

Analysis of spatial-physical location of the knowledge base functions in contrast to traditional functions in the city of Tehran

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Urban areas reflect the structure of human societies. To understand the rules governing the structure of space in each period, it provides a way to change the future. In the current era, globalization as one of the major forces in the cities is formed with the 'placeless' logic. The emergence of global cities is associated with the decision of transnational companies. This is what it called 'illogic's' of globalization. The process of economic globalization raises the spatial-physical necessities. According to most of the researchers, there are some tools necessary to promote competitive power and influence in the global arena. Now, a central question in relation to the impact of globalization on cities can be argued: Is there the new urban spatial structure that can be attributed to globalization? If so, what are the spatial characters in cities under globalization? The despite the interaction of urban fabric with the globalization process, the urban space prepares the necessities such as: Face to face contact, Virtual and cyber infrastructure, attract the economic elites, restructuring the regional scale, and Increase in the global competitiveness of cities. Therefore, we consider this a two-way relationship.

Methodology

The Research is a head with the efforts to study the effects of the globalization process and the subsequent need for spatial- physical in conjunction with the urban restructuring, in the first step address to analyze the physical basis of globalization and the traditional services and knowledge-based service sector classification as core functions of the industrial and global era.

In this case, by using different software and Computational methods (such as: Janks, AHP_Phazzy), we identified the formation of urban functions in Tehran and, comparative study of traditional and Knowledge base functions with the overlay operation.

The main questions that the research tries to response are:

1. What are the features, dimensions and indicators of global city?
2. How the methods of distribution and locating of the advanced producer services (APS) works in Tehran?
3. Is Tehran urban space formed according to the conditions of globalization and global cities?

The hypotheses of the study are as follows:

1. It seems that Tehran is the city if Tehran has not have the capacity building appropriate to the circumstances and characteristics of globalization.
2. It seems that the distribution and locating of advanced producer services (APS) in Tehran is formed centralized and in relation to the needs of the global cities spaces, formed cluster and centralized around the traditional functions.

Results and Discussion

In this regard, it is designed in three steps: firstly, Distribution analysis of the traditional services attracted potential in 6 levels in case of numbers areas and job; secondly, distribution analysis of the advanced producer service (APS in 6 levels), and thirdly, to review the establishment and implementation of locating condition of having physical indexes of the space of global cities. The study area of this research is the metropolitan area of Tehran. The statistical population is more than 7000 companies offering advanced producer services in 7 levels. In the first part of the study results show centralized structure and monocentric in the case study and in the second part represents the most effective access to complementary services and advanced producer services. Also looking for these indexes, advanced producer services are mainly located in the areas where place is at a high level of quality of life and social identity. Despite the establishment of configuration functions and advanced producer services in Tehran, it is not consistent with the requirements of the globalization restructuring.

In general, the research with design of urban space restructuring, emphasizes on urban infrastructure required to accept the world rules in the physical-spatial kinds as the main action. Although the physical infrastructure among these infrastructures is seen as dependent variable, but it has an important role in promoting and achieving global competitiveness without these infrastructures, there was no prospect of a positive global impact.

Conclusion

However, we can see the establishment of corporate sector of the world cities services in Tehran- although with the poor logics. But in other levels, none of the conditions of globalization is observed. Tehran is the only "dense center" of advanced producer services in the national scale. Therefore, you cannot say that the city is inside the other city, such as global cities. Recognizing this area is not available with numbers.

The result is that in Tehran "Space of flows" pattern has not been formed. This pattern is formed based on transition from "space of place" to "space of flows". Distribution and transmit is based on the "decentralized centralization" and organizational high density and clustering of functions. Thus, the urban management institution should be considered in this regard.

Keywords: Advanced Producer Services (APS), The City of Tehran, knowledge base functions, traditional functions.

**Requirements of sustainable development and assessment of the community
sustainable development
(Case study: Ekbatan neighborhood in region 5 of Tehran city)**

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Sustainable development is defined as the process of meeting human development goals while sustaining the ability of natural systems to continue to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depends. While the modern concept of sustainable development is derived most strongly from the 1987 Brundtland Report, it is rooted in earlier ideas about sustainable forest management and twentieth century environmental concerns. As the concept developed, it has shifted to focus more on economic development, social development and environmental protection for future generations. The humans in this century are intuitively looking for a good life to improve the environmental conditions of their fitted talents, capabilities, and their capacity for their surroundings. Hence, the question is optimal quality and original life. Development is a concept that covers various aspects such as economic growth, structural change, industrialization, self-actualization and cultural, religious, national and individual self-reliance. A sustainable development is a new concept of economic growth. A growth is as justice and opportunity for all people that living in the world; and not for a few selected individuals. Sustainability, in its vast sense, applied to the ability of ecosystems or any current system to continue function has been an indefinite future. Today, due to the poor results of government-oriented solutions of urban development plans, government consideration is focused on lower levels of urban and management and to the tangible dimension of urban life. Two important factors to achieve the appropriate development in local scale are; attention to role and importance of local governance and another is citizen's participation in the decision-making. Sustainable development is the organizing principle for sustaining finite resources necessary to provide the needs of future generations on the planet. It is a process that envisions a desirable future state for human societies in which living conditions and resource-use continue

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to meet human needs without undermining the "integrity, stability and beauty" of natural biotic systems. It was suggested that "the term 'sustainability' should be viewed as humanity's target goal for human-ecosystem equilibrium (homeostasis), while 'sustainable development' refers to the holistic approach and temporal processes that lead us to the end point of sustainability. Therefore, local communities in the cities are best center and workshop of management and participatory planning and there are the greatest social and spatial cohesion between other groups in spatial organization of the city. This research seeks to answer this question: How we can measure the stability condition of the case study neighborhood? The aim of this research was to measure the stability of the Ekbatan neighborhood. In this study, according to the research topic, the research method was descriptive-analytic. Sustainable development, or sustainability, has been described in terms of three spheres, dimensions, domains or pillars, i.e., the environment, the economy and society. The three-sphere framework was initially proposed by the economist René Passet in 1979. It has also been worded as "economic, environmental and social" or "ecology, economy and equity. This has been expanded by some authors to include a fourth pillar of culture, institutions or governance In September 2015, when the United Nations General Assembly formally adopted the "universal, integrated and transformative" 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The goals are to be implemented and achieved in every country from the year 2016 to 2030.

Methodology

In the present study, with respect to the subject of the research, this research has a descriptive-analytic methodology. The method of gathering data was the use of documents and information. Thus, with internal and external resources for the study of literature and the theoretical foundations, the research is to investigate the background and history and opinions about the subject of the case study method. This is expressed as documents and library use and fitted in the field through the questionnaire and field observations. In the analytical section, check and test the assumptions of research and reviews of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables in the SPSS software.

Data and information collection method was documentary and survival. In the analytical part, we discussed to review and test hypotheses, and examine relationships between independent and dependent variables in SPSS software. To test this hypothesis, we used the non-parametric binomial test. Statistical analysis has indicated that Ekbatan neighborhood in terms of community sustainability, according to sustainable development indicators, had high neighborhood stability and resulting Ekbatan neighborhood is considered as a sustainable neighborhood.

Results and Discussion

The Ekbatan neighborhood in terms of sustainability, in the socio-cultural, environmental and physical indicators are sustainable with mean values equal to 3.6977, 3.5166 and 3.4385, respectively, and it is unsustainable in the economic dimension, with mean value of 2.8241. The statistical analysis has indicated that in terms of sustainable development indicators, the neighborhood is fitted and thus considered as a stable neighborhood. We have examined neighborhood dimensions, psychological indicators, socio-cultural, environmental and physical indicators.

Keywords: community-based, community sustainable development, Ekbatan, Sustainable development, SPSS.

Analysis on spatial structure of the cities of Bushehr Province for codification strategic planning

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Today, large number of world's major cities is located in coastal environments. These towns have important positions in the economic, cultural and social functions. Coastal areas and the cities in the areas are economically very important in terms of the environment, hazards, and security. Development of the cities leads to massive investments by shareholders and stakeholders. Other non-coastal cities are also affected by this development. The participation of a wide range of stakeholders and interested investors can be improved in such cities. With this growth process, complex needs are favorable in physical, social, and economic dimensions in these cities. Today, coastal cities are considered to be as a vital source of income for the national economy. These resources are also essential to strengthen their economies of the coastal cities. The dynamics of these cities are largely determined by the axes of development and exploitation of economic activity and tourism. The purpose of this research is to explore and identify and analyze the spatial structure of the coastal and non-coastal cities in Bushehr Province.

Methodology

This is an applied research with descriptive and analytic methods. Statistical population in this research is 31 points of coastal and Non-Coastal cities in Bushehr Province in 2011. To collect information, this research used study in libraries (Documents). To analyze the data, the spatial structure of coastal and Non-Coastal cities is used in urban and regional planning models. To investigate relationship between the independent and dependent variables and inferential analysis of data, we used advanced dedicational and statistical models, the coefficient of correlation, regression; T-Test, ANOVA and multivariate analysis.

Results and Discussion

The results of the studies show that the process of urban growth in coastal cities has increased during 1986 to 2006 of about 17.3 percent. The main reason for this is an increasing number of coastal cities and the growing trend of migration to the cities of this province. Population growth in coastal cities is substantially higher than non-coastal cities. Reviews of process rate of population growth in coastal cities in 1986- 2011 indicate a sharp growth rate. However, this is also true for non-coastal cities and total population of the cities of the province.

Conclusion

Analytical findings by simultaneous multiple regression models show that coastal cities have huge oil and gas fields with a much higher level of spatial development. The standard deviation of economic function is equal to 0.814 in spatial structure of coastal cities. The results obtained by Spearman coefficient is equal to 0.865 and this value reflects the fact that there is a very strong positive correlation between the distribution of population and growth and development of economic, cultural, transportation and infrastructure functions between coastal and Non-Coastal cities in Bushehr Province. Finally, a comparison between the coastal and Non-coastal cities is carried out by T-test. Development of space structure in coastal cities is more than that of Non-Coastal cities. Accordingly, in development of the coastal cities, we should use all economic capacity. In other words, we can say that sustainable economic development of the coastal cities in Bushehr is benefitted from oil and gas resources and from the business and job service. Nevertheless, based on the research findings to develop desirable coastal and non-coastal areas, there are some suggestions: welfare infrastructure, socio-economic improvement in urban centers, promotion of health level, education in small cities, development of balance and equal access to services in major cities such as Bushehr, Borazjan, Dylam, Kangan, Ganaveh and Jam. development of tourism can be effective for the area.

Keywords: Bushehr Province, coastal and non-coastal cities, spatial structure, strategic planning.

Spatial analysis about development limitations (Case study: Counties of Guilan Province)

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

The spatial inequality can be unequal distribution of opportunities and social position. The economic and political importance are often concentrated in urban centers. These centers are also benefitted from a constant inflow of new material, financial and human resources from the peripheries. Government policies can also be biased towards these areas. The spatial dimension of exclusion cannot be entirely separated from its resource and identity dimensions since it is usually culturally and economically influenced by marginalized groups. Spatial inequality has been considered with disparities between rural and urban areas, and also between geographically advantaged and disadvantaged regions. In many countries, such disparities are increasing, partly as a consequence of the uneven impact of trade openness and globalization. While there is efficiency in the concentration of economic activity in urban centers and in coastal districts, the associated regional inequalities are a major contributor to overall inequality. The broad outline of appropriate policy for management of high and rising spatial disparities is also clear. This study improves the levels of development in Guilan counties based on five criteria (Investment and Industrial Activity, Social Inequality - Economic, Population, Roads and Communications, Health and Treatment). For spatial analysis of exclusions, the following criteria are the most important factors of spatial exclusion. This research is to examine the main contributors for spatial analysis and solution for the problem.

Methodology

For spatial analysis of development deprivations of Guilan Province, statistical population is all the counties of Guilan province and the sample is university professors in geography and regional planning and also the experts in management and planning organization of Guilan province. This is qualitative - quantitative research, functional research in the result, exploration research in goals, description research in explanation and analytical research in terms of relations between variables. For ranking, the Guilan counties use the TOPSIS model by by

AHP weighting using questionnaires. The counties of Guilan have been classified in three levels deprived, semi-deprived, and welfare. with cluster analysis by SPSS software. Ultimate Spatial analysis of deprivation is five quality options ineffective, low impact, effective, high-impact and highly effective. Using Delphi, the strategies has been required to reduce the exclusion of development based on factors that were positively identified and prioritized using the AHP strategies.

Results and Discussion

The main reason for the deprivation in development is the disruption in the balance of relationship between the factors of shaping the spatial and human, activities. Population distribution in urban and rural areas of the Guilan province has a special heterogeneity. In one hand, the service sector in the economy of the province and its trend do not mean development in Guilan. The, seasonality of agricultural activities is the most important factor in the problem of immigration and unemployment due to the natural abilities of the province. This can be the highest sustainable production capabilities. Hence, more efficient interaction between agriculture and industries is based on agricultural potential of the counties. This requires establishment of the suitability between supply and demand, production and consumption for all counties of the province. Several factors could explain the high rate of unemployment in the region (Guilan). The interaction between the private sector and the government can provide opportunities for private-sector investment as the most important issue. By comparing the scattering coefficient criteria, this can be concluded that the degree of inequality in selection of the criteria and different from each other. All of the following criteria has been valuated to analyze the spatial deprivation in development from the perspective of experts. Therefore, the most important issues are: (1) the unemployment, (2) investment in the industrial sector, (3) Rural migration control, (4) a four-line main road.

Conclusion

In this study, the counties of the Shaft, Rezvanshahr, Masal, Soumesara and Fooman in the west and Amlash in the east part of Guilan province are identified as the deprived counties.

The most important solutions to reduce spatial deprivation in the province are, "Recognition of the employment opportunities of Anzali Free Zone industrial trade", "opportunities for private sector investment", and "the policy of freedom with dependence on a single product economy". Interaction between academia and industry through science and technology can enable industrial towns for formation of industrial clusters to conduct Anzali Free Zone industrial trade. This can develop balanced and organized activities through the industrial areas of the counties and employment opportunities without migration the counties through spatial deprivation. The main barriers for the development of unbalanced industrial towns of the province are the lack of liquidity and supply of raw materials and machinery.

Keywords: counties, Guilan, exclusion, spatial development.

Evaluation of development levels in the villages, Neyriz Township with taxonomy model

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Extended abstract

Introduction

Rural areas have an important role in the development. While rural areas can implement a detailed plan in accordance with characteristics of the villages. This small rural area located in Fars province can eliminate inequalities in the distribution of resources and services. This study is to assess the degree of development and the gap between rural villages as well as the distance to the city center. The effects of distribution facilities and services and the development of rural areas is conducted by numerical taxonomy analysis. .

Methodology

To assess the degree of development of rural areas, we should use appropriate scientific methods. To achieve the desired objectives, we require the use of specific tools and methods. In the present study, we used analytical and numerical taxonomy analysis using Excel software with the SPSS. A sample of the rural population is selected in the Neyriz City. The document and library data can complete the survey and the information. To determine the rate of development, of sixty-four indicators, we addressed productivity, health, population, education services, infrastructure, cultural, sports and religious.

Results and Discussion

Understanding the current status and future perspective is one of the most important steps in the development of economic, social and cultural aspects. The fact that about half of the population live in rural areas require detailed studies about the villages. The planners can do proper planning for the development of rural areas. One of the objectives of rural planning is equitable distribution of facilities and services.

Conclusion

Planning approach to rural settlement is based on labor and activities on of potential

geographical areas. In this regard, economic performance and social activities of the regions should be considered. The influence of these characteristics on the functional characteristics of rural areas in terms of development planning is very important. In recent decades, with the advancement of technology in social and economic structure of rural communities, these societies have undergone vast changes. Thus, suitable allocation of services and distribution pattern has the capability in the survival and development of villages.

In this study, four indicators of economic, social and cultural rights in 2011 in Neyriz are indicated six by analysis of numerical taxonomy. The results obtained show that Rizab Rural District is more developed than those in other rural areas. This is due to its large size and population, despite a distance of 110 km Neyriz. Abadeh village 120 km to the center of the city is categorized in latter class.

Keywords: assessment, development indicators, district, numerical taxonomy.

Zonation assessment for the areas suitable for tourism using GIS, Isfahan Province

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Extended abstracts

Introduction

According to Universal World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), cultural tourism refers to "the travelling of the human beings with merely cultural motivations such as academic, artistic and learning tours as well as their journeys for academic purposes. These are including taking part in the festivals and other cultural events, visit to the sites and places, travel with an academic nature, folklore or art and pilgrimage". Technically, cultural tourism includes the travelling of the human beings for the purpose of visiting the specific cultural attractions such as cultural heritage sites, cultural aesthetic symbols, arts and parades events which are situated outside of their ordinary living place.

Nature-based tourism refers to a form of tourism which depends mainly on the relatively undeveloped natural environments for their attractions. It is mainly related to the direct enjoyment of the intact and unchanged phenomenon of the nature.

Nature-based tourism can play a positive role in the development of the local target community for the host economies. The economic benefits resulting from nature-based tourism are the creation of local employment opportunities, the tourism revenues, the infrastructure improvement and foreign exchange. Nature-based tourism has been recognized as the factor linking the wildlife protection and economic development. As some authors argue, the nature-based tourism perpetuates the efficient use of all resources with some incentives for conserving the intact natural systems especially in developing countries. The benefits of nature-based tourism depend on the substitution of the productive activities in order to reduce the pressure placed on the resources through providing a reliable and sustainable resource.

Methodology

The present study is to determine the prioritized areas suitable for tourism in Isfahan province, Iran. With the components of this research, this study is applied-developmental in nature with descriptive-survey methodology based on systematic analysis. To carry out the assessment, scoring the areas has been done based on three variables, namely the number of attractions, the level of performance (national, local and international) and level of access (pedestrian or vehicle access) to the cultural-historical attraction sites and the natural and human-made attractions.

Results and Discussion

Based on the given scores, the highest capacity for the historical-cultural tourism of Isfahan city is centrally situated in two areas, i.e., the center area with the centrality of Isfahan city and North-East area with the centrality of Kashan city and Natanz. Since this centrality has been determined based on the number of attractions, the level of performance and the access to the attractions, it includes a radius of 40 km from the center of Isfahan and Kashan cities. Accordingly, Qohi village and Isfahan city in Isfahan town, Mashhad Ardahal, Joshagan, Esterk, Taher Abad, Azvar, Rahq, Van, Joinan, Ravanad, qahroud villages, Natanze, Badroud cities, Abianeh and Ab senjed villages in Natanze town are located in these two areas.

Aran o Bidgoland Noush Abad cities and Yazdel and Ali Abad villages in Aran o Bidgol town, Zavareh, Ardestan cities and Moqar village in Ardestan county, Naein city in Naein county, Kolhar, Mourchekhort villages and Gaz and Borkhar city in Shahinshar county and Meimeh enjoy the highest scores as the decentralized areas.

Based on the ratings, Isfahan province has been classified into 5 categories and the highest scores were found to be categorized in Semirom, Fereydunshahr, Freydan, Khansar, Chadegan and Dehaghan counties on the WestSouth and West as two concentrated points. The South Western area includes Semirom Town especially Dangezlu, Noghl, Khefer, Sivar, Mandegan, Sarbaz Kifteh Guisin, Ghaleh Sangi, Roud Abad, Bibi Seidan, Ab Malakh, Ghabr Kikha, Garamuk, Agh Dash, Kezen, Cheshmeh Sard, Shams Abad villages and Semirom, Vanak and Kameh cities. The Western domain includes Fereydunshahr and a number of its villages including Khosh Mive, Chaghirut, Sibak, Meidanak Bozorg, Surashjan, Ghahshejan, Pashandegan, Gurab Milajerd and Fereydunshahr city, the Freydan town and Noghhan Olia, its village, Ofus, Buein and Mianadasht, Daran and Damaneh, Khansar and a number of its villages including Tidjan, Ghudjan and Hasan Abad and Lahijan as well as Khansar city. Based on the given scores, the highest capacity for human-made tourism is two areas Isfahan city and Mobarake.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, there is a potential milieu for the nature-based tourism development in Isfahan Province. Thus, the counties and urban and rural areas are affected by the tourism. The research on the capacity analysis of Isfahan province in terms of cultural-historical tourism development shows that based on the given scores, nearly 29.51% and 19.6% of the total attractions of the province and 34.7% and 22.55% of the cultural- historical tourism attractions of the region belong to Isfahan and Kashan, respectively. In more details, 76.49% of the historical-cultural attractions of Isfahan province belong to Isfahan while the scores obtained for its different regions are as follows: 50% for region 3, 19.82% for region 1, 13.36% for region 6, and 10.91% for region 5.

The research on the capacity-analysis of Isfahan Province regarding natural tourism development show that based on the assigned scores, Isfahan Province is divided into four categories with the highest scores for Semirom, Chadegan, Fereydunshahr and Freydan. They can be considered as the areas appropriate for nature-based tourism development. To explain more, based on the given scores, 92.06% and 68.18% of the tourism capacity of these two cities belong to the nature-based tourism. Hence, it has the highest frequency and a good situation across the province area in this regard. On the other hand, although Semirom and Fereydunshahr both account for only 14.38% of the province area, they possess 15.18% and 11.78% of the nature-based tourism attractions in this region.

Keywords: historical-cultural tourism, human-made tourism, Isfahan province, Geographical Information System, nature tourism.

**The role of participation in sustainable tourism industry
(Case study: Sarein)**

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Extended abstract

Introduction

Tourism is a powerful force of change in the economy in both the developed and the least developed countries. Due to the formation of the concept of sustainable development, Tourism industry like other industries has been seeking the ways to further alignment with the concept. Sustainable tourism as a form of alternative tourism, is seeking to improve the quality of life for local residents, promoting tourism experiences and environmental preservation of destination. Therefore, this is linked inextricably with the people and community and participation of local communities is essential to maintain and develop the basic planning for the development and management of tourism. Necessity of attention to the concept of community participation as one of the most important components of a sustainable tourism industry make the tourism industry using the community as a resource, selling community product, and ultimately affects the life of each people. The pattern seems to be optimal in this relationship and in nature is also related to the sustainable development of tourism, the pattern is a community-based tourism. This pattern requires significant participation of a community in sustainable tourism. However, the pattern of community participation in tourism, particularly in developing countries such as Iran, has been inactive participation. Hence, the exception of the formal hosts or people involved in tourism activities maintain that the local communities should be considered as a key resource for achieving sustainable tourism, not have any formal responsibility as the host of tourism activities. The purpose of this study was to determine the status of community participation of Sarein, as one of the poles of the tourism industry in Iran, in sustainable tourism and from this perspective, the introduction of participatory approaches as a strategy for sustainable development of tourism in the study area.

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Methodology

This study in terms of target is an applied research and based on nature it is a survey descriptive– analytical research. In order to collect data, we used the combined approach, means the combination of library and field methods such as questionnaires. The statistical population based on the research questions is all residents of Sarein responsible for tourism activities. The sample size (353 patients) was determined according to the formula of Cochran and multi-stage cluster sampling was used as the sampling method. Two types of descriptive statistics and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. In section of descriptive statistics, to describe the research variables we utilized descriptive statistics such as frequency distributions. In section of inferential statistics, bivariate relationships have been used and the results have also been interpreted using Pearson correlation and multivariate relationships using multiple regression and path analysis.

Results and Discussion

Two types of descriptive statistics and inferential statistics were used to analyze variables. The findings of descriptive statistics of the study showed that the tourism industry in Sarein has not favorable conditions in different economic, social - cultural and environmental aspects. This can be viewed by the lack of participatory mechanisms as a major factor in explaining this situation. Despite the high tendency of Sarein local residents to participate in tourism activities, the same people actual participation rates are low in tourism activities. The findings based on inferential statistical analysis also showed that there is a positive and stronger correlation between the level of participation of local residents and sustainable tourism industry in terms of socio- cultural compared with economic and environmental dimensions. Correlation between the level of participation and sustainability of the tourism industry from the perspective of economic and environmental is in lower rank order in priority. In addition to confirming this issue, the test of path analysis determined the exact value of effects of the three variables of social-cultural and economic participation and environmental participation in sustainable tourism industry. The test showed that recent variables moreover obtained the rank of second and third according to direct impact on the sustainable development of tourism. This has also indirect effects on the situation. Creating appropriate and correct provisions in the direction of promoting social- cultural participations of tourism can improve economic and environmental favorable conditions in terms of participation and hence achieving sustainable development of tourism.

Conclusion

This study aims to assess the status of Sarein local community participation in the activities related to sustainable tourism based on the survey and using field data. Therefore, we studied each of the participation and sustainable tourism industry variables and the relationships between each of them in three aspects of economic, social- cultural and environmental conditions. The assessments made in this regard indicated that there is a good level of willing to participate in tourism activities by the local population of Sarein and the value has also relatively good level but not in sustainability. Because the mechanism of the tourism industry in Sarein is such that the majority of local residents do not have a role in participation of tourism activities, the potential of participation to achieving sustainable development of tourism in Sarein has good priority order. By creating appropriate and correct provisions in the direction of promoting social- cultural participations of tourism, we can be hopeful to economic and environmental favorable conditions in terms of participation and achieving sustainable development of tourism in Sarein.

Keywords: community- based tourism, industry of sustainable tourism, local communities, participation, Sarein.

Demonstration of geomorphologic factors in establishment of the legal regime of the Caspian Sea

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Caspian Sea is the largest water basin enclosed by land within Eurasia continent. This Sea is unique in many reasons including the large deposits of oil and gas, valuable fishery resources with 90% of the world's stock of sturgeon, important transportation routes, connecting the European part of Russia, Transcaucasia and Central Asia and significant geopolitical situation. Caspian Sea bordered by Russia in north, Iran in south, Azerbaijan in west and Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan in east. The unexampled characteristics of the Caspian Sea leads to having a problematic identity and stopped its prepared legal classification. Setting of the legal regime of the Caspian Sea has begun since the collapse of Soviet Union. However, there has not been any agreement on its legal regime between Caspian Sea coastal countries. This could have roots in the absence of international legal regulations in order to implement a legal regime for these types of seas in the Sea convention of 1982. Having 320 articles, this convention mentions the enclosed seas solely in articles 122 and 123. Based on the maritime law view point, the legal status of the Caspian Sea should also be determined when the coastal states factually recognized which body of law applies to delimitation of the waters and the resources of the subsoil. Besides legal problems, geographical factors play a role in determining legal regime for this sea. These factors are more likely to be geomorphological, hydro-ecological, geo-biological, geo-economical, and geopolitical. Geomorphological factors are considered as the most important one and had a profound role in sea convention in 1982. Many of these articles are affected by geomorphological factors and playing an undeniable role in setting the legal regime of the Caspian Sea.

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Methodology

This article is a descriptive-analytic study based on library research. In this library research, documents and the analysis of their contents such as regulations and rules, maps, satellite pictures, geographical data systems, and census software have been used for this purpose.

Results and Discussion

One of the major problems in determining the Caspian Sea legal regime is the absence of clarified international rules in delimiting of such enclosed seas. The articles in convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 not only do not clarify the legal regime of the Caspian Sea, but suffers from some inconvenient misunderstandings. This leads to a misjudgment by each coastal countries for their own right. In one hand, to reach an agreement for settling the legal regime, these countries have no choice but to refer to some of the articles of the Sea Convention. On the other hand, geographical factors play an important role in providing the aforementioned articles. Besides, these factors are of crucial importance, whether the convention or any other possible agreement be implemented. As it was mentioned earlier, geographical factors are more likely to be implemented in structure in convention, being the basic factor in delimitation. Besides, if the Convention or any other agreement is performed in the Caspian Sea, these factors will come to be very practical. The reason is that the coastal countries are totally different, enjoying these factors. Geomorphological factors such as the shape of the coast, its length, the shape of gulfs, islands, high tides, the rivers entrance, and natural bays have profound influence in determining the original straight line and extending sea areas of the coastal countries. In addition, sea bed shapes, its steep, and the type of the sediments are influential in extending diffusing of sea sources. That is why the countries do not reach any agreement in proposing the earlier regime right. Benefiting a vast number of fossil and non-fossil sources specifically in continental shelf, the Caspian Sea is off the greatest importance for the coastal countries, claiming more portions, consequently leading to disputations and controversies in setting the borders. This, in return, could damage the regime right procedure setting. Then, considering the geomorphological factors, each coastal countries limits and delimits could be clarified and a unified strategy could be achieved in order to accelerate the regime right procedure setting of the Caspian Sea for each country's share.

Conclusion

The most challenging problem in setting the regime rights in the Caspian Sea is the absence of sufficient rules in the sea conventions for delimitating its limits which has roots in its geographical conditions (being an enclosed sea). Proposing the best solution to this issue is more likely to have to do with geographical and specifically geomorphological conditions. According to the convention of 1982, the countries with the most coastal length and least steep and also best morphological factors (estuary, gulf, delta, islands, underwater cliffs, and continental shelf) in determining the legal regime have a better opportunity for extending sea areas. Therefore, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan, have more sea area, in order. Iran, with the least coastal area, being convex, being more limited, and with the least geomorphological factors have the least chance in extending sea area. That is the reason why Iran does not agree with the convention 1982 and looks for appropriate strategies in order to improve its improper geomorphological features. Therefore, with a proper legal regime, all Caspian Sea coastal countries ought to agree upon a better strategy than the ordinary proposals of the convention in order to facilitate the geomorphological conditions for setting the legal regime. The last but not the least, it is to mention that setting a constant legal regime in the Caspian Sea, with the geomorphological conditions, is based on convention of the year 1982

without implementing the method, is not possible, because it lacks every countries benefits. The results showed that Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan possess optimum geomorphological condition in order, to determine the legal regime. Among all of these countries, Iran is in the worst position that demands adopting optimal policies to optimize existing conditions.

Keywords: Caspian Sea, convention 1982, geographical factors, geomorphological conditions, legal regime.

**Site selection analysis for human settlement in critical condition
(Case study: Urmia city)**

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

The main objective of this research is to perform a site selection and planning with respect to environmental and spatial characteristics. This is to gain the primary social and physical needs of survivors of the accident (the earthquake) and promoting the health condition of crisis. This is for multipurpose use of these places even in ordinary or emergency situations. In this regard, this study with the respect locating different areas of Iran on the earthquake belt, has investigated the city of Urmia as the model of spatial database for contemporary site selection for safety purposes after earthquake. Some influencing factors on the vulnerability of city are various parameters such as: building age (16.7% of the city context is old, including 300 hectares historical fabrics), quality of buildings (about 56% of the buildings of Urmia are damaged, repairable and maintainable), Urban transportation routes, amount of traffic, population and building density, land use of different areas, type and material of different geological layers, etc. These have much effect on crisis management, especially during and after the earthquake. The old fabrics of Urmia, including one and two-storey buildings with low and compact infrastructure, do not have technical standards against earthquakes. According to the importance of the issue, this paper tries to select optimal temporary sites for health purposes after the occurrence of earthquake in Urmia. This is by natural- physical information and the use of new techniques and methods of Network Analysis Process (ANP) and geographic information system (GIS).

Methodology

This research has descriptive- analytic methodology with the functional methods and data collection is the library and documentary. We used the Super Decision software for calculations of the analysis network process model using the ArcGIS software for spatial modeling and region zoning.

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Results and Discussion

Therefore, in order to express the theoretical basics and analysis network process (ANP), we have investigated the effective measures of site selection for the temporary settlement. For this, we have used some criteria including the natural characteristics, compatible land use, incompatible land use, and communication network, which each criterion includes several sub-criteria. In the next step, the classification of sub-criteria has been reviewed according to the world standards, rules of the approved urban project and the authors analysis of city properties. Then, the information layers of sub criteria of each criterion are individually integrated in the GIS environment. Based on the importance coefficient, it is achieved by the analysis network process and again all maps of the 4 main criteria will overlap based on the significance of each factor in a GIS environment. Finally, the suitable location of the temporary settlement has been determined on the basis of global standards and urban management capacity.

Conclusion

This location is selected through the prioritization based on capacity and de facto and possible potential of urban management according to the type of landuse, ownership and utilization of equipment. Therefore, the first priority have been 16 places in the entire area and mainly including states, private landuse and natural resources that allocated total 405 hectares. These places generally have been the kind of green space, farms and gardens inside green space for the city located near the urban facilities. Therefore, urban management of Urmia can tackle these three priorities and places with regard to span of the city, crowds, old texture, and lack of access hierarchy for multipurpose. This city can also take advantage and use of them in crisis situations by the earthquake for the establishment.

Keywords: Analytic Network Process (ANP), earthquake, site selection, temporary settlement, Urmia.

Evaluation of urban hierarchy of Lorestan Province from 1986 to 2011

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Extended abstract

Introduction

One of the basic challenges of governments, especially in developing countries, is to organize the desired national spatial structure in the changing urbanization. Such a structure allows us to divide economic and social functions in the urban and regional hierarchy in a balanced manner. In most provinces and territories of Iran, the urban hierarchy has formed completely cluttered and irregular, and the tasks of cities are unknown. This has led to several problems. This study examines and analyzes the urban hierarchy of Lorestan province from 1986 to 2011. The main research method is descriptive-analytical, and the research type is applied-developmental. The required data were collected with the documentary-desk method. The study aims to evaluate urban hierarchy changes in Lorestan province from 1986 to 2011. The entropy model, the rank-size rule, class difference limit model, and nearest neighbor are used for data analysis. The results indicate that the urban network of Lorestan province from 1986 to 1996 has had an almost balanced state in terms of special distribution of cities but from 2006 to 2011, this balance has disturbed and the spatial distribution of cities has become unbalanced. One of its major reasons is the emergence of very small towns (village-towns). In addition, in terms of distribution of urban population based on the class difference limit model, there is a statistically significant disharmony and disruption during the studied periods in the cities of the province.

Methodology

In this article, the main goal is the analysis and assessment of the hierarchical system of the cities of Lorestan province between the years 1986 to 2011. Lorestan province had ten cities in the year 1986 but in the year 2011 this value increased to 24 that means 14 cities have added to the cities of Lorestan during these years (between the years 1986 to 2011). The main changes have been done after the year 1986. Thus, in this article we're going to explain that weather the increasing of these cities has had any effects on balance and distribution of population of these

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cities or not. In the hierarchical system, this point must be cleared that the unbalanced spatial distribution pattern of population has clear influence on different aspects of economic, political, social and official aspects. The pattern forms a popular and functional vacuum in intermediate and underneath levels of civil clubs. This is also one of the important effects in forming unbalance in the civil hierarchical system. This is a descriptive-analytic research of the applied-developmental type. The required information was obtained from library sources and from collected documents. Statistics concerning the study and related to the period from 1986 to 2011, were collected from the Office of the Governor General of Lorestan Province and from the Statistical Yearbook of the Statistics Center of Iran. The “Rank and Rate,” “Limit of Class Differences,” “Entropy Coefficients,” and “Nearest Neighbors” models were used to analyze the statistics.

Results and Discussion

The results obtained from the nearest neighbors’ model are in agreement with those found by Taleshi et al. In the study, they carried out in Ardabil Province, in which it was shown that there was a balance among the cities in Ardabil Province, but do not conform with the results of Sadr Moosavi and Talebzadeh in their research in 2009 . The results obtained from the model of rank-size rule somewhat agree with those of a study Gharakhanloo et al., conducted in 2008 on the urban network of Ardabil.

The results obtained from the model of the limit of class differences are in agreement with those by Tavakkolinia and Shali in their study on urban systems in West Azarbaijan Province in 2011. They found that there were great statistical discords in population distributions in the cities of the province and that a clear disharmony and disequilibrium existed in urban population distribution in the province.

Conclusion

Urban hierarchy in Lorestan Province has experienced great fluctuations with respect to spatial distributions in the cities during the periods. The population distribution shows great variations in these periods, one of the main reasons of which is the appearance of newly founded cities during the period from 2006 to 2011. During the period from 1986 to 2006, there were 10 cities in the province, but in 2006, this number suddenly increased to 23 and reached 25 in 2011. In other words, during the span of a single decade, more than 13 cities were added to those already existing in the province. In 2006, there were 12 cities with populations less than 5000, and their number also increased to 13 in the year 2011, i.e., more than 50 percent of the cities of the province had populations less than 5000. This, in itself, confirms the sudden increase in the populations of major cities: a city like Khorramabad with a population of more than 300000 indicates that there are great differences among the cities of the province with respect to their populations. In general, given the issues raised, and taking the obtained results from the models into consideration, it is quite clear that the urban network system of Lorestan Province to some extent preserved an equilibrium state with respect to spatial distribution of cities in the period from 1986 to 1996. However, after the period from 2006 to 2011 and following the creation of new cities, this equilibrium was replaced by a state of disharmony and disequilibrium.

Keywords: entropy model, Lorestan province, rank-size, spatial distribution, urban hierarchy.

**Performance measurement of visual comfort components to improve quality of urban environment, using VIKOR technique
(Case study: Mashhad Metropolitan)**

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Urban quality of life is not a simple term that has a clear or an agreed definition but it is a complex concept which might be defined by various theories. The term urban quality of life is not used to describe some physical features but to describe all the relationship, the dynamics, and the reticular relationship that exist between those physical features. Therefore, the definition of urban quality of life is network and complex rather than linear and very elementary. This special keyword is resulted from urban environment quality. Thus, the aim of this research is to analyze the relation between urban environment quality and visual comfort. The importance of urban environment issues has never been as serious as today. One of the most important subjects in urban planning is quality of environment and the satisfaction of citizens. Urban environment quality is a measurement of residential environment in which for urban life we have the minimum desirability. The circumstances of the relation between human and environment are a special condition in which it makes a role to evaluate the urban environment quality. On the other hand, to improve and then evaluate urban environment and experience good urban quality of life, visual components should be considered. Today visual comfort is a major component of urban life, especially in man-made environments. In recent decades, urban environment quality has become a specialized issue in the society. Increase in the quality of urban environment is a long step toward improving citizen's satisfaction. One of the most rewarding aspects in order to increase environmental quality is to upgrade visual comfort. Visual comfort is a reflection of quality of life and welfare of citizens. Visual comfort in a city offers architectural and portable lightening, how to play with colors and apply them according to the physical environment and the way symbols are employed or how visual form of a city can be seen. Visual comfort can be used to describe places that have more social and formal monitoring. The other aim of this research is to investigate performance of visual comfort components to improve quality of the urban environment in Mashhad metropolitan. This is to

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evaluate 14 indicators in environmental quality, and 4 visual comfort factors and the relation between these two categories in 13 regions of Mashhad municipality.

Methodology

The research method is descriptive survey. Population of the study is consisted of whole citizens in 13 regions of Mashhad municipality. According to Cochran formula 383 questionnaires are distributed among the population. The questionnaire is researcher made and consisted of 40 questions about visual comfort and 40 questions about quality of urban environment. Formal validity of the questionnaire is approved by the experts and to examine the content validity, factor analysis is applied and to test reliability, Cronbach's alpha coefficient is used. To analyze the data, SPSS software is used and in addition, VIKOR rating technique is used i to rank the regions. This technique is one of the multi-criteria decision making methods to select the best option or to prioritize the options. VIKOR technique is able to give assistance to decision maker to make the final decision and often is used when the decision makers cannot submit their preferences in decision making process because of contradictory indicators.

Results and Discussion

The results show that there is significant difference between the components of environmental quality and visual comfort in 13 regions of Mashhad municipality. Results of ranking the regions show that some regions (13, 4, and 5) were in the worse condition of visual comfort and also have experienced less quality of urban environment and less urban welfare. The regions of 1, 8 and 9 with high overlapping are in the best condition in terms of quality of urban environment and visual comfort. The most remarkable part is that often the areas with lower ranking level in terms of quality of urban environment (13, 5, and 4) were also lower in terms of visual comfort components. Thus, it could be said that visual comfort not only have relation with environmental quality, but also lies at the heart of it. On the other hand, weighted technique results show that lightening has had the most weight between the visual comfort components and the most remarkable part in the city is often good lightening. It should be equally fashionable and functional, great lightening is more than a physical object. It is beyond what the product looks like or how well it is made.

Conclusion

According to the results, there is a large gap between the 13 regions of Mashhad municipality, while some regions as 1, 9, and 8 are in the best situation in terms of visual comfort and environmental quality of life. Some other regions are very poor, like 4, 5, 13, and 6. It could be concluded that the regions which have had a poor condition in terms of environmental quality of life have experienced a worse situation in availability, economic dynamism, network quality, green spaces, quality of buildings, aesthetics of buildings, architecture, management services and etc. Those regions which have had poor condition in terms of visual comfort elements (light, color, sight, symbol contamination) have experienced less quality of life, because these two components (visual comfort and environmental quality) are significantly related to each other. Significant gap in the environmental quality of life of the citizens should not be neglected. Good urban environment is an environment in which civil justice is considered. Therefore, urban environment cannot be built for citizens without knowledge of their opinions and also urban realities.

Keywords: environmental quality, Mashhad Metropolitan, MCDM techniques, VIKOR technique, visual comfort.

Explaining the political map as regards power / knowledge

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Getting a deeper understanding of many phenomena necessitates a deeper knowledge of their hidden meaning which is the key to a perfect understanding of that particular phenomenon. No true understanding is achieved unless through a sound methodology of the phenomena. Although positivism has been a dominant methodology in acquiring knowledge, but it should be noted that other methodologies shouldn't be ignored.

Knowledge and power are mutually connected and it is required to grow knowledge - oriented background. This is the case with knowledge as well. Power needs a particular knowledge to show how legitimate and scientific it is. This particular knowledge can be disseminated though power very easily.

Methodology

The maps are scientific tools to disseminate geography as a science and a positivistic viewpoint. This would be of no help in understanding the impact that power has on them. Such a viewpoint represents the maps as a tool to transfer information on the ground to a flat surface, but the map is a phenomenon that its understanding depends on many other factors. The maps are not concrete ontological phenomena which can be comprehended through a positivism approach. Their synthetic ontology of object and subject guide us to use Meta - positivistic methodologies to comprehend them. Although positivism has been a great help in developing science, it can be counter - effective in understanding human phenomena.

At first glance a map might seem a simple thing which tries to show a geographical picture at a particular area or the whole earth, but this is not the whole picture and a map includes a broader significance. Different aspects with various methodologies have to be taken into account in studying maps. The relation between maps and political power has to be accounted

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for since power is an element of significance in assigning the meaning to a map. The maps can play a role in making the government's illusions by the same hegemony. Thus, in this study, we have tried to consider map in terms of power / knowledge and the relation between power and map through quality methodology.

Power / knowledge postulated by Michel Foucault can be an appropriate methodology in leading us to our destination. Different methodologies are conducive to different understandings and every phenomenon requires its suitable methodology.

Results and Discussion

The results show that a map is not only an apparatus for governments to parade their power but it is also efficient in implementing power. Maps have a place in the cycle of power and as they are a product of power, they have an undeniable role in representing a system of truth and reality of their own. The people easily accept this represented world as the real one.

It might be quite helpful in understanding the connection between power and the maps to say that maps are the result of power investment. As the tools to propagate science and knowledge, governments feel it is absolutely necessary to attach a lot of importance to the maps. It is the governments that found institutes which have the responsibility of producing maps. State-institutions including military ones employ geographers and cartographers to produce maps.

The second aspect is the essential power existing in the maps. There is easily acceptable information and maps to symbolize reality. Although they were first the tools in the hands of power, here they represent science and reality and have the power of persuasion which can be termed "the power of the maps". This power of persuasion is particularly effective when deployed for a specific discourse. Those people who accept that specific discourse can be persuaded quite easily because to them truth is speaking. The people involved in this field know how to manipulate the maps to reach their goals. Using cartographic devices and techniques, they produce the maps which represent particular points of view.

Cartographers can produce what they want and make their case persuasive by attracting attention to what they want to convey. The maps play a major role in making citizens and their audience in believing that they are symbolic of reality. This is how the maps form people's opinions of their land and territory. This is the result of internal power of map.

Conclusion

Through an appropriate methodology we can acquire a sound understanding and get rid of dogmatism and have a more piercing look at phenomena. Power / knowledge postulated by Michel Foucault, the French historian, can be an appropriate methodology in leading us to our destination. This methodology helps us understand the phenomena not only as positivist methodologies have represented, but also determine the internal and external power of phenomena and obtain the original meaning of the phenomena. The power that comes from outside to the process of meaning-making phenomenon is trying to instill a certain meaning of the phenomenon, and that's why the real meaning of this phenomenon undermines the authority and not the original meaning. Any phenomenon with respect to its purpose and function has an inner power that reflected meaning in that makes it acceptable for the audience. Therefore, according to these facts, it make us to study the map from another perspective, aside positivism method, to achieve a deeper understanding of it.

Keywords: cartography, Foucault, knowledge, map, power.

Effective geographical factors on formation of rentier governments and their consequences for Persian Gulf

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Undoubtedly, the oil is the most political and the most important good in today's world economy. Rent phenomenon and rentier governments have been a subject of great interest as a reason for rentier governments among researchers. Rent can be described as an income which is earned out of economic activities including benefit of investments and wages effortlessly and a rentier government is a government that earns more than 42 percent of its income from foreign rents. In the present study, the effect of geographical factors on formation of rentier governments and influence of these governments on area political geography (area country geo-economics positions, countries competition, area convergence) were studied. Finally, it is concluded that although oil trade and oil sell income have led to improvement of agriculture in Persian Gulf area, geopolitical powers competitions, military activity expansion and area countries divergence have been resulted from this single product economy.

Generally, there are fine tools based on the revenues from oil rentier state theory in one hand and the government inability fair distribution of income and obedience to democratic rule on the other hand.

William Asher and Douglas Yates enjoy the rentier state theory and argue that government officials by sales revenue rich underground resources. They could be some unofficial and illegitimate purposes to easily track social and economic policy without taking into account the interests of the community in the fall. Rentier state theory also has been hypothesized by this theory. It works like Kieron Chaudhry, Philip Dawkins and Hazem Beblawi. According to this theory as a rentier state in return for implicit and tacit agreement with the non-taxation of society to achieve, they also consider government or economic priorities.

Methodology

According to the importance of the current situation, we have analytical and descriptive large-

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scale use of analogy in the Persian Gulf region. It has been trying to library information and documentation, including an important and reliable source of internal and external resources in the areas such as history, political geography, geopolitics, knowledge of international relations, political science, sociology, historical approach to demonstrate this article. This comes in the context of positivist methodology, effort and struggle in an analysis of documentation could take advantages of rational and scientific arguments.

The word is a concept rather than a reductionist interpretation of the relationship. It is the construction and operation of government terms such as governance, rule, dominate class and misleading. Machiavelli is often seen as the first person referred to the concept of state. A government, an independent country and citizens of certain territory demands that loyalty is formed (Glasnr, 2004, 31).

Conclusion

Geographic governance structure of this type of government has led to political systems in the region, particularly in Arabic countries under the command of the king with a focus on tribal, religious and government leaders. This is due to the specific geographical conditions and oil revenues as the logic of politics and statecraft for their own survival and the survival of their government. This system of government is also the major interests of society or country in most cases. The governance structure and continued access to oil revenues makes rentier in political disorder, despite poor governance, inadequate distribution of power. There are internal disputes, lack of coordination in the political system, political instability and insecurity of other state characteristics in the region.

Keywords: geopolitics, Persian Gulf, political geography, rant, rentier government.

Analysis of the spatial distribution of rural settlements based on the existing ecological resources (Case study: Sabzevar- Neishabour)

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Ensuring the sustainability of rural settlements in various aspects of economic, social, cultural, and political aspects depend on the posture and spatial distribution of these settlements. In this regard, careful and thorough study of understanding the spatial distribution of rural settlements is related to sustainability of rural settlements. Ecological resources (roughness, slope, geology, etc.) are important in spatial distribution and rural settlements. These factors also lead to the occurrence of natural events such as earthquakes, floods, storms and etc. These are the effects of instability in rural settlements. In this regard, several studies on the ecological role and importance are considering four factors including climate (Rainfall, temperature, humidity, winds), topography (elevation, slope, landform), soil (structure, depth, drainage, soil) and geology (soil and geological features).

These issues shaping the field of study about the analysis of the spatial distribution of rural settlements in Sabzevar-Neyshabur based on existing ecological resources. This area is located in the west of Khorasan Razavi Province and according to the 2011 census the population of the area is 387319 people that resides in 925 villages. The Purposes of this study is to examine the spatial distribution of rural settlements in Sabzevar- Neyshabur regions based on ecological resources. This study is going to answer the following issues:

1. The share of each of the different classes I (appropriate), II (intermediate) and III (inappropriate)
2. the distribution of rural settlements affected by ecological factors
3. Distribution of rural settlements in three suitable transitional and unsuitable zones

This study through library research and field observations, collects information and statistics and by the use of GIS and SPSS software. Hence, we have used administrative map, geological map, topographic scale of 1: 50,000, satellite images ETM, and some climate information. After collecting information from various sources, and the classes I (appropriate), II (intermediate) and III (inappropriate), based on study criteria, 12 persons, layers related to these criteria in GIS software made a lot of layer in each class. In this study, spatial analysis tools and overlap (overlay) tools (weighted overlay), are used and the criteria related to each by equally weighting layers are combined and output as the mapping of topography, climate, geology and soil. In the final step, using the tools of spatial analysis in the previous step in GIS, 4 layers are combined with equal weighting and zoning.

Results and Discussion

The results of the distribution (Table 6) show that the agents in the class I (appropriate), II (intermediate) and III (inappropriate), have the same distribution. The West region in terms of soil characteristics and geological conditions has a way that no adverse human settlements are formed.

Most parts of the South and South West areas are located in unsuitable zone, population studies and field studies indicate scattering of rural settlements, small population, an aging population, migration and lack of agricultural development in these areas.

Conclusion

About 49 percent of rural settlements are in a relatively favorable and unfavorable zone. To avoid instability in rural settlements, we are going to facilitate the movement toward sustainability and we have to use two ways:

Improving human factors (infrastructure, access, services, etc.) through correct planning and providing appropriate templates and designs, we also have natural limits to development as an opportunity. This also requires proper planning. Limitations of ecological factors in the region can be minimized by following methods.

Keywords: ecological resources, rural settlements, spatial analysis, Sabzevar-Neyshabur.