

The Assessment of Quality of Living Environment in Rural Areas from Residents' Views (Case Study: Miandeh Dehestan in Fasa County)

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Extended Abstract

1. INTRODUCTION

A physical-functional view of planning to different dimensions and aspects of life in the past caused that the late 1960s, under the influence of new needs and knowledge, modern social concepts such as social welfare, life quality, and social justice be introduced in the realm of planning and development. Quality is a complicated concept which produced different senses based on situations and conditions. Nowadays, human beings need services with high quality, but understanding the concept of quality and its process creates a lot of changes in the mind. Concurrent development of ideas, of the quality of rural environment and its indices is a purposive activity. Being concerned about modern life quality are among features of contemporary society which can depend on the quality of an environment.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Evaluating the environmental quality of is the first state in managing and controlling the quality of residential regions. The focus on environmental quality is considered as a key for researching on urban and rural social geography. Cerographers have always introduced promotion of human life quality as the final objective of geographical studies. Studying the literature of life quality indicates that this concept emphasizes two issues: personal welfare and life quality. Personal welfare refers to individuals, and life quality is related to environments. In the same line, environmental quality which is part of environmental capabilities, are investigated based on individuals' environmental perceptions. According to some of the scholars, satisfaction with residential environmental quality is a qualitative concept on which diverse factors influence. Some scholars of

social sciences believe that environmental quality can be considered as a factor affecting on life quality.

3. METHODOLOGY

The present study is an applied one in terms of objective, which employs a descriptive -analytical method. Using Cronbach's formula for Miandeh Rural District with significance coefficient 95% and by considering the maximum heterogeneity hypothesis ($p=q=0.5$), the sample size was calculated to include 385 participants. In this line, the sampling was conducted using simple random sampling. Valuing the data was conducted using five-point Likert scale and for weighting criteria, the ideas of ten experts of Environmental Health and rural planners were used. To analyze the data related to comparing the villages of Miandeh Rural District in terms of determining the level of their satisfaction with environments, the Fuzzy AHP method was employed and the results were investigated in three levels using cluster analysis. Furthermore, by applying one sample t-test, Spearman correlation coefficient, Phi and Cramer tests, data analyses were conducted.

4. DISCUSSION

In total level satisfaction final score selected residents rural areas from reside environment using cluster analysis in three levels (Acceptable satisfaction, middle satisfaction and lower satisfaction) were identified. In relationship with level satisfaction residents of quality environment living in the case study to arrange rural areas Miandeh and Nasir-abad two members level satisfaction high showed. In this study second level of satisfaction environment residential, as middle satisfaction has been identified to arrange rural areas Bidzard and Sedeh in this membership that of the satisfaction amount is reduced. The lowest level of residents satisfaction of rural environment

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quality has been created in villages Bishezard, Rahimabad, Gehrab, Abouzarabad been identified that satisfaction level lower than middle limit shows. The results of the Phi test and Cramer and Spearman correlation showed that between social characteristics, level education and economic satisfaction, with satisfaction than quality of living environment in Miandeh rural there is significant correlation. But between individual variables genus, age and marriage with satisfaction level people than quality of life environment in rural Miandeh there is no significant relationship.

5. CONCLUSION

The results indicate that the degree of the satisfaction of the residents of rural regions in Minadeh Rural District is not at a favorable level. Accordingly, villages of Miandeh and Nasir Abad enjoy the best conditions in terms of satisfaction with the environmental quality of life among the three mentioned levels and they are at the first level. The second level of the present study is related to the moderate level of the degree of

satisfaction with the quality of rural environment including the villages of Bidzard and Sedeh. Gahrab, Rahimabad, Bishezard and Abzarabad have assigned to themselves the least level of satisfaction among the studied villages. Paying attention to the quality living environment as one of the most fundamental needs and also the important role it has in life quality in rural areas is inevitable. Regarding the issue that diverse factors are involved in this process, paying attention to residential environments is highly important. Therefore, it is required that in line with creating a favorable environment considering environment potentials of rural points, a developed program be considered for residents in order that they can reach a satisfactory level of life. Promoting the quality of living environments in rural areas helps greatly to the sustainability of villages.

Keywords: Quality of living environment, satisfaction, rural areas, fuzzy multi-criteria techniques, Miandeh Dehestan.

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