

Investigating Social-Psychological Factors in Management of Sustainable Urban Development (Case Study: 14th Zone of Municipality)

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Abstract

This study mainly aimed at assessing the role of social-psychological factors in management of sustainable urban development. This descriptive study needed to be practical and it is correlative and periodic. Based on data collection method, this study belonged to survey category. Additionally, we used documents and library books for this research. Statistical populations included all 120 managers and officials in 14th zone of Tehran municipality and related areas out of which we selected 92 people through simple random sampling by Kukran formula. Results of this study indicated that there is relation between social participation (sig: 0.000), social awareness (sig: 0.000) and religiosity (sig: 0.000), with management of urban sustainable development.

Keywords: social participation, social awareness, religiosity, management of urban sustainable development.

Introduction

Regularity is foundation of every society, so social actors of the society are required to socially cooperate and collaborate together in order to survive in the society and maintain social order and balance. Basis of these collaboration and cooperation-based relations is social capital because it is facilitator of social interactions and relation in micro level (family), middle level (organizations), and macro level (society) and even in more immense structures (global).

In other word, social capital is indicator of social relations and interactions accompany with emotions and feelings that produces inter mutual commitments for linking and correlating social minds and creates trust, correlation, integrity, and required synergy in order to facilitate general social actions and participation and provide mental-physical health and social growth and enthusiasm, Because today social capital in reaction with other capitals including physical capital and humane capital is considered as main incentive for balanced and sustainable development through facilitating actions and reducing costs and improving collaborations and cumulative participations.

Urban societies are created from different elements whether heterogeneous and standardized among which citizens are the main elements in their destiny and conditions as dynamic parts of the society. Since humane element and citizens in one hand are basis of any development and on the other hand they are collection of trends, feelings, cultures and attitudes and ways of interaction with environment and they have effect on environment and organizations, so study of their guidance and effects of their behavior including effectiveness rate in formation of social capital, enables urban organizations to move in route of optimal management urban sustainable development through planning according to different conditions and actions of citizens.

Other main point is study of social capital from two aspects of theoretic and operational. This study is practical and its results can be used in planning and policy making by identifying effective variables on social capital. Social capital has improving outcomes for social wellbeing and public policy making and it can characterize democratic institutions (Putnam, 1993) and be effective on social, economic and even humane development; world bank (2002) reported that social capital has main role in poverty reduction and humane, economic and social sustainable development: " when social capital is decreased, people are suffer in certain and measurable ways and there would be distressful outcome for secluded people. So increasing the share from social capital is more committed approach for treating all social pains." (Australia productivity commission) (2003)

Our developing society suffer from many crisis and social, economic and political disorders, so investigating social capital status as one main element of development in all levels among people, institutions, roles and bases that form main components of the society clarifies existing condition for policy makers and planners of the state in all levels and institutions in order to plan in a way that improve level of social capital in social system and subsequently achieve predetermined and more accurate aims.

Literature review

Social capital is main component of social development that causes strength and widening of the society which is the main national entity and identity symbol and public plural integration in

each society. Reduction of social capital in macro cities leads social life to be degraded and is as main cause of problems and social sufferings (Bastani, 2011:25).

Social capital can be summed into "relations". Humane relations like people are main component of social capital. Sociologists believe that we are defined partially with people that we are acquainted with. However, people dependence has basic role in making greater social foundations (Ghafari and Ramezani, 2009:8).

physical capital is existed in buildings, earth or procedure equipment's, while financial capital is what a person have in a bank, and human capital is what is existed in people mind (different skills and education) so social capital is what we have in our relation or networks with other people.(Tajbakhsh, 2010:28).

In contrast to other forms of capitals, social capital is intrinsically existed in actor's relations. This capital is not latent in actors or tools (Tajbakhsh, 2010:50).

There are different definitions from social capital and many words and explanations are used for its definition including, community spirit, social bands, civic virtue, community network, social ozone, extended friendships, community life, good neighborliness, social glue.

Generally we can say that "social capital is network made of relations based on social trust among people, groups and people interaction with institutions, organizations and social group so it is close to social correlation and integration and provides support for people and groups aiming at facilitating actions in order to achieve personal and group goals." (Abd-allahi, 2007:38)

From Ibn Khaldoon' point of view, human is intrinsically civil which this personality requires formation of the society, because human has no choice but collaboration for being survived and deal with natural dangers. Human being cooperate for survival of other people, so he achieves culture and reconstruction (Sheikh, 1994:74). Social capital is complicated and multi-dimensional concepts including: a) objective and structural dimensions such as network of inter personal relational, inter institutional and relations between people and institutions and b) mental or cognitive dimensions including social commitment and trust between people and people with institutions. Social capital in all dimensions can be either traditional and inter group or new and inter group. Traditional social capital is created in small and informal communities such as family, tribe and clan while new social capital is created by development of inter group relations and interactions through non-governmental organizations such as associations, congresses, classes, federations and constitutions of environmental defense. New social capital make relations among citizens without considering gender, religion, ethnicity in city and community and it provides trust identity, integration and general and cumulative participation. Since 1980s Pear Bourdiue, James Samuel Colman, Robert Putnam, and Frances Fukuyama and other intellectuals introduced social capital concept into sociology, economy and other sciences thus we can achieve certain definition regarding their attempt. Putnam defines social capital as characteristics of social organizations including social networks, norms, and trust which facilitates cooperation for achieving mutual benefit (Putnam, 1995:67). From Fukuyama points of view, social capital efficiently maintain and support social order and creates economic development (Firooz Abadi et al, 2006: 202). Coleman believes social capital is made of different natures which all include aspects of social structure and it facilitates specific actions of

actors within this structure (Coleman: 1998:98). Social capital has clear effect on meeting sustainable development aim. According to definition of sustainable development provided by Brundtland Commission, Serageldin (1996) defines sustainable development as maintaining opportunities for future generation as well as today chances for today generation (Serageldin, 1996:3). According to this definition, improving chances requires developing capital balance. It means if we want to maintain today chances for future generation, we need to improve capital balance for today. In economic sciences, idea of consuming current capital in order to provide income flow is completely unapproved because income which obtained based on consuming capital is not sustainable. Capital and its growth are tools of providing chance for future generation.

Thus sustainable development means providing same capital or more for future generation. However, its form can be different with capital form for future generation (Serageldin and Grootaert, 1999:4)

Normally, this capital includes natural, physical, generative and humane capital. This form is good enough to extend into social capital form as well. Social capital is related to internal capital, and cultural integration of society, norms and values that facilitates interactions among people and also among institutions. Social capital is a glue that connects community components and its lack causes abortion of economic growth and social wellbeing (Grootaert, 1998:1)

Accordingly, following model is provided based on current variables and concepts in literature review:

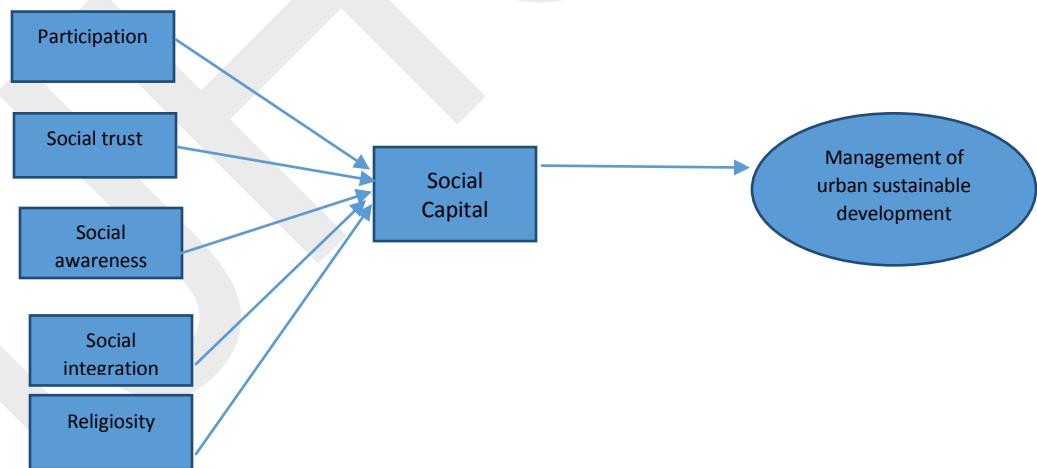


Diagram 1. Theoretic model based on literature review

Social capital (independent variable): operational definition: social capital is measured with components including social trust, social participation, social integration and correlation, social and religious awareness.

Social capital

Social capital includes norms, values, networks and organizations through which people achieve their capabilities, capacities and their talent and have power of decision making and policy making.

Social trust

In order to measure level of inter-personal trust (trust between citizens) and inherent trust (people trust into governmental administrative systems) is evaluated which is satisfaction rate and lack of people satisfaction rate from officials and governmental practitioners.

Social integration

Social integration means that a group maintains its uniformity and be compatible with its main elements (Biero, 1991, page 400)

Social participation

Social participation is active participation in social life. Participation is meaningful and purposeful action which it gets appeared in informed process of power sharing and scarce resources and providing opportunities for ranks of mutual actions between people and their social environment in order to achieve certain and predetermined goals.

Social awareness

Social awareness includes ideas, thoughts and senses toward life and attention to everything that is related to general issues whether political or social (Firooz-Abadi, 2005:25).

Religion and belief

Through religion and belief, social capital can be improved as facilitator of social relations, and it can be developed based on values, norms and behavioral and rational patterns. Thus religion can be as a factor of strengthening social base.

Urban sustainable development

Urban sustainable development provides chance for today and future citizens to live in peace and quiet and enjoy long lifespan and productive life (Salehi Fardm 2001:147)

Materials and methods

This descriptive study need to be practical. This study is correlative and periodic. Based on data collection method, this study belonged to survey category. Additionally, we used documents and library books for this research. Statistical populations includes all 120 managers and officials in 14th zone of Tehran municipality and related areas out of which we selected 92 people through simple random sampling by Kukran formula. Data were analyzed by SPSS software 22th version and Pearson correlational coefficient. Validity was obtained by formal method through previous questionnaire of similar researches and interview with professionals. Stability was also obtained by Cronbach alpha in pretest as 0.885.

Results of the research

Table 1: correlation matrix of variables

Religiosity	Social Awareness	Social Participation	Social integration	Social trust	Sustainable Development	Variable
					1	Sustainable Development
				1	0.946	Social trust
			1	0.365	0.854	Social integration
			0.299	0.141	0.000	Social Participation
	1	0.305	0.581	0.321	0.000	Social Awareness
1	0.924	-0.192	0.043	0.080	0.000	Religiosity

The value of Pearson test in first hypothesis (there is significant relation between social trusts with management of urban sustainable development) was -0.006 and level of significance was 0.946 which indicated relation between these two variable was not approved. Results of Kendall and Spearman's Rho test also disapproved this hypothesis. Accordingly in Kendall test statistical value was 0.095 and level of significance was 0.899 while in Spearman's Rho test, statistical value was 0.103 and level of significance was 0.879. This hypothesis was approved Anthony Giddens theory; he introduces concepts of globalization and tele actions and abstract and generalized social trust.

The value of Pearson test in second hypothesis (there is significant relation between social integration with management of urban sustainable development) was -0.015 and level of significance was 0.854 which indicated relation between these two variable was not approved. Results of Kendall and Spearman's Rho test also disapproved this hypothesis. Accordingly in Kendall test statistical value was 0.088 and level of significance was 0.816 while in Spearman's Rho test, statistical value was 0.088 and level of significance was 0.809. this hypothesis is compatible with Talcott Parsons' theory who explained concept of the society whether local or social as resource of interactions and producer of commitment and loyalty in order to develop social correlation and integration (1996).

The value of Pearson test in third hypothesis (there is significant relation between social participations with management of urban sustainable development) was 0.529 and level of significance was 0.000 which indicated relation between these two variable was approved.

Results of Kendall and Spearman's Rho test also approved this hypothesis. Accordingly there is significant relation between social participations with management of urban sustainable development. Values of Kendall test statistical value was 0.522 and level of significance was 0.000 while in Spearman's Rho test, statistical value was 0.597 and level of significance was 0.000. This hypothesis approved Jürgen Habermas' theory who introduced concept of vital world especially public dimension as main context of relieving communication action (1979).

The value of Pearson test in fourth hypothesis (there is significant relation between social awareness with management of urban sustainable development) was 0.440 and level of significance was 0.000 which indicated relation between these two variable was approved. Results of Kendall and Spearman's Rho test also approved this hypothesis. Accordingly there is significant relation between social participations with management of urban sustainable development. Values of Kendall test statistical value was 0.412 and level of significance was 0.000 while in Spearman's Rho test, statistical value was 0.426 and level of significance was 0.000. This hypothesis approved Manuel Castells theory who provided description of network community of information era.

The value of Pearson test in fifth hypothesis (there is significant relation between religiosity with management of urban sustainable development) was 0.374 and level of significance was 0.000 which indicated relation between these two variable was approved. Results of Kendall and Spearman's Rho test also approved this hypothesis. Accordingly there is significant relation between social participations with management of urban sustainable development. Values of Kendall test statistical value was 0.355 and level of significance was 0.000 while in Spearman's Rho test, statistical value was 0.341 and level of significance was 0.000.

This hypothesis is compatible with following theories:

In experimental dimension considerable researches about social capital were performed in developed countries. In US, Ports (1998), Paxton (1999), in Britain, Hall (1999), Harper (2002), in India Krishna (2002) investigated social capital in structural and cognitive dimensions. Comparative study of social capital attract international organizations including World Bank (1997), and great researchers Inglehart (1997) and Leh (2003).

Putnam (2000) explained that social-economic practice in sustainable communities is more powerful than disconnected societies. So social capital means integration and trust among networks which provide chance of economic and economic efficiency (Puntam, 2000). After regional reformations in 1970s, he concluded that more social capital in northern area in different periods provided more possibility of development (Hasanvi el al, 2007).

Zhao (2002) studied about dismissed Chinese worker and proved that workers with more social capital were more successful for being occupied. So sustainable personal economy is affected by social capital.

Bhuiyan (2005) approved relation of social capital with urban sustainability in his research.

In Khakpour et al (2006) research titled as "role of social capital in local sustainable development" it is illustrated that considering mental concept of social capita is undeniable condition of meeting sustainability concept because of significant relation of some variables of social capital with sustainability.

Shafia (2010) in his research titled as investigating relation of social capital and local economic sustainable development" approved that there is significant and positive social capital and economic sustainable development; thus high social capital is effective factor for increasing local economic sustainability and economic motivations of researchers.

Bargahi (2013), performed a research with title of "analysis of new cities sustainability" and he measured and assessed some components of social capital including dependence in relation with sustainability of new city. They also clarified direct and positive relation between these components with urban sustainability. So that the more effective is social capita components the more is urban sustainability and vice versa. In Iran social capital concepts became main concern of Abdollahi (2003), Share pour (2004), Ghasemi (2006) and translators including Tavasoli and Saboori.

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