

## *The Impacts of Globalization on Urban Peripheral Villages of Iran*

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### **Abstract**

Globalization as an ongoing economic, social, political and technological process has various impacts around the world, which its quantity and quality has been different in terms of various countries conditions. One of these impacts is spatial transformation of urban peripheral villages. The objective of this research was consideration the impacts of globalization on spatial transformation of Iran's urban peripheral villages. Study area of research are selected urban regions in different parts of Iran. Research required data are collected through field study and some documents. Collected data are analyzed through grounded theory. Findings show that globalization has led to urban peripheral village's transformation through seven processes including pseudo-modern bureaucratic system, health care technology and population growth, land reform and spatial movements of population, economic integration and domination of oil economic surplus, de-industrialization, information technology and capital and power accumulation. As a result urban peripheral villages have experienced several unfavorable phenomenon including physical chaotic structure of villages, unfavorable land use changes, forming unofficial textures, lack of service spaces, and inconsistent architecture. At the end some correcting viewpoints are introduced.

Keywords: Globalization, urban peripheral villages, spatial transformation. Iran

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## **Introduction**

Globalization is a set of economic processes in which production, marketing and investment are integrated across the borders of nations. The liberalization and opening up of markets to the global economy is leading to the emergence of a single market for goods, capital, technology, services and information and to some extent labor (Suresh, 2003).

Rural space of Iran has influenced by special residency pattern following neoclassic economic theories and growth pole spatial planning approaches since 1920. Most of rural settlements have lost their population as a result of urban-rural differences intensification and emigration process. The high immigrant population concentration in the urban peripheral villages have led to their unequal extension. Most of these villages have found dormitory role, their economic structure have changed from agricultural production to a place which are depended on the cities completely. Economic structure of villages have taken distance from organic dynamic transformation in compliance with urban economic process. This social and cultural structure are in contrast with existing social structure of villages (Saeidi et al, 2014, 11).

Physical extension of cities caused agricultural lands of urban peripheral villages convert to residential and services land use. Changes in rural land use have led to changes in rural function and its physical texture. Because of low price of land, urban population have been settled in these villages therefore, uncontrolled construction of housing and service building have led to chaotic texture of urban peripheral village. These villages also have faced with managerial problems.

Uncontrolled urban growth has rooted in various factors but the most important one is uncontrolled rural-urban emigration. Cities are unable properly accommodate all the increased population, therefore parts of added population are driven to urban peripheral area (villages). In fact, emigration to urban area provide services and economic possibilities for the people but emigrant and even urban citizen return to peripheral villages, because the cost of living and specially the price of land and housing are rather low at urban peripheral villages than cities. Due to such a process, most of these villages find dormitory function that means most of their residents work at the city and commute to rural area as their living center. Therefore, the economic structure of villages change, agricultural economy weakened or remove. As a result economic structure of villages depend on urban economic process ( Ziahe tavana & Ghadermazi, 2010: 119-135).

Spatial transformation of urban peripheral villages in Iran have led to spatial disorder and unwanted socio-economic consequences. Spatial development authorities cannot ignore these process and their impacts, it is necessary to analyses these trends deeply and try to manage them. The objective of this research is considering factors affecting spatial transformation of Iran's urban peripheral villages.

## Methods

Research study area are selected urban regions in different parts of Iran including Gorgan, Kirman, Zahedan, Tehran, Birzand Karaj, Robatkarim, Nazarabad, Fouman and Sanandaj. Research method is based on grounded theory. Research required data are collected through field study and some documents. Collected data are analyzed through spatial approach and grounded theory.

## Result and Discussion

Table no 1 shows research simple villages in terms of their central cities, percent of native people, effective factors on village's area extension, and physical problems from people's viewpoints based on field studies (interview, filling questionnaire) and some documents.

Table 1: research simple villages in terms of their central cities, percent of native people, effective factors on village's area extension, and physical structure problems from people's viewpoints

City	Village	Percent of native people	Effective factors on village's area extension	Physical structure problems
Gorgan Najafi Kany et al, 2014	Ozineh	20	1-Population natural growth. 2- Land occupation by people and migrants.	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion. 3- Uncontrolled land use changes. 4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use. 5- Unofficial texture formation
	Anjirab	22		
Karaj (Zamani, 2013)	Farhabad	31.75	1-Population natural growth. 2- Land occupation by people and migrants. 3- Land Grant by institutions. 4- Villa building. 5-Invasion of urban service land use.	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion. 3- Uncontrolled land use changes. 4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use. 5- Unofficial texture formation
Zahedan (Afrakhteh, 2006)	Hematabad	9.7	1- Land occupation by people and migrants. 2- Lack of	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development

			<p>competition potentiality traditional production land use with housing and service land use.</p>	<p>plan's criterion.  3- Uncontrolled land use changes.  4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use.  5- Unofficial texture formation</p>
<p>Robat karim (afrakht ehm Yosefy, 2005)</p>	<p>Orin , Khai rabad, Ham adanak</p>	<p>31.2</p>	<p>1- Population natural growth.  2- Land occupation by people and migrants.  3- Lack of competition potentiality traditional production land use with housing and service land use.</p>	<p>1- Constructing outside of village's official territory.  2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion.  3- Uncontrolled land use changes.  4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use.  5- Unofficial texture formation</p>
<p>Sanand aj (Ziahe tavana &amp;Ghad ermazi, 2010)</p>	<p>Nay sar, Hass anabad</p>	<p>17.5</p>	<p>1- Population natural growth.  2- Land occupation by people and migrants.</p>	<p>1- Constructing outside of village's official territory.  2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion.  3- Uncontrolled land use changes.  4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use.  5- Unofficial texture formation</p>
<p>Birjand (Afrakht eh, Hajipou r, 2014)</p>	<p>Neg hab, Mas uma bad</p>	<p>47</p>	<p>1- Population natural growth.  2- Land occupation by people and migrants.  3- Lack of competition potentiality traditional production land use with housing and service land use.  4- Villa building.</p>	<p>1- Constructing outside of village's official territory.  2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion.  3- Uncontrolled land use changes.  4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use.  5- Building Materials changes and using nonnative materials.</p>

Fouman	Nogurab	45	1- Population natural growth. 2- Land occupation by people and migrants. 3- Lack of competition potentiality traditional production land use with housing and service land	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion. 3- Uncontrolled land use changes. 4- Disproportion of residential land use and service land use.
Fouman	Maklevan	68	1- Population natural growth. 2- Land occupation by people and migrants. 3- Lack of competition potentiality traditional production land use with housing and service land use. 4- Villa building.	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion. 3- Uncontrolled land use changes. 4- Building Materials changes and using nonnative materials
Nazabad(Dolat, 2015)	Tankaman Shomali (10villages)	60-70	1- Villa building. 1- Acceptance of emigrant from Azerbaijan 3- Extension of small industrial firms. 4-Extension of poultry Farming	1- Constructing outside of village's official territory. 2- Constructing regardless development plan's criterion. 3- Uncontrolled land use changes.
Tehran (Nedaei, 2014)	Kashtar, Sangan, Vardij)	25.05	74.5 percent of construction are built by Tern's citizen outside the villages' official territory.	1- Villa building. 2- Uncontrolled land use changes.

Table no 1 shows that Iran's urban peripheral villages are encounter with seven negative spatial transformation. Including:

- a) Construction outside the legal boundaries of villages and physical disorder;
- b) Construction regardless development plan criterion in the project area;
- c) Sever changes of land use, especially from agricultural fertile lands and natural resource to building;

- d) Disproportion of residential land use and service land use;
- e) Unofficial texture formation;
- f) Changes on building materials and using nonnative building materials and architecture that is not in harmony with nature; and
- g) Violations in the operation of Privacy Rivers.

For understanding the processes effective on spatial transformation of urban peripheral villages, grounded theory method has been handled (table 2).

Table 2: Processes effective on spatial transformation of urban peripheral villages analysis through grounded theory method

Main phrase	Concepts	Category	Macro Category
There aren't strong will in the government to stop illegal construction.	Land occupation by immigrants	Governmental Bureaucratic	Government policy
It is possible to make hosing regardless bureaucratic process in the urban peripheral villages.			
Land use changes is possible quasi-legally.			
Illegal land use changes in not difficult.			
The land be delegated by institution to their members.	Governmental management		
The tasks of responsible instructions are parallel.			
Residential lands in urban peripheral villages are cheaper than urban lands.	Economic efficiency	Economic efficiency due to construction possibilities in the places without infrastructure	
Agricultural land use cannot compete with residential, commercial and services land use economically.			
After illegal construction in a places by poor people. Finally government recognizes there officially and the price of land increases.	Poor people supporting policy		
Legal construction is expensive	Cost differences	Lack of regulation coordination with target gropes abilities	
We cannot borrow for housing because we do not have sponsor			
We cannot borrow for housing because we can't pay installments			
Population natural growth increase construction demands	Population natural growth	Population growth	population
Emigration and immigration have	Fluidity of		

<p>Public transportation extension have caused population daily commuting between town and county</p> <p>Public transportation extension have caused people work at the city and accommodate at village</p>	<p>population</p> <p>Population daily commuting</p>	<p>The separation of work and accommodation</p>	<p>Transportation technology</p>
<p>Traditional production has eliminated by importing similar goods</p> <p>Traditional production has eliminated due to economic inefficiency</p> <p>Agricultural production has limited due to lack of irrigation water</p>	<p>Land uses competition</p>	<p>Optimal use of land by private sector</p>	<p>Land yield</p>
<p>Health gropes build villa (Apartment)</p> <p>Poor gropes build unofficial construction</p> <p>Urban lands private ownerships has limited poor people residence space in the cities</p>	<p>Power and capital accumulation at cities</p>	<p>Capital accumulation</p>	<p>The rule of capital</p>

According table no 2, seven interdependent process derived from globalization has affected urban peripheral transformation (Fig 1). Including:

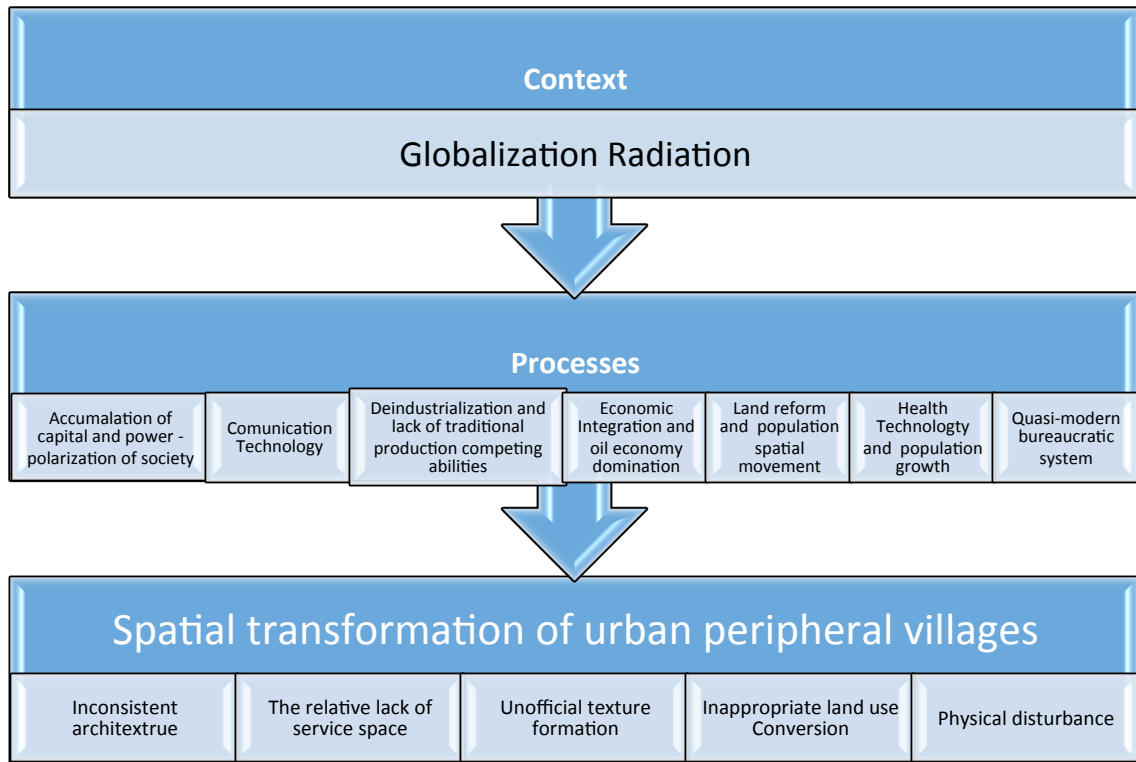


Fig 1: Conceptual pattern resulted from research

a) Inefficient bureaucratic system:

Mirza Taghy khan Amir kabir, Iranian prime minister attempts to establish an efficient bureaucratic system in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but failed because of old social structure, social traditions resistance and lack of financial resource to pay cost of a modern bureaucratic system.

Establishment of quasi modern bureaucratic system is related to Reza Shah and Iran's economic integration with Europe. This system couldn't save himself from strong political, social and cultural customs in spite of many efforts and various reform. This system have characteristics like concentration of power and authority, lack of meritocracy principal, lack of independence for directors, limited efficient staffs and corruption. The management of affairs are in the hands of parallel institution that sometime neutralize each other's activities. Domination of oil rentier economy reinforces the corruption, because oil rentier government has much interdependency from community, since are not depended on society's taxes and income, while modern bureaucratic system with characteristics like enough power and authorities, meritocracy, real interdependency and technical competence manage community development processes ( Delfroz, 2015: 334-354).

Spatial planning of Iran has been based on growth pole approach which encourages industrial investment in the urban centers. Fowling from neoclassical economic approaches based on growth pole have led to urban slum and physical disorder of urban peripheral villages. One phenomenon in the cities all around the world is annexation, through this process urban spaces extend to peripheral territory and joins the peripheral spaces to urban area (Saeidi , Hoseini Hasel, 2006, 7-18).Extension of motor vehicles causes peripheral spaces occupied by the cities ( Memford, 2009:



678-699). Based on this process the annexation of peripheral spaces has been very fast by the cities all around the world including Asia, Europe, and America (Charrier, 1995: 243-254). Housing by poor people and villa building by riches are including responsible factors of urban sprawl ( Bastie & Dezert, 2004, 204).

b) Health care technology and population growth:

Extension of health care technology is a phenomenon related to globalization trend which often have extended from western countries to developing countries. This trend has decreased mortality rate and caused population growth. Absolute population growth and immigration trend has increased construction demands and insatiability of population which in turn has faced urban peripheral villages with management problems. In these villages, services space are not in accordance with population needs, therefore, rural population commute to urban centers for access required services that in turn increased traffic and social problems.

c) Land reform:

Land reform which have accomplished by Iran's previous regime has been a global trend. In fact, this trend was the result of global peasant's movement and pressure from western countries, especially USA to the Shah of Iran which executed in a very complex condition of Iran (Pacoima, 1984:96). Land reform has been one factors which reinforced rural-urban emigration in Iran; emigration process has been main effective factor of urban peripheral transformation.

d) Iran's Economic Integration:

Domination of oil in Iran's economy has been the result of Iran economic integration with global economy which reduced agricultural economy in the country economy. This trend caused rural-urban emigration process due to increases of urban economy prosperity and job opportunities. Rapid population growth of urban centers have led to urban sprawl and spatial transformation of urban peripheral villages.

e) De-industrialization:

De-industrialization of third world countries is driven from economic globalization's new phase. In this stage, traditional production including agricultural production, animal husbandry production and even traditional workshops production such as copper utensils or carpets were eliminated, they were labor intensive and relatively expensive and similar production were imported from industrial countries. Traditional production have not competing capabilities. Iranian products such as silk, tea, cotton and hemp have removed and nowadays, the markets of country are full of western imported goods. Therefore, Production spaces are devoted to service and residential spaces, which have led to land use changes of urban peripheral villages.

f) Communication Technology:

Communication technology as main globalization factor has facilitated foreign goods importing, this technology have also reinforced mass rural-urban emigration and population commuting possibilities due to reducing cost of communication and transportation ( Hite,1998:1-15). With increasing population concentration in the cities and peripheral villages, the need of required drinking water is increased, so water deficiency especially deficiency of drinking water is a common problem which acts in loss of agricultural production in the urban peripheral villages. Based on spatial distribution approaches (operation of the circuit) there are positive relation

between location of any activity and economic value of land. Any activities locate in the place far or close to the urban centers based on its location rent (Saeidi, Hoseini Hasel, 2010: 29-31).

g) Accumulation of Capital and Power:

There are meaningful relationship between capital accumulation and urban growth. Accumulation of capital in urban centers especially big metropolitan cities has been accompanied with power accumulation due to various economic, social and political conditions. Above mentioned situation has been intensified by globalization process. The outcome of this trend has been polarization of society, the poor, whom have not any access to benefits of economic development and the rich, that has completely benefited from globalization, industrialization and commercialization. Polarization of society regarding existing social, political and managerial characteristics have great impacts on urban peripheral villages.

Economically, village have neither completely urban economy nor original rural economic activities.

From the lifestyle, villages are experiencing a transition from tradition to modernity or even postmodernity, different aspects of lifestyle are somehow mingled; young people in rural areas show a tendency toward urban lifestyle while older people prefer local rural lifestyle.

Spatially and physically affluent groups rush to village for production workshop, annoying land use and sometime villa building in the pleasant climate area, while poor people build unofficial and disorder housing in the villages. Therefore, urban peripheral villages experience complex spatial, physical and social conditions.

## **Conclusion**

According Harvey, competition within capitalism, has led all social actors to generate intellectual physical and social landscape favorable for the accumulation of capital in developed countries. But in Iran, governmental economy and quasi modern government based on brokerage doesn't provide healthy competition, as result, attempt for capital accumulation and added value doesn't lead to favorable transformation. Land role changes from production factor to commodity influenced by urban demand, has provided condition for land use changes from agricultural land use to service, housing, commercial and small industrial workshop land use. As result, unfamiliar spatial structure has imposed to the region.

Spatial planning is a key instrument for establishing long-term sustainable frameworks for social, territorial and economic development both within and between countries. Its primary role is to enhance the integration between sectors such as housing, transport, energy and industry, and to improve national and local systems of urban and rural development, also taking into account environmental considerations. Six key principles define the scope of spatial planning including: the democratic principle, the subsidiarity principle, the participation principle, the integration principle, the proportionality principle and the precautionary principle (United Nations, 2008:2-12). These are dreams which access to them is not so easy in a centralized and quasi modern system.

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