiency and required capabilities in the study fields related to social science, and particularly geography, as a “scientific” approach and methodology. The main objective of this study is to analyze this issue from the viewpoint of logical and epistemological analyses.

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: mahmoodvasegh@ut.ac.ir

Tel: +989123130245

**Methodology**

The present study with philosophy and logical nature is among the fundamental and theoretical research. This study is based on descriptive and analytical method (logical) and its analysis is conducted based on logical reasoning and arguments. Therefore, discussions and matters are considered in the series of documentaries.

**Results and discussion**

Across the last few decades, the philosophy of phenomenology has been one of the main and dominant schools in the field of western thought. It gradually developed from the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, has contributed to the formation of intellectual foundations of western scholars and has influenced many fields particularly humanities domain, especially geography. In human geography, across the last decades, we see an evolving tendency among geographers in the field of urban studies, urban design and planning, rural planning, social geography, economic geography, political geography, cultural geography, and some other subcategories. They are directed towards a kind of human geography that has been influenced by philosophy and methodology of phenomenology, or its derivatives, such as existentialism and interpretive and hermeneutic methods. The question is to see what methodology and principles the inspired geography is based on and what is its ultimate goal? Phenomenological geography refers to geographic studies in which geographic phenomena and subjects are studied by researchers without any intermediaries, regardless of formal and abstract templates, and without reliance on pre-assumptions, theories and customary prejudice in scientific studies and merely as a phenomenology. Thus, in this regard, phenomenological geography has the following characters; A) Immediate experience of objects and phenomena, 2) Review of place identity individually and uniquely (monography), 3) Intuitive and interpretive method in recognizing and understanding the phenomena, 4) Recognition of phenomena in the form of common sense, 5) Utilizing descriptions instead of explanation in identifying the phenomena, 6) Refusing pre-assumptions and categories and theories in identifying the phenomena.

Meanwhile, the presence and close participation of the researcher in the study of subjects and environmental phenomena and the description and explanation of phenomena and their real descriptions are considered as a positive character of this approach. However, refusing the hypotheses and pre-assumptions (which are actually impossible) and focus on awareness and subjective cognitions and suspension of external world (Epoché) in the process of recognizing phenomena can actually turns it into an idealistic approach, and unique cognitions of phenomena also lead to the lack of validation independent of the researcher, and ultimately confronts this approach with relativism. Thus, this can make phenomenology inefficient as a scientific method in geographic studies.

**Conclusion**

The philosophy and phenomenological methodology in different sciences, particularly in the field of humanities and social sciences, especially geography, merely refer to the participation of the researchers in the study of subjects and environmental phenomena. The approaches consider remote description and explanation of the phenomena inefficient. They emphasize on their real and deep description through direct and immediate intuition, and particularly suggest direct descriptions and real experiences in the field of researches related to practical plans for geographic places. It is worthwhile and important, and this aspect of phenomenology approach is considered a positive and strong point. Nevertheless, regardless of this positive aspect, the



approach mentioned above has some basic and epistemological insufficiency, such as: refusing hypotheses and pre-assumptions, idealistic attitude and subjectivism, nomothetic approach in reviewing the phenomena which leads to the lack of true and false criteria or a lack of validation independent of the researcher's mind. In other words, the approach leads to the lack of objectivity and, eventually, historicity and relativism. These issues encounter serious hardships utilizing it as a scientific approach in the geography domain, and thus, it lacks the efficiency and required capabilities to be utilized in the study fields related to social science, and particularly geography, as a "scientific" approach and methodology.

**Keywords:** phenomenology, intuition, suspension, epistemological analysis, geography.

## **Assessment of Geomorphosites in Two Counties of Khor-Biabanak and Tabas for Slow Tourism**

**Shahrzad Mirza Abedini\***

MA in Geography and Tourism Planning, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Mohammad Salmani**

Associate Professor of Geography and Rural Planning, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

**Mojtaba Ghadiri Masooms**

Professor of Geography and Rural Planning, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2017/05/31

Accepted: 2019/04/06

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

Domestic tourism with overnight stay is one of the most important types of tourism in each country. This is very important to identify and assess destinations that have potential for developing slow tourism. The destinations in arid areas have factors such as silence, hospitable people and rich culinary. Thus, these destinations have high potential to be developed as slow tourism sites. By combination of slow tourism and geotourism because of their sustainable objects we can reach the aim of protecting and conserving of environment. The target of this study is to identify and assess potential destinations which can feature up to more consistency of tourism. The study is a descriptive-functional research using library resource, internet, and field research. Required information was gathered from experts and visitors, using SPSS24 and GIS10.2. The results show that the first selected geomorphosite for slow tourism was Dagh-Sard-Garm and the first selected geomorphosite for geotourism was Kal-Namak. Aesthetic value has the highest rating and ecological value the lowest. According to tourism point of view the most important criterion of slow tourism was attraction and benchmark and planning and infrastructure with the lowest score. Finally, based on findings and take advantages of SWOT technique, review strategy (WO) is the adapted strategy for development planning of slow tourism in geomorphosites in this case study.

In general, all new models of tourism infrastructure, namely environmental protection and socio-individual issues are well-intended. One type of the tourism from both branches (environmental and socio-individual well-intended) has emerged, with slow tourism emphasizing on Geomorphosites. The desert and its wilderness are vast and beautiful as one of natural attractions of our country. Today deserts contain attractive areas for ecotourism visitors. By using existing conditions, new activities can be started in the field of tourism. The optimal approach could be the development of tourism market with low impact and reduce the negative impact of tourism. In the process of this development, slow tourism will play a key role.

---

\* Corresponding Author, Email: greenshahr@yahoo.com

### **Methodology**

This study as an applied research is conducted by using field and library reviews to provide information and data. This research as a leading investigation has to assess geomorphosites to develop the slow tourism, and earlier studies (external or internal) had never developed this kind of tourism in geomorphosites. Hence, the measure of the facilities and services according to the rules and reliable sources of slow tourism, have 5 sub-criteria. Ten experts in the field of tourism in areas of Khor-Biabanak or Tabas were asked about 20 locations. According to the expert's opinion, we selected 10 Geomorphosites in the Khor-Biabanak County and 10 Geomorphosite in Tabas County. These sites had the greatest potential for tourism development. The experts have used a questionnaire to assess and evaluate each Geomorphosites.

### **Results and discussion**

Since scrutiny of tourism potential of Geomorphosites in each county and the utilization of expert's opinion, 10 Geomorphosites had been selected from each county. The experts evaluated 20 Geomorphosites by utilizing the criteria defined by the values of scientific, ecological, cultural, aesthetic, economic, facilities and services. Total topmost scores on different criteria are related to Kal-Sardar Geomorphosite and total lowest score on different criteria are related to Mehrjan's Aqueducts Geomorphosite. Cronbach's alpha values were then determined. This amount was reported for all values equal to 0.858. The KMO exploratory factor analysis was performed on the data. Using factor analysis Varimax rotation for six main criteria was expressed in two categories. Factor analysis results showed that for slow tourism purposes, the cultural, economic, facilities and service criteria are more important. For land-based tourism, scientific, ecological and aesthetic factors play more important role. Then, weighting factor analysis for ranking Geomorphosites is from -3 (lowest score) to +3 (Highest score).

### **Conclusion**

This study was based on surveys of experts and also based on their opinion about scientific and aesthetic criteria to gain the most points scored. This shows that geomorphosites gained high value and high potential for tourism development, especially scientific and educational tourism. Ecological and cultural values had gained less scored compared with other criterions, for ecological criteria because of the lack of protective measures. For cultural criteria because of the lack of population and in some cases uninhabited area, the lack of cultural programs such as festivals and cultural gatherings is due to low rating criteria. Generally, geomorphosites of each county have great potential to attract tourists, and statistically significant differences among Khor-Biabanak and Tabas geomorphosites had not found. Although geomorphosites of Tabas County were better for slow tourism purpose, this could be due to having more facilities and also more services and facilities in the area. Khor-Biabanak county's geomorphosites were better for land-based tourism purposes.

Average rating of geomorphosites in Khor-Biabanak for land-based tourism purposes were diagnosed more and this can be the result of originality and unfamiliarity of the region. Therefore, the integrity of the geomorphosites affects the scientific, ecological and aesthetic criteria. In the end, some suggestions are presented to grant the management solutions for geomorphosites for the purpose of slow tourism. In the following we will refer to some of the most important suggestions:

- Development of the physical environment, transportation, communications, electricity, health infrastructure can be improved in the region;

- Various training courses should be organized for tourists and locals, for the recognition and protection of the natural and socio-cultural attractions;
- Project's Management needs to support local people; Local managers should be trained and anthropology exhibitions must be hold in villages for local products sale;
- Brochures have to be distributed among tourists and encouraging operations can be provided through distribution of promotional products in tourism facilities;
- Museum for geology and earth morphological parameters during tours can show the importance of plant and animal species and museums;
- Photo exhibitions, poetry, essays, stories and competitions in schools should be held to introduce the area.

**Keywords:** slow tourism, geomorphosite assessment, factor analysis, Khor-Biabanak County, Tabas County.

## **Function of Cyberspace in Promoting the Intellectual and Social Level of Women in Iran**

**Kyoomars Yazdanpanah Dero\***

Assistant Professor of Geography, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Received: 2019/02/09

Accepted: 2019/04/24

### **Extended abstract**

#### **Introduction**

In emerging concepts, geopolitics, cyberspace, and the functions of this space have been considered in different areas. This space has been considered by various gender groups in various dimensions and has made them more prominent in various social fields. In such circumstances, one of the important indicators for measuring the national development of countries is participation of women in large contributors (social, political, cultural, and economic participation).

The significant expansion of communication technology and its breakthrough in all individual and personality dimensions has led to a shift in the methods of the mostly traditional package and provided a way for different partnerships of different human groups. On the other hand, the lack of encumbrances and extensive freedoms in cyberspace has left the women's community afraid of traditional encounters and gave them the courage to be effective in society. The study of the multiple dimensions of these changes and their socio-political and cultural implications will highlight the main objectives of this article.

Because of the most important effects of using cyberspace and social network, its direct role in promoting the social status of women in Iranian society can be pointed out. Cyberspace provides various environments of political geography for women in Iran. The active social activists can make individual and collective creativity in order to create their own abilities in different fields and, in my opinion, to a real place to reach their own.

In this regard, the role of the World Wide Web is becoming more and more colorful with the diversity of information provided to users in cyberspace. Therefore, in this article, all the thematic functions are related to the positive and negative effects and their consequences in the Iranian society.

Because of the passion created by cyberspace, Iranian women have a different place for themselves, and with bold advent in various areas of the space, they are looking for different and continuous roles in society. In this research, we try to address the various dimensions of cyberspace and social networking functions as multifaceted and influential media in Iranian women's society.

In recent years, Iranian society has faced widespread social mutations in various areas. In the meanwhile, in terms of political geography, cybercafé has different functions with many effects, and some of these functions are definitely at the service of upgrading the intellectual and social

---

\* Email: kyazdanpanah@ut.ac.ir

Tel: +989121435543

aspects of women in different fields and the strengthening of their social consciousness. In such a society with such an evolutionary pace, this level of cyberspace permeability over Iranian women should not be ignored and analyzed in many dimensions.

### **Methodology**

This research has been conducted by reviewing library and theoretical views using content analysis. This study finds the strategic significance that some social scientists do not consider the reasons for the influence of such a trend in Iranian women solely related to the short-term course. This was the product of step-by-step growth in the past five decades. In the Iranian society, the woman changes rapidly.

### **Results and discussions**

The women may face a lot of problems in their social life if they do not consciously deal with life issues. These views, along with other research perspectives, reflect the impact of technology on social behaviors and widespread changes in behavioral patterns in Iranian women's society.

### **Conclusion**

The research shows that simultaneous with the changing individual and group patterns of Iranian women, due to the increased tendency of this group to have intangible communication tools in cyberspace, the women have undergone many changes in various age groups.

The virtual networks and the second world of humans formed by communication technology serve as an unconventional plot in the present age. This function has greatly influenced the emergence and appearance of social phenomena. Meanwhile, the effect of virtual phenomena and networks on traditional and so-called confinement groups is more effective in the fence of houses.

It can be concluded that emotional and non-teaching effectiveness show disadvantages and advantages of Iranian women society. Presence of dense and massive presence of Iranian women and girls in the modern communication and diverse activities in cyberspace represents the consolidation of new approaches and extensive passage of traditional space in Iran.

**Keywords:** political geography, cyberspace, modern communication technologies, social networks, gender effects, Iranian women.