Analytical Factors Deterrent Agricultural Development in Rural Areas 
(Case Study: Khondab County, Markazi Province)

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Extended Abstract
1. Introduction
Agriculture plays a key role in the economy of many rural areas in developing countries, and the majority of households earn their livelihood directly from agriculture sector. On the other hand, agriculture is closely related to the economy of a country and it is an integral part of the development of the national economy. Despite the positive role of agriculture in the development of national or local economy, current facts are indicative of the weakness of the economy based on production and the recession of agriculture sector in rural areas. In a general approach, the lack of agricultural development in rural areas can be attributed to two factors: First, the natural environment does not have such capability. Second, human factors have failed to make such developments feasible, organized and direct. In other words, various indices that are taken to be the basis of development are in fact emanated from these two factors, so the recognition of the main index plays a central role in the analysis of the indices of development and underdevelopment. Thus, the current study aims at taking useful steps in improving agricultural production capacity by identifying and analyzing the preventive factors in agricultural development in rural settlements. Therefore, the main research questions addressed are: what problems does the agriculture sector of Khondab County encounter at various levels in the process of development that their existence and continuation result in the recession and weakness of the production-based economy in these rural areas? And which factor plays a pivotal role in the underdevelopment of agriculture sector?

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
The current study, on the theoretical basis, refers to the government intervention in the agricultural development process as part of the economic underdevelopment and posits that the recognition key of agricultural underdevelopment in institutional features of government that are embedded in the mechanisms of a special political economy is indeed concealed, and by explaining the political behavior that dominates the agricultural development in the development of a country seeks to find the fundamental preventive factors in the agricultural development at a macro-level. Furthermore, the influence of natural factors on rural agricultural development is not neglected and its importance has been considered throughout the study. Survey technique was employed (field - an interview questionnaire) and the research resources were documents and library findings. The Statistical analyses that was employed were: Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) Technique by Shannon’s Entropy, TOPSIS, artificial neural networks, and statistical correlation of Spearman and Friedman in SPSS.

3. METHODOLOGY
The research method of this study is the analysis of documents and surveys (questionnaires, field interview). The sample of the study consists of 370 farmers from 25 rural settlements in Khondab County and 18 are researchers and academic experts.

4. DISCUSSION
The results from Shannon’s Entropy method show that agricultural development is lower than the ideal with the average level of 0.030. Natural potential level of the region, based on the Likert scale, is 3.64, which is higher than the middle interval of 3. The average utility pattern of the government in agricultural development planning in Likert scale is 1.80, which is below the middle interval for theoretical research. The impact of such behavior is palpable at the average 0.019 indices of performance of agricultural development planning. Meanwhile, infrastructure planning components, training and promotion and attraction of investment from banks with correlation coefficients of 0.194, 0.067, 0.834 and a
significant level of 0.000, 0.000 and 0.002 correlated with agricultural development, respectively. This relationship is a sign of the lack of objective in investment and shows that it is based on the deviant function of government in the investment sector. The significance of indices which regulate the price arrangement of agricultural products market in the villages of Khondab County with the average of 0.011 is indicative of the unfavorable condition of this dimension, and this is in a way that the significance of indices which regulate the price arrangement of agricultural products market is the same as cultural development. Finally, the results of the artificial neural network technique show the superiority of natural factors in relation to institutional factors in affecting the rate of cultural development with the sensitivity coefficient of 0.99 and 0.84.

5. CONCLUSION

Nowadays agriculture in rural settlements is in such condition that government has the least intervention in planning and guidance. In fact, agriculture is outside the scope of governmental management and it is based on the inner workings of the sector itself. Although this fact is in favor of free economy and it is favored by defender of market system which considers the non-intervention of the government in the economy as a favorable process in achieving a level of development, it cannot be concluded from these observations that government intervention in economic issues is basically and always wrong or detrimental. Since it would result in unidimensional and simple view of the phenomenon of government and it ignores the necessities of dealing with inadequacies of free economic market. Yet even member countries of OECD as the most unyielding defenders of the market system are considered the largest consumers of support means in the agricultural sector. Overall, working along the lines of achieving the principles of free economy is not the reality of agricultural sector. However, the sector has been abandoned and lacks management.

In fact, the structure of decision-making and implementation of development planning in a country does not take agriculture into consideration and it is not in the pursuit of improving its condition in economical arena. The consistency of underdevelopment in agricultural sector in rural settlements with high natural and economic potentials and with villages that do not benefit from the advantage of suitable natural and ecological capacities confirms this issue.

Key words: Natural factors, institutional factors, investment in production, market regulation, agricultural development, Khondab County.

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