



## Investigate the trend of rural development in Gachsaran city with Morris method

*Tofigh Deyhim<sup>1</sup> and Yaghoob Zeraatkish<sup>2\*</sup>*

*1Department of Economic, Yasouj Branch, Islamic azad University, Yasouj, Iran*

*2Department of agricultural economic, Tehran science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran,iran*

### **Original Article:**

*Received 1 Dec. 2015 Accepted 10 Jan. 2016 Published 04 Feb. 2016*

### **ABSTRACT**

*Development is always a concern of any society. The principle of decentralization and bottom-up planning, participation and transfer people affairs to them as an approach to rural development has been always approved by planners and officials of the Islamic Republic. Village as a human settlement is a clear manifestation of economic, social and cultural life that is associated with human life on this planet. The aim of this study is to investigate the trend of rural development in Gachsaran city with Morris method, the population is the villages of the city. According to the latest divisions in 1380, includes three urban, two county and seven villages. In the study population is the villages. The rural development is considered as the dependent variable and indicators used to assess development are considered as independent variables. In this study, to measure the research variables the questionnaire of Kalantari et al (1389) was used. The questionnaire has 117-item that is rating based on the five point Likert scale. To analyze the data and determine the level of development, the model of Morris and to distribute facilities and services, the coefficient of variation (C.V) is used and finally, these levels are prepared in the studied villages by using geographic information system (GIS).*

### **Keyword:**

- ✓ rural development
- ✓ Morris methods
- ✓ Gachsaran

---

**\* Corresponding author: Yaghoob Zeraatkish**

Peer review under responsibility of **UCT Journal of Management and Accounting Studies**

**INTRODUCTION**

Scientists have various definitions of development: Dennis Gault said in the definition of development: development in addition to the economic and social goals, should also have cultural and political objectives, the development encompasses all social system changes, changes that bring the community from current unfavorable situation towards a human condition. Paul Straiton believes that the ultimate goal of development should be to provide continuous improvement in the situation of people and give its benefits to everyone (Masumi Eshkevari, 42: 1376).

Many great and celebrity thinkers in the world of economy such as Adam Smith, Bayer, Clark, Hirschman, Lewis, Myrdal, Rostow have considered the development in a sense that is a fundamental transformation from the old society to the modern society (Taghvaei and Ahmadi, 1382: 42).

The quality of development and its infrastructures because of poor and focused planning in the past has created major issues in the trend of rural development in the country. Various dimensions and Structural complexity of the subject, is considered one of the major problems in the supply of suitable model for the distribution of credits. In order to solve the problem of regional imbalances, the first step is the identification and classification of villages in terms of economic, infrastructure and communication, socio-cultural, Health Care, education and so on. (Sarraf, 1377)

As planners insist, to coordinate the objectives of national and regional development with regional realities, in the framework of macro and sectoral policies, regional development policies should be considered to be able to adapt macro policies with economic, social and cultural capabilities of regions and in a certain time achieve national sustainable development objectives. Thus, one of the pillars of development is its comprehensiveness and integrity in order to remove the economic and social imbalances within regions. Hence, fair distribution of facilities and the benefits of development among the majority of the population of a country is of important features of a dynamic economy and a developing society. In each geographic area, one of the preconditions for achieving such sustainable development is to create a suitable ground for growth by providing livelihood-welfare infrastructures and services, in line with the establishment of development and balance in that society (Hinderdink and titus, 1998).

In the past, some managers and policy makers of the development were solely focused on the "agricultural development" that today's results show that rural development cannot be realized solely through it. The village is a community with different social aspects and needs a comprehensive development (ie rural development) not only the development of business and a system named "agriculture". Although, it should be noted that, through successful agriculture development the rural development necessarily does not happen. Because first, all the villagers do not receive the benefits of agricultural development

(landowners, especially large landowners receive more), the second, increase in agricultural productivity will reduce the need for human resources (at least in the long run) and consequently resulted in decreasing rural employment and their poverty and more migration to the cities. The process of social, economic and cultural changes, particularly since the Pahlavi regime so far on the one hand and various geographical context on the other hand, has led to the formation of a certain kind of spatial system of human settlements. Imbalance between urban and rural settlements in various social, economic and cultural fields has caused the disorder of spatial settlements on the one hand and rapid growth of cities, especially the first and second class cities, premature migration from rural areas to cities and increasing deprivation of rural areas compared to cities on the other hand.

Studies show that in our country, the allocation of resources and distribution of facilities was in a way that has exacerbated heterogeneity between villages and to remove these inequalities, disparities and inequalities in these areas should be recognized and in terms of facilities and social and economic and natural characteristics be classified and for each region the program in accordance with its conditions be set and implemented.

Processing on any geographic area is done in a process of implementation of attractions, settlements and facilities needed. This forms a trend of acceptance of tourists that in one side there is the identification of tourism and in the other side there is a depth understanding and measuring on the environment, also a lack of grading, leveling, and consequently disproportionate distribution of infrastructures and services of tourism, including fundamental and apparent deficiencies which are tangible in many studies and plans of tourism industry development in our country (Ghaffari, 2: 1388)

Evaluation of rural areas situation and plans to improve the living standards of the rural population is one of the necessary conditions of socio - economic development of all communities, especially in societies like our country, that agriculture plays a fundamental and decisive role in the country's GDP. Plans to accelerate the development trend in undeveloped areas and balanced relationships between rural areas and create integration in them are necessary and at this stage deep researches and application of models by using statistical methods become important. (Rondinelli, 1985)

Implementation of rural development projects, in various stages such as the selection and location, create infrastructure facilities and installations is related to the environment. Environment as a linchpin of tourism plays an important role in the crystallization of a space for attract tourists. Environment forms many of attractions while promoting the development of tourism depends on the quality of the environment visited. Pay attention to the environmental aspects in rural development, in order to develop rural communities, needs to identify and

introduce the capacities and potentials, then identifying the structural-functional problems and shortcomings in the unknown and less-developed environments. Hence, in line with the tourism development policy, researcher in the study, with knowledge of the above-mentioned problems and shortcomings with a systematic and comprehensive approach, in addition to identifying and evaluating the capabilities and limitations of the environment in rural areas of central part of Gachsaran city from the province Kohgilouye and Boyer Ahmad and the use of scientific methods used in the field of regional planning has addressed this important issue.

## 2. Methodology

The aim of the present study is to evaluate the rural development trend in Gachsaran city. Since the research investigates the rural development process in Gachsaran city, is a causal study. This study is a survey research and cross-sectional in terms of time.

Variable is anything that can accept different values. These values can be different at different times for one person or one thing, or be different at one time for different persons or things (Skaran, 1388, p. 82). These variables include environmental, socio-demographic, economic, and infrastructure - superstructure variables.

Data collection methods are generally divided into two categories of library and field. In the descriptive, correlational, causal, comparative researches and so on the researcher to study literature, history and subject of the research requires to use the library methods (Hafeznia, 1389). In the library method two information sources are used: a) primary sources: a resource that has been written by people who are involved in research or projects in the resource.

B) Secondary sources: a resource that has been written by a person who does not actually paid to research and theorizing.

Field method: a way the researcher for data collection has to go to the outside environment and by communicating directly with the unit of analysis ie individuals and organizations, collect his data. Known methods of collecting field data include questionnaires, interviews, observations, tests, imaging, hybrid, dialogue and group consultation (Hafeznia, 1389, p. 211). The data collection methods in this study are two methods of library and field. For the study of literature, history and subject of the research library method has been used. And a questionnaire, which is a method for collecting the field data, was used to collect data.

Questionnaire as one of the most common data collection tool in survey research is a series of targeted questions, with the use of different scales, evaluates the opinion, perspective and insight of the respondent (Khaki, 1384, p. 243). In this study, to collect data on library resources, Primary sources and Secondary Sources has been included books, articles, theses and global network Internet. Data collection tool in field method is also questionnaire that has been done cross-sectional and through sampling of the population.

Among the models which are important in determining the homogeneous regions and grading settlements based on services is Morris development index. The index by using data available for each residential unit determines development status of each of the units among others in terms of each of the selection criteria by using the Morris Inequality Index and finally the mean of a set of indexes by analysis of „development index,, so simple, but striking and then ranks the settlements.

Morris method is one of the methods that United Nations Development Program used it to rank areas in terms of development (physical-human) which was the latest official model used at the global level and also there is the ability to expand and replace them in planned spaces with different and diverse scales.

It is done with the spatial and regional perspective and is based on a set of villages and pay attention to the status quo for future planning. The goal of this method is that by using the information available the status of settlements among the other settlements be determined on the basis of selection criteria.

To calculate the Morris development index, the following formula is used:

$$YIJ = \frac{x_{ji} - x_{jmin}}{x_{jmax} - x_{jmin}} \times 100$$

The important point in this model is that the indices used should be consistent and aligned.

And finally to find the ultimate indicator of development for each unit the following formula is used:

$$D.I = \frac{\sum Y_{ij}}{n}$$

n=The number of indexes.  $\sum Y_{ij}$ =Morris and the sum of uneven indexes. D.I= final index of development

## 3. Research Findings

### 3.1 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city

According to the results of statistical analysis among 298 rural settlements in Gachsaran 12 villages in the first class, 31 villages in the second class, 150 villages in third class, and 105 villages are located in the fourth class. In other words, 4.1% of the villages are first class, 10.4% of the villages are second-class, 50.3% of villages are third class, and 35.2% of the villages are in fourth class of development.

The first class villages (12 villages) have a population of 22085 people and average population of these villages is 1,840.4 people, the second class villages (31 villages) have a population of 33525 people and average population of these villages is 1081.5 people, the third class villages (150 villages) have a population of 43,813 people and average population of these villages is 292.1 people, and the forth class villages (105 villages) have a population of 6494 people and average population of these villages is 61.8 people.

Table 1 the number and percentage of villages of Gachsaran city based on grading Morris								Indicators
forth class		third class		second class		first class		
Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	
35.2	105	50.3	150	10.4	31	4.1	12	All indexes
9.7	29	35.3	105	40.6	121	14.8	44	Environmental index
2.7	8	30.5	91	60.7	181	6.1	18	Socio-demographic index
33.6	100	57.7	172	7.7	23	1.1	3	Economic Indexes
27.5	82	35.6	106	33.6	100	3.4	10	Infrastructure index
66.8	199	28.2	84	2.7	8	2.3	7	Health index
55.1	164	31.5	94	10.7	32	2.7	8	Educational Index
66.8	199	27.2	81	5.4	16	0.7	2	Administrative and disciplinary index
71.5	213	23.8	71	3.4	10	1.3	4	Cultural and religious index
88.9	265	8.1	24	2.3	7	0.7	2	sports recreational index
70.1	209	14.1	42	10.7	32	5.1	15	Business index

### 3.2 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on economic indicators

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on economic indicators, first class villages are 3 villages that include 1.1% of the total villages, second class villages are 23 villages that include 7.7% of the total villages, third class villages are 172 villages that include 57.7% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 100 villages that include 33.6% of the total villages.

The first class villages (3 villages) have a population of 9651 people and average population of these villages is 3217 people, the second class villages (23 villages) have a population of 23564 people and average population of these villages is 1024.5 people, the third class villages (172 villages) have a population of 58043 people and average population of these villages is 337.5 people, and the fourth class villages (100 villages) have a population of 14659 people and average population of these villages is 146.6 people.

### 3.3 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on infrastructure indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on infrastructure indicators, first class villages are 10 villages that include 3.4% of the total villages, second class villages are 100 villages that include 33.6% of the total villages, third class villages are 106 villages that include 35.6% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 82 villages that include 27.5% of the total villages.

### 3.4 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on health indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on health indicators, first class villages are 4 villages that include 2.3% of the total villages, second class villages are 8 villages that include 2.7% of the total villages, third class villages

are 84 villages that include 28.2% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 199 villages that include 66.8% of the total villages.

### 3.5 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on educational indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on educational indicators, first class villages are 8 villages that include 2.7% of the total villages, second class villages are 32 villages that include 10.7% of the total villages, third class villages are 94 villages that include 31.5% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 164 villages that include 55.1% of the total villages.

### 3.6 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on administrative and disciplinary indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on administrative and disciplinary indicators, first class villages are 2 villages that include 0.7% of the total villages, second class villages are 16 villages that include 5.4% of the total villages, third class villages are 81 villages that include 27.2% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 199 villages that include 66.8% of the total villages.

### 3.7 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on cultural and religious indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on cultural and religious indicators, first class villages are 4 villages that include 1.3% of the total villages, second class villages are 10 villages that include 3.4% of the total villages, third class villages are 71 villages that include 23.8% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 213 villages that include 71.5% of the total villages.

### 3.8 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on sport and recreational indexes

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on sport and recreational indicators, first class villages are 2 villages that include 0.7% of the total villages, second class villages are 70 villages that include 2.3% of the total villages, third class villages are 24 villages that include 8.1% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 265 villages that include 88.9% of the total villages.

### **3.9 Conclusion of rural development levels within the city based on business indexes**

According to the statistical analysis of the number of rural settlements based on business indicators, first class villages are 15 villages that include 2.7% of the total villages, second class villages are 32 villages that include 10.7% of the total villages, third class villages are 42 villages that include 14.1% of the total villages, and fourth class villages are 209 villages that include 70.1% of the total villages.

### **4. Conclusion**

From recent years with the rapid growth of industry and technology in the world, underdevelopment of rural areas becomes more obvious. Since rural people generally have lower incomes than urban people and benefit from little social services, rural people are more poor and vulnerable, that sometimes lead to their migration towards the cities. This is because of the geographical distribution of the villages, no cost for social services, agricultural is non-professional (low productivity), limited land resources (against population growth), and lack of right management of authorities. Therefore, the provision of "rural development" was born to eliminate extreme poverty in rural areas, improve the level and quality of rural life, create employment and increase their productivity.

Rural development programs are part of the development plans of each country which are used to socio-economic structure transformation of rural communities. Such programs are implemented in rural areas by governments or their agents. This is realized in developing countries, governments play an essential role in restructuring the community to coordinate with special political and economic objectives. On the other hand, rural development can be considered a factor in improving the living conditions of low-income people in rural areas and making them self-sufficient in the Macro development process of the country.

In the past, some managers and policy makers of the development were solely focused on the "agricultural development" that today's results show that rural development cannot be realized solely through it. The village is a community with different social aspects and needs a comprehensive development (ie rural development) not only the development of business and a system named "agriculture". Although, it should be noted that, through successful agriculture development the rural development necessarily does not happen. Because first, all the villagers do not receive the benefits of agricultural development

(landowners, especially large landowners receive more), the second, increase in agricultural productivity will reduce the need for human resources (at least in the long run) and consequently resulted in decreasing rural employment and their poverty and more migration to the cities.

Different countries and regions of the world, according to the conditions and priorities, have followed different approaches and strategies of rural development. Certainly, without considering global experiences in this field and by focusing solely on employment in rural areas (regardless of rural development strategy) it cannot be succeed (that be sustainable and lasting, too). Since employment and entrepreneurship occur in a prone environment to and without this space, a sustainable success cannot be expected. The approaches and strategies of rural development can be divided as follow.

Planners to achieve an equitable distribution of resources and benefits of development among the majority of population try to reduce inequalities and imbalances through the development and implementation of various programs of eradication of poverty and immersive development of the positive aspects of development. An essential step in developing effective programs and consistent with reality, is to achieve the overriding goal, social justice and recognition of the status quo. Perhaps the lack of an accurate understanding of the status quo makes inconclusive all efforts of those involved in the eradication of poverty and achieving social justice. The resulted research as determine the degree of rural development in Gachsaran city is in order to achieve development strategies by using Morris method. These villages in the form of criteria and partially due to the power of natural, human and economic, of the villages are classified into four levels. The methodology of this thesis was based on identify the status quo and analysis of its structures and facilities which was studied by identifying and studying the human, economic, environmental conditions and superstructure and infrastructure facilities and services of the villages in Gachsaran city.

According to the Morris model and conducted studies, the villages in the city in terms of development level are divided into four groups and categories as follows.

The first class between 75-100, 12 villages, 4.1% of villages

The second class between 75-50, 31 villages, 10.4% of villages

The third class between 50-25, 150 villages, 50.3% of villages

The fourth class between 0-25, 105 villages, 35.2% of villages

### **5. Limitations of the study**

During this study, we were always trying to use a fair approach in all stages of research, such as collecting and analyzing data that finally be able to get a fair answer about the questions and hypotheses. But the research, like all other studies had limitations that

prevented the realization of goals set. Among them are as follows:

- The lack of some of the information and explanatory notes in the library that's why some of the criteria were excluded from society.
- Like any other scientific research, lack of research culture in our present society is a deterrent for the accomplishment of the researches.
- Problems related to data collection, in particular access problems and lack of support by research and scientific centers of researches done.

### 5. Suggestions for future research

With further researches, the differences in responses with studied variables between different groups of employees with different backgrounds and different age groups can be investigated. Also according to research results the following researches can be offered in this regard.

1. Perform a comparative study of the research in other areas.
2. It is suggested that researchers for future researches consider a longer period of research and also if possible, calculate the research variables monthly or weekly.

### References

1. Hinderdink, J. & Titus, M. (1998). *"Paradigms of Regional Development and the Role of Small Centers"*. Thela Thesis, Amsterdam.
2. Mandel, R. B. (1989). *"Systems of Rural Settlements in Developing Countries"*. New Dehli: Concept Publishing Company.
3. . Rondinelli, D. A. (1985). *"Applied Methods of Regional Analysis: The Spatial Dimensions of Development Policy"*. Boulder: West view Press.
4. Rondinelli, D. A. (1985). *"Equity Growth and Development Tegional Analysis in Develoeing Countries"*. Journal of the American Planning Association, 51(4), 434-448.
5. . Shakoor, A. (2011). *"Survey Economic Geography Parameters in Development Darab Rural Districts"*. Middle-East Journal of Scientific Research, 9(5): 691-695.
6. Shamsoddini, A. & Mahdavi, M. (2011). *"The Performance of Masiri City in Spatial Equalization for Surrounding Villages, Case: Central District of Rostam County, Iran"*. African Journal of Agricultural Research, 6(26): 5793-5799
7. Hinderdink, J. & Titus, M. (1998). *"Paradigms of Regional Development and the Role of Small Centers"*. Thela Thesis, Amsterdam.
8. Mandel, R. B. (1989). *"Systems of Rural Settlements in Developing Countries"*. New Dehli: Concept Publishing Company.
9. . Rondinelli, D. A. (1985). *"Applied Methods of Regional Analysis: The Spatial Dimensions of Development Policy"*. Boulder: West view Press.
10. Rondinelli, D. A. (1985). *"Equity Growth and Development Tegional Analysis in Develoeing*

*Countries"*. Journal of the American Planning Association, 51(4), 434-448.

11. . Shakoor, A. (2011). *"Survey Economic Geography Parameters in Development Darab Rural Districts"*. Middle-East Journal of Scientific Research, 9(5): 691-695.
12. Shamsoddini, A. & Mahdavi, M. (2011). *"The Performance of Masiri City in Spatial Equalization for Surrounding Villages, Case: Central District of Rostam County, Iran"*. African Journal of Agricultural Research, 6(26): 5793-5799