

Research Paper

Designing The Model of Eco-village Livelihood using Grounded Theory (Case Study: Hajij Village)

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ABSTRACT

Understanding the mysteries of the biological complexes, such as ecovillages and indigenous mechanisms in the sustainable livelihoods of these communities can be a pillar for achieving sustainable rural development. In this research, the Hajij village as an example of an indigenous and touristic area with many natural and cultural data is qualitatively studied using a grounded theory approach based on the combined, applied and exploratory approach to discover the secret of this survival. There are 53 heads of household from 171 families in the village (with a population of 571) were chosen in a chain targeted sampling method and interviewed deeply. In addition, the direct observation, document review and personal experience were also used. Then, the results were content analysis. With using axial coding and following the trajectory of the story from four categories, 20 subcategories and 132 concepts, paradigmatic model of study as a model for sustainable livelihoods of Hajij was presented. According to the resulted-based pattern, the people of this village with use of the collection of natural, social, human, physical, indigenous knowledge and culture, various strategies for keeping their environment long have adopted. Whereas, the invasion of negative consequences and intervening elements threatens the life of this sustainable pattern at the present time and requires serious attention.

Key words:

Eco-village, livelihoods, Hajij, sustainable development, model, grounded theory

Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

based on the Iran's, there have been many biological complexes that many of them only ruins left behind. However, some of these complexes are still alive and stable. The mysteries of this indigenous knowledge in sustainable rural livelihood

mechanisms can be an outlet for achieving sustainable rural development. Indigenous people of every eco-village due to the geographical potentials, normal data and assets available provide a combination of livelihood strategies. The discovery of these models in the form of indigenous knowledge can be a concern for many researchers of rural development, while considerable work has been done in this field in Iran's ecovillages.

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2. Methodology

In this qualitative study, Hajjij Village as an example of a native area with amazing natural data and widespread reputation as a self-sufficient region with sustainable livelihoods. The grounded theory approach based on a combination of applied and exploratory study is used in order to process the research and the total 53 people of headed households were selected using purposeful sampling and semi-structured interviews were used. In addition, the direct observation, document review and personal experience were also used. Then, the results were content analysis. With using axial coding and following the trajectory of the story from four categories, 20 subcategories and 132 concepts, paradigmatic model of study as a model for sustainable livelihoods of Hajjij was presented.

3. Findings

Hajjij model showed that people using a series of natural, social, human, physical, indigenous knowledge and culture, have adopted varied strategies to keep their ecovillage. Most of the concepts in terms of capital and assets have been classified which among, social capital contributes to more sustainable livelihoods for Hajjij. Among the various strategies, tourism and handicrafts accounted for the largest number of concepts and strategies in agriculture and services had the lowest number. Most of the implications of these strategies on sustainable livelihoods of Hajjij village have been in the field of tourism with more positive outcomes. Then, the positive consequences of self-sufficiency and the negative consequences of dam construction have the greatest effect. Finally, sub-category of Pattern nature, most intervention with respect to concepts (5 concept), in the sustainable livelihoods of Hajjij village had.

4. Discussion

Relying on the interpretation and understanding of people, it was plotted pattern of sustainable livelihoods for Hajjij. Facts of the strategies that they have adopted to cope with natural body homeland and preserve their livelihoods, the consequences that it has entered the body of their rural livelihoods and also those factors which in the role of intervening tensions for their life was presented in the form of this basic pattern. This pattern suggests that the phenomenon of sustainable rural livelihoods in Hajjij as an example native people pattern is influenced from certain factors. According to the pattern, the people of Hajjij have adopted with use of the collection of natural, social, human, physical, indigenous knowledge and culture, various strategies for keeping their environment

long. One of the discussed approaches in the context of sustainable rural development is diversification. Adoption and application of the strategy through its economic functions in unfavorable conditions has created sustainability in the region. Handicrafts and Tourism are few examples of these functions. By operation and maintenance of old art in handicrafts can be more hoped to the Sustainable rural livelihood. Hajjij people with this art, in addition to providing daily necessities, have exceeded the rest of producers and the quality of their products is well known in all over Iran. Handicrafts, beautiful and unspoiled nature of rural, local cuisine, special religious ceremony, sacred monument and ancient architectural monuments and traditional clothing, examples of the tourist attractions of this ecovillage are. Of the positive outcomes of this industry in Hajjij Like many studies, can be mentioned to maintain the cleanliness of the environment to know about the culture of other regions, reconstruction and rehabilitation of historic and religious buildings, rising incomes and confidence. But along with the benefits of its widespread, there are many negative consequences that need to be targeted Forecasting especially by planners, including fear of the destruction of traditional culture and indigenous identity of the younger generation of the village. Consequences as a result of selective strategies and capitals on the phenomenon of the sustainable livelihoods of Hajjij Village for different people have not a similar interpretation. From people's perspective, some of the mentioned consequences led to the improvement and some other cause for concern. From the negative consequences the effects of dam construction in the region can be pointed to submergence of a large part of the village, especially the monastery (Khanghah), the destruction of sacred mineral spring and waterfall of Kani Bell, and demoralization of women and children by multiple explosions dam.

5. Conclusion

According to the results this study, it is expected that the order natural pattern will be destroyed and the sustainability of rural livelihoods Hajjij become unstable and its signs has emerged. Perhaps the major reason can be considered as dams and the submergence of part of the history and enduring culture of Hajjij. Therefore, following items is suggested: pre-Studies on the social, economic and cultural-wide prior to the implementation of development projects, Strengthen the region's rich indigenous culture with regional festivals.