

## Study of the Status of Women in Economical and Social Development in Iran

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### ABSTRACT

Human society is consisting two sexes, male and female. Women are half of human society. If the role and human status have been accepted as a basis of development, logically we should accept the role of women to develop the country. In fact, society needs women as half of its structure to grow and activate economical social cultural fields. Everyone has the right of interfering to determine his fate and the future of society. Therefore, women should have an active role in social environment in development to social, political, economical and cultural guide. On Islamic view, women have sensitive role to establish Islamic society and Islam promotes the women roles to retrieve and leave being an object and proportional to grow, she can undertake responsibilities in Islamic government. Nowadays, the pace of women has been argued in the subject of development and training women. mothers who are first transfers of values , norms , customs and tradition is clear and it is very important art that development may achiever by contributing women like men in development process and completely gain the profits. Unfortunately, women are neglected in development process and not taken into consideration as a basic member of the society. In this study we seek to show the status of women in social development of Iran.

**KEY WORDS:** Women, development, social development.

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### INTRODUCTION

As women are half of people in the society and their presence is a function of the culture, so we cannot expect that economical traits like being a worker, rate of contribution, etc. are similar. In the past, women and their contribution are not taken into consideration, but now by blessing Islamic revolution, the status of women to conduct the path of growth of country is drawn and it changes to unique role to development. Iranian women have imposed a lot of problems due to tribal cultural sensitivity and before Islamic revolution, resulting from losing proper and valuable structure; women spend time in seeming elegances. Nowadays, all theorists and executive officials concluded that development of country has direct relation with the quality indexes in different population. Thus women population with specific characteristics of capabilities, responsibilities and generally performance to hasten development process have predominant role. It's clear that we can never ignore effective attendance of women in social, economical, and political grounds. Because increasing dissatisfactory has improper effect on the process of development. In every society, it's necessary that officials and makers decision to planning, growth bed and elevation of women to grow and develop of the country are considerable force with high capabilities. In the women's literature, education considers the attendance of women and trains them as valuable discussion to all process of social development to define the status of women. The criticism of feminism literature, modern education is a serious necessity. Education system has been defined by the view of formal authority and theoretical framework of the status of women has been defined.

#### **The concept of social development:**

Social development is one of main process of development and a symbol of social system to achieve "social authority", making" social solidarity and accretion", increasing life quality and promoting "and human quality". Based on these definitions, the purpose of social justice is to decrease in equivalency and discrimination between people. It's expected by social justice to decrease the class distances, discrimination and exploitation in the society and distribute equally the income, investment and power. It removes the gap between poverty and wealthy, city or village and male and female. Geographically inter- or intra-region inequalevence may be eliminated. Social solidarity is relating to social forces that leads the unity of humans. Based on social solidarity, it is anticipated that conflicts originates cultures, political believes or economical interests. The intention of : life equity" promotion and increment of fundamental facilities and services like

health, transportation, communication, foods and etc. each social system presents high quality and quantity services, while it provides accessibility to all persons. Finally, social development reflects clearly demographical traits and quality and this process leads to promote the quality of society members. (Kalantari, 19998, p 211)

#### **Women and social development:**

One of reliable index that has been applied to measure the level of development in the society is the level of women contribution in economical, social and political life. But what is a direct resultant if entering women to social fields, particularly; important for developing countries is the effect off this process on population. Direct result of women contribution causes to raise the cultural level and their education, marriage age, expansion using contraceptive devices, decrease of the type of pregnancy and finally decreasing the rate of population. If we find real and stable development in the country, we should know that firstly such developments are not possible to raise the quick and stable share of women.

Secondly, these actions are not possible through making the justice in educational system. We should develop it to distribute social privileges, most important factor is employment. (Fokouhi, 1999, 433)

Women have basic role in social, cultural and economical status in the society and changes have been made to development and active contribution of women and men to serve both genders. Of course, it doesn't mean accepting feminism discussion and exact equity of women and men in all fields, active contribution of women is necessary according to the culture of society. We struggle to remove exploitation of traditional patterns, expectations and roles relating to use massive potential of development. Basically, each one of development and programs of human, social cultural and economical level should be started by women, because in third world countries, women are considered as a very poor group. Therefore, we should plan criteria to help women. (Ionesco, 2000, p 3)

It's clear that concentration on women is one strong instrumental movement influenced by internal demands and needs. A lot of programs that are not influenced by women are not successful. We can say that social development discussion is not relating to pre-industrialized society. The concept of socialization is passing industrialization. The society is divided into two parts: pre- industries and industrialized.

Social institutions in industrialized and pre-industrialized society are difference. The definition of male or female is different in two societies. In the period of pre-industrialization, women are a widespread member of family is an economical independent unit with training and organizing functions in the society. But in industrial period main function of production and training human force are deprived. The conception of widespread family will change nuclear. Family in the modernity is not limited to child, husband and wife. Their tasks and responsibilities are transferred to external institutions. Training human force is transferred to economical factories and institutes than education centers and economical programs. The differences between agricultural products and industrial are an origin in social development in new society. We impose low products and quality. But in industrial period, there is a process that makes this structural evolution and separation of functions and tasks in industrial society. People of non industrial countries have the traits "peasant" and when they reach to industrial societies, they change "citizen".

#### **Different ways of the effect of women on development:**

Women as human capitals are considered as the development resources divided into three parts: social, natural, human possession. Human interferes directly and indirectly to improve social and natural ones. Thus it is most important resource of development that would be applied and out coming changes to the capitals.

Nowadays, it's clear that main difference among developed countries is in human capitals. Now it is a question that how should be distribution of equipments to assimilate. Almost half of human possessions are with women. Planners need to provide the equipments to develop, this %50 possession development to active human capital, in these situation social profits are prepared by different fields.

#### **Direct effect on development indexes:**

Other reasons of exploiting women in development are direct effect on development indexes. For example, women play the role in indexes relating to population, health and principally, reaching to purposes of these indexes is impossible without the importance and prioritizing women and presently generic guidelines.

#### **Indirect effect on development indexes:**

Women in addition to affect directly on development indexes have a collection of indirect effects on increasing or decreasing indexes and gaining or not gaining development's purposes. For instance, women in the role of home teachers are a collection of informal training for children. Some indexes of women in the process of development have been studied and included index of human development is relating to the gender,

human poverty and empowering women and moreover, female publishers, authors and transfers in libraries, women in newspaper and cinematic festivals are predominant.

#### **Approach of Development:**

To achieve stable and internal development, we need women contribution. Each society can not competes with our human force. Since occurring industrialization, sociologists and theorists have different view, about economical affairs and development. We have studied time problems. Despite of the range of these differences, all countries have a lot of similarities. (Shateri, 2007, online)

There are different views about economical, social, political conditions of Iran more prominent about cultural conditions. We would point out some approaches relating to women and development.

There are different approaches about women on development. Some of them are based on the need of modern and industrial need and it needs all human forces and some of them show the equity of women and men. Individual right and the views would be changed by society conditions. Every society requires human force to reach stability. In developed countries by falling population growth and competition in producing enforce to use female human force and this task is undertaken women by society. In developing countries such as Iran, occupational terms are not provided for all men and women in second grade. (Shateri, 2007, online)

#### **Religious approach (human development):**

Based on this approach, development is a factor to optimize the life quality. Women in these approaches don't participate in industrial production system and don't have labor market. It plays basic role in developing society. They provide proper occupational condition for men by training labor force and make a calm environment. In this approach, we are important factor of human development. In encouragement of women to do maternal tasks and it's not necessary to participate in outside labor system. Maternal role is basic task of every woman, but recently women are invoked to keep their traditional role. They can perceive children better and main reason is predominant role of religion in our society and that first grade role of woman is the maternal. This performance doesn't make problems in small cities, but it's not possible in big cities, particularly, because most big cities have financial difficulties and family need to women' right. (Shateri, 2007, online)

#### **Feminism theory:**

Feminism has been organized by thought of women, their rights and feminists know that one of being women in the border is to keep away any social activity. They believe to participate in social activities and development. It's right of all women who are independent and disagree strongly with traditional ideas. It may be a necessity for all societies. At first, we should provide social condition for employing women and making readiness to be in society. (Shateri, 2007, online)

#### **Approach of Generic Equity:**

Followers of this approach believe that women have ability as same as men and not using this force cause to coarseness in the society.

Human capital is different from natural capital that can be due to inattention and inutility. Human capital can make social coarseness, crisis and social and political unsafety.

#### **Prediction and estimation relating to women population in the future:**

Passing time shows considerable growth of female applicants and increasing their mental and practical skills. Knowledge-oriented development causes to exploit human force in Iran. We believe that this approach should be considered in planning development causes to exploit human force in Iran. We believe that this approach should be considered in planning development its basis the equivalences and considers inequity and discriminative structure against women. It provides social justice by presenting equal opportunity for women as same as men in all political, economical, cultural sections. In fact, observing equity results in that all women contribute in diplomacy, making decision and has perfect right by approving the laws. (Shojai, Zahra, Farzaneh magazine)

There are three views in Iran, an organization with generic approach shows that equal number of women and men are in the organization ; it's a sign of generic approach or not. Second view is relating to organizational policies and programs focusing on women problems. Third view is results and main beneficiary all views, number, plan and result are significant. Attendance of women in organizations of civil society is very important but they should be aware generic problems and challenge to adjudicate equal laws and be effective to adjudicate the rights of vulnerable women and minorities. (Shojai, Zahra, Farzaneh magazine)

### **Changing approach of women and development to generic and development approach:**

The difference between them is superficial conditions of women life. They impose lack of sufficient resources. But basic weak point of women and development approach is to consider them separating from others.

Approach of development and generic approach encounter problems. The conception of generic is including both women and men are a natural subject and put in higher status against generic ranking of men. Thus generic analysis doesn't mean looking at the differences but it shows these differences lead to unequal power of men or women. It seems that recently gender is changed to political works. Publics believe that programs of gender and development have higher structural concentration against women in development. Other argues that attention to women is not justifiable and declines the reason of organizations. Main point is that organizations of civil society should be aware of analytical concept of the gender. Applying generic approach or analysis means organizations evaluate potential effects of policies, programs and activities on women, men and relations among them. It doesn't mean that men or women center policies and programs are not justifiable. All target groups and strategies and activities are leading to local status. Then generic approach oriented programs in civil society on force strategies to correct generic differences and focus on man or woman separately commonly. (Gender, development, civil society, third arena)

Women in out looking development of Iran: the subject of women and contribution to make decision is not taken into consideration blessing Islamic revolution, the status of women to conduct the path of growth of country is drawn and it changes to unique role to development. Iranian women have imposed a lot of problems due to tribal cultural sensitivity and before Islamic revolution, resulting from losing proper and valuable structure; women spend time in seeming elegances. Nowadays, all theorists and executive officials concluded that development of country has direct relation with the quality indexes in different population. Thus women population with specific characteristics of capabilities, responsibilities and generally performance to hasten development process have predominantly role.

### **Historical status of women in Iran:**

Reviewing historical background and cultural problems like determining women status s. From point of view of values, believes and societies to perceive women situation. While women in old Greece are not considered as a citizen in Iran, "Homa king" and "Gerd Afraid" battles are two members of historical events and in the period of exact barbarism of north Europe. Iranian Muslim women like "Reyhaneh", the daughter of Hussein Kharazmi, were studying. Generally, we can say that women status is depending on time, environment conditions and quality of social evaluations. It is depending on history of "old Iran" after Islam and position of different situation. After historical periods like Medes, Achaemenid, Qajar and constitutionalism movement that start "real alertness of women". In Pahlavi period, women are used as a modernity symbol. In Islamic revolution, some limitations of past dynasty are removed. Women could impose studying in different academic course and confirmed other ability. (Dabiri Mehr, 207, p 143)

It causes to increase awareness and predominant presence of women in different period. Although there are insufficient beds and problems to act women, better condition is providing for educated women during these years. (Dabiri Mehr, 207, p 143)

Necessity to women status in development's programs is taken into consideration by officials and planners, because political, economical, social actives of women. Women are important indexes that are strongly considered by organization

They overcome problems by culture making of government. After long tern imbalance and injustice, they make suitable way for working in outside environment and it's a method of working women in developing countries. It's necessary to mention that economical, social culture and political situations in different country result in distinguishing different from others. Common factor to appear problems and barriers in the way of development and women contribution is development, developing societies are countries with traditional culture ?and women status is in the home and his main role is maternal and wedding; in fact the role of housekeeping is very brilliant and attendance in the society is not easy.

### **Cultural barriers:**

Whereas economical factors in women's employment has high importance but studies show that prevalent cultural values and believes have direct effect on women employment. Culture is a factor to define behaviors in the society. It determines everyone has to or doesn't have to, which action is allowable and which one is not possible. Entering women to labor market is an important factor that is accepted the culture and occurring relating would be possible. Firstly, traditional believes will being changed and accepted that women like men can work out of the home. Society should consider this point that why men are able to spend their time to different work and women stay home and in addition to their tasks, shortages of men, attendance of women compensate these problems. All educated women with sufficient ability to do specialized works

have to stay have and do maternal and wedding tasks and their husbands with traditional thought are not contributing them , as most women have high ability to reach high occupational grade , it is resulting from man oriented thoughts. These problems cause women stage home and don't work. Every society needs women to reach internal development, but state has to provide necessary cultural fields to contribute women and they work maximum women force and keep their physical and mental health. Main cultural Barriers of women employment in Iran are following:

- False social believes based on lack of contribution of women in activities
- Unawareness of Iranian women of their citizen's rights
- Unawareness of Iranian women of recent social economical situation to their action

#### **Social barriers:**

- **Training:** proper social condition is necessary toothier action women in labor market. One of firstly needs to enter specialized works is due trainings. In traditional developing countries, women are trained lower, thus they find low chance to present in specialized works. Education officials schools' managers and family have to provide due trainings for girls.
- **Cultivation:** one of social barriers is the age of girls that makes false believes for them. Most of women grow by traditional way and don't know believes and it is one reason to keep away society and labor market.

#### **Economical barriers:**

- **Housekeeping without salaries:** it is the most work of women in Iran and includes family economical activities like earning a livelihood through farming in the villages and producing goods and services without income and on culture evolution has been done to decrease family costs. Moreover, we should know housekeeping provides hidden income and if wives don't work in the house, family should employ a person who does same tasks by paying. Then women housekeeping as a direct factor on monetary status and family income is considerable. Although it's not calculated in financial system, it would be estimated along with financial calculation. Two third women are housekeeper and it's a significant task to remove false cultural belief against train women, his status, upbringing and mental and legal security. ( Mousavi, 1992, P 101)
- **Difference of income level:** it's one of economical barriers between men and women. Even in developed and industrial countries women and men are not equal and it's manyfold in developing countries. Women are working part time and have low working time against men and even in full time job women's income is lower than men. According to limitations of women employment, increasing the tendency to work provides suitable conditions
- **Capitals to compete women and select cheaper forces :** it results in decreasing women's interest to enter labor market
- **Type of occupation:** most women work in womanly affairs and these works are low value than manly ones. Men work in management post and have high income. Lack of progression in the work for women and being lower women values and income result in active contribution in the trend of develop and dissatisfactory of women.

The fields of women's contribution on develop:

- **Need to human resources:** three resources are required to develop:
  - 1- Human resources
  - 2- Physical resources
  - 3- Natural resources.

Every society has to use human force to reach maximum develop and competition with developed countries, as women are half of human force. Modern societies need the contribution of women to develop.

- **Expansion of justice and human relations:**
- by industrialization of society and expansion of urban life, nations made special services to bring labor force from the villages to the cities. Most people hope to reach better life in the city and migrate collectively social welfare makes recreative plans, social justice, liberty and equity. By conveying social relation and justice, governments have to equalize women and men's rights.
- **Increasing women awareness:** at first, women believe the society. Entering industrial productions and automation of jobs have omitted physical forces and entering women to factories and their employment is wider and deeper.

#### **Conclusion**

One of most important criteria to measure the level of development is importance and validity of women. Whatever woman is more active and useless, the country is more developed. It's clear that the conception of important is a real one neither superficial nor symbolic. When women are respected, they can

undertake their basic tasks, namely upbringing human correctly and train well children to prepare the future forces. Although women has been limited inside the home in the past due to false general believes, widespread social changes and life style have removed the barriers. Despite of limitations in undeveloped countries and poverty in the world, women status has been changed.

Development and competition in modern economics are most important problems in all countries using labor force and women capacity is necessary. The task of government is to provide specialized trainings' for women and makes ready them to attend better in the society and can be able to use maximum labor force in the world.

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