

VILLAGE, VILLAGERS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Development is the process of improving the quality of life in cities and villages. Rural development as a form of sustainable development and comprehensive has always been one of the main concerns for development of each country and it is considered as an important strategic to provide basic needs and optimal distribution of benefits arising from the national development and its strategies designed to improve the social and economic life of poor people in village and deals the modernization of rural society. Rural development will change village from traditional isolation to society degenerated with national economy.

Keywords: Village, Villagers, Rural Development

1. Introduction

Achieving development and improving the quality of life is the ideal that the human mind. Considering that economic development focuses on changes planned building production, therefore, due to the declining share of agriculture in employment and production, rapid urban industrialization, development strategies usually lead to losses in agriculture and rural development and have been completed by non-economic and social indicators such as improvements in literacy, education, health, services and providing housing (Dadvarkhani, 2006). Maintaining rural population and villages have an essential role in sustaining natural life and social, economic of modern humans and also the progress and development are issues concerned to all segments of society (Latifeh & Azmoon, 2012).

The most important development goal is empowering humans. Development in practice means the process of improving the quality of life in cities and villages. Rural areas by providing a healthy and sustainable environment play an important role in national development. Unsuccessful rural development programs, to increase the rate of immigration from poor villages populated areas has been evacuated in practice many of the rural population productive and creative and this may endanger the country's future food security; Set of circumstances indicate that in methods of designing and implementation of rural development programs should be substantially revised.

2. Concept of Development from a Geographical Perspective

So far, all branches of human knowledge have been assessed the development in any way, but have been able to show only part of the reality. Perhaps the only branch of science that can be used in concept of development judge according to human relation and nature is the knowledge

of geography because the natural environment and responses of social environment is studied in geography. Thus most geographers to identify development of areas getting help from their geographical criteria because the use of geographical criteria, we are aware of the detrimental effects of incompatible technology in the environment and avoids the waste of natural resources and human living environment.

Perhaps for the first time, the geographical development against economic development social and cultural development has been proposed by Harold A.Wood geography professor at McMaster University in Canada. Harold A.Wood, in determining geographic criteria of development rely to a number of factors such as social justice, controlled technology, environmental pollution, health and social welfare, quality of life, providing capital for less development regions and rural areas. Other factors to express geographic concept of development is as follows: (Papeli Yazdi & et al, 2002)

1. Human Needs To Survive

Food, fuel, clothing, supplies, housing, need to land, employment, purchasing essential accessories and comfort, mobility and so for urban and rural communities.

2. Communication Network

Regular network transport and postal services, rapid exchange of goods, water plumbing, easy to carry fuel from the source to residential units, transport workers and employees to work or buyers to destination, awareness of inequality in domestic areas of country, including cities, towns and villages and Financing for less development regions, cities and villages deprived.

3. Keeping with the Environment

Geographic dimensions of development review rational use of human from natural environment. In fact, human society underdeveloped is society that cannot exploit a wisely of natural resources and climate. Air pollution, water, soil and noise pollution don't show development but also it shows the quality of unreasonable use in community and incompatible technology. Control soil erosion and conservation of natural resources, mining and pollution control to provide social welfare and health of the population determined part of geographic development.

1. Quality of life

Amount of benefiting people of the city and village from natural parks, national and artificial and beaches and coastal seas, rivers, the per capita spending of leisure time, and finally the conditions and possibility various classes of urban and rural communities benefit from property and leisure facilities.

1. Common sense

Common feelings amount of the residents of an area compared to regional values including urban or rural.

Harold A.Wood professor apply geographic criteria to the reflux of development and its signs are described as follows:

1. Imported materials replace materials that can be produced within the region or country.
2. Yields of soil reduced to various causes.
3. The level of air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution exceeds the standards specified, therefore human health threaten.
4. The natural beauty as a result using unreasonable and imprudent is destroyed gradually.
5. Natural resources of towns and villages for providing foreign exchange or more interest are exploited greedily.

3. The Concept of Rural Development

Intended development in rural areas that rural planners should be consider as follows:

- 1) Development should be changed to improve conditions for the majority of the people.
- 2) People who would benefit from the development should be more people who are damaged by it.
- 3) Development should make sure people to their minimum needs or their essential needs.
- 4) Development must conform and coordinate to the needs of people.
- 5) Development should be encouraged to self-sufficiency.
- 6) The development should bring a long and continuous improvement.
- 7) Development should not damage environment (Ashrafi et al, 2007).

The objectives of rural development strategy in Iran are based on the following principles:

- 1) Reduction of rural-urban migration in a way that rural migration creates reasonable and balanced relationship with development of services, industrial and agricultural.
- 2) Focusing or compress of population in rural areas, to create larger rural centers because rural people be under network of services and also provided adequate coverage of the population for the establishment of industries in the rural environment.
- 3) ordering the agriculture and animal husbandry in the village
- 4) strengthen and diversify into non-farm employment in rural areas
- 5) development of agricultural and animal husbandry cooperatives in rural people
- 6) Saturated land development within the framework of cooperative system to increase production rates (Gonjayesh & et al, 2010).

4. Definitions of Rural Development

The problem is that despite the many writings about rural development, yet has not been completed definition and range of rural development as clarity and accuracy. In a recent discussion of the World Bank (1975) under the title and rural development policy is an attempt to provide a definition in the context of development and its goals. This paper suggests that:” Rural development is strategy to improve the social and economic life of rural poor population, because the rural development objective is poverty reduction. It must be followed explicitly increasing production and productive power. This strategy is related to make monetary and the modernization of the rural population and the transition it from traditional isolation and connection to the national economy. Thus objectives of rural development spread beyond any particular sector. This goal includes to improve production, increase employment... and provide an acceptable minimum of food and shelter, education and health,...”. It is obvious that common poverty has less attraction than the common wealth. However much emphasis on the distribution and elimination of inequalities can easily leads us to a policy of non-principled (Razavian, 2002).

5. Population and Rural Development

Proponents of population growth believe to the positive effects and driving development for the population. The issue that rejects population growth as a fundamental problem closely linked dependency theory the neocolonial underdevelopment. The argument is essentially that excessive attention in rich countries to population growth in poor countries is an attempt that rich countries do to prevent the development of poor countries because the current international situation be maintained for their special benefits. Rich countries force poor countries to accept population control programs. Neo-Marxist narrative is radical discussion that population control by rich countries and their international factors related is efforts of racial discrimination and a form of

genocide. Aim of these efforts is to reduce the relative and absolute number of poor and non-white population largely that may one day be a serious threat to the welfare of rich population and mostly white skin. Therefore birth control in global level reflects the developed world fear of possible violent confrontation with the international system by the people who are the first victims (Gholinia & Gholamrezaei, 1998).

Opponents of population reduction argue that many rural areas of the Third World with low population have many unused and arable land and if there were more population for its cultivation thus increase agricultural production. Many tropical regions of Africa and Latin America and parts of Asia are in a similar position. In their opinion, there are three reasons uneconomical that each part in a broad group of developing countries is true:

1) Border protection against invading neighboring countries, 2) the countries racial and ethnic diversity and different views compared to family size, 3) political and military power of each country often depends to large population of young.

Max de Mirabeau states that population and food mutually be caused enhancing each other and enhancing population in fact is impetus in the evolution of human activity for progress and proper use of resources untouched.

Alfred believes that: One of the main causes of stagnation and recession in France before World War II was the aging population means a little birth and or the causes of the economic crisis of 1929, the United States of America was to prevent the entry of immigrants to the country and meanwhile, conversely in West Germany within ten years, eleven million people emigrated from East Germany, the economic boom has been partly the result population a creative exuberance. In his opinion, the increase in population has led to more work and creativity (Molaei Hashtjin, 2000).

6. Village, Villagers and Rural Development

For village, villagers and rural development that almost everyone known them and clearly aware their existence has provided many definitions. If we study all the definition provided by technical experts about above phenomena, won't receive to the general concept (Asayesh, 2007:28). Following definition provide by one of villagers.

Villagers, namely:

- Pure and sincere servants of God,
- hearted members of society,
- The original source of the nation's cultural treasures,
- The origin of the human resources in community,
- Elements of construction and development of any country,
- Always active arm of the social body,
- Generators of tireless in fighting natural adversity,
- Citizens deprived and with low expectations but fruitful to the nation and the state. Therefore, can be stated that the villagers are unique and unmatched capital any state and nation, location and in any time and era.

Villages, namely:

- Home and refuge of growing future citizens in large society,
- The original focus of humanitarian organizations to national development,
- The basic unit of production in the national economy,
- Context of producing food to feed the nation and the people,

- Export supplier of manpower to stimulate to production services of society, and finally, village means:
- Place providing needs of the nation, and the state's population in times of peace and to time of war and therefore, can be stated that:
Villages mean survival bases of existence and providing economic independence of any state.

Rural development Means:

- The development of knowledge and excellence of character of rural communities.
- Development of rural public knowledge expressing opinions and comment on fate of themselves and their community,
- Development of constructive ideas on self-help and cooperation of rural communities,
- Optimal utilization of resources and available productive factors in rural communities,
- The development of creativity in the rural communities and move to utilize the talents and potential resource discovery,
- Intellectual maturity of villagers to identify and solve problems related to themselves and their community,
- Elaboration of the principles of nutrition and promoting the principles of individual and society health in rural communities,
- Growing technical information of villagers, in the selection and application of the principles and best practices in production,
- The development of basic education and the pursuit to its continuity in rural communities,
- Extension of education and cultural activities in rural communities,
- Development of cooperative organizations and social institutions in rural communities to manage by the villagers,
- Increasing the incentives for the villagers to participate in the affairs of their community,
- Expansion of productive employment and boosting economic activity in each village,
- Rural communities benefit from infrastructure services necessary for production and employment,
- Easy access of generators to institutions and factors and services production (Asayesh, 1997:30).

7. Discussion and Conclusion

Rural development is actually means maturity of thought and hard work and determined action of villagers to improve their community, through self-education and self-help and cooperation, and thus rural development can be considered development of economic, social and cultural Introduction and at the national level. Accordingly, rural development requires:

- Long-term planning and short term based on scientific strategies,
- Evaluation of the final and stage from operational designs in planning process,
- Elimination of discrimination in providing public services to rural communities compared to urban communities,
- Trying to fill the cultural gap between urban and rural communities,
- Boosting agriculture, as most people employment in rural communities,
- The transformation in ((culture of silence)) in order to release rural people from peasant communities from ((unaware and unconscious)),
- Sustained and continuous efforts in providing educational services in rural areas,
- Expansion of investment and effort in creating economic boom in rural communities.

And based on these requirements, can be stated that rural development requires national determination and so it is essential that state and nation in search and sustained effort realize it together.

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