

Research Paper

Analysis of Factors Affecting the Decision to Migration of the Villagers in the Area of Behavioral Geography (Case Study: Sina District, Varzeqan County)

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ABSTRACT

The present research, which deals with the behavioral geography is objective in terms of its purpose and is descriptive-analytical in terms of its nature and method and analyzes the factors affecting the decision to migrate the villagers. The statistical population includes households living in Sina district in Varzeqan County and the sample size consists of 300 people where sampling is accomplished in a simple random manner. Likewise, validity of the questionnaire is examined based on formal validity and its reliability with Gutman coefficient (split half) was 0.88. The analysis of this research, which was based on SEM, was considered using LISREL software. Therefore, a number of behavioral factors in the process of decision making of migration of the rural were drawn and tested as a conceptual model based on theoretical foundations and the study of previous studies. The results of fitting goodness assessment illustrates that the proposed model is compatible with the experimental data. Thus, using the drawn model was considered analyzing effective factors. The factor load test shows that the individual perception of environmental quality has the highest impact on the individual as a decision-making factor for migrating from the Rural. Finally, the results of the study about covariance matrix of independent variables indicate a major level of significance in the estimation of the Path Analysis of the studied variables. Hence, the designed model can be considered to be a useful tool in analyzing the rural migration decision making on the territory of behavioral geography.

Key words:

Behavioral Geography, Migration, Structural Equations, Varzeqan County.

Extended Abstract**1. Introduction**

There have always been many socio-economic problems of concern to scholars due to the different consequences of migration both in origin and destination in the process of migrating from a village to a city which is important from many respects. This

research intends to examine the factors affecting the decision to migrate the villagers in the domain of behavioral geography in order to answer this question. There are various factors that affect the human imagery in the context of the environment and force him to make decisions and apply behavior/immigration. These factors led the research to focus on the causes and factors of immigration with the background of behaviorism in the Sina district, from the central part of the Varzeqan County, due to the importance of the subject and very few studies in the field

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of the behavioral geography of immigration. According to the research question, the questions that this research seeks to answer is as follows:

Compatibility of the theoretical model of research, using structural equations?

What is the impact of migratory behavioral factors that make a person as a decision-maker active in immigration?

Is there a significant relationship between the perceptions of the environment and the behavior of the individual, with his decision to immigration?

2. Methodology

This research is applied in terms of its purpose and in terms of its nature and method, it is descriptive-analytical. Data collection has been done in library and field. In the field method, a researcher-made questionnaire was used. The statistical population of this study consists of residents of Sina districts of Varzeqan County. The sample size are 300 people and sampling is in a simple random manner. The validity of the questionnaire based on formal validity and its reliability with Gutman coefficient (split half) was 0.88.

3. Results

As the fitted model shows, the factors affecting the decision to migrate villagers in the territory of behavioral geography. According to the explanation given in the analysis of data in the Lisrel program environment, we conclude that the proposed model is in a desirable level with experimental data and the indicators have good fit. According to the results, individual perception of environmental quality which is one of the components of human-environment and ecological thought has the highest amount of statistical T.

Estimates for the route of «human behavior and spatial knowledge» and «human-environment and ecological thought» show that its value is 0.43 with a standard error of 0.05 at a high level, so that its statistics are equal to 9.09.

Estimates for the «human-environment and ecological thought» and «perception of perspective and experience» show that its value is equal to 0.48 with a standard error of 0.04 at a high level, with a T-statistic of 11.55.

Estimates for the «perception of perspective and experience» and «human behavior and spatial knowledge» in-

dicating that its value is 0.45 with a standard error of 0.04, which is statistically significant at 10.75.

This means that there is a very strong positive correlation between these variables; that is, there is a significant relationship between the perceptions of the environment and the behavior of the individual with his decision to immigrate.

4. Discussion

Depending on the various library studies on migratory behavior and the perception that person's behavior can be studied in two physical and psychological environments, it is examined that the behavioral factors in immigration. In general, analyzes of this research, which are based on the SEM using Lisrel software, show that many behavioral factors affect the decision to migrate in Sina. The relevant and reliable results with reference to structural equation rules showed that the proposed model is compatible with empirical data at the desired level.

5. Conclusion

Results of this research show that individual perception of environmental quality has the highest impact on the individual as an active decision maker for migrating from the Rural. In this context, Lee (1999) & Dee (1994) also believed that behavioral migration considerations assume that immigration and mobility of residents are purposeful and wise actions that are based on the tastes of individuals in order to improve and maintain their environmental and living conditions and immigration is a necessary choice of conduct. In addition, individual perception of environmental hazards has the second rank of influence on the individual as a decision-maker. The high level of respondent's emphasis on this variable can be attributed to the earthquake of August 2012 and its increase in migration, in which according to Moure's research and studies (1986), external events have had an impact on the ability of a household to realize the immigration demand and have made immigration a necessary choice of conduct. White (1984) also considered the degree of flexibility or adaptability of people to the geographical environment in relation to their degree of experience as a natural hazard. Cultural values and perspectives have the greatest impact on the individual as a decision maker in immigration as well, similarly cultural values and perspectives have been effective and well-known in influencing individual cognitive maps and have a great influence on the individual as a decision-maker according to Lynch's theory (1960).