

Evaluation and Quality of Urban Life (Case Study, 2 Region of Kermanshah Municipality)

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ABSTRACT

Quality of life, as a concept to show the person's satisfaction with life, and the means used to determine the satisfaction or dissatisfaction of individuals and groups of different aspects of life. Quality of urban life, one of the most important fields of urban studies in different countries. This is due to the increasing importance of the quality of life in urban planning and monitoring policies, and its role as an effective tool in urban planning and management. The city, as people living in urban context, providing standards require that, at a glance, it can be called quality standards. Term quality of life, most of the natural environment and the external conditions of life, such as pollution, housing quality, aesthetic aspects, density, prevalence of crime, including those linked. The purpose of this paper is to evaluate the quality of urban life, in the municipality of 2 region of Kermanshah is. The method of research is descriptive. For data collection, the library method and survey, using a questionnaire to assess quality of life in the area has been used. To analyze the data, the statistical method of analysis of one sample T-test and SPSS software was used. Quality of urban life, usually through subjective indicators of measurement, and evaluation of perceptions and satisfaction of urban life, and is measured using objective criteria. The results indicate that the degree of satisfaction of 2region Kermanshah city, the environmental quality of life in the physical dimension, is not satisfactory. Finally, suggestions for improvements in this area is presented.

KEYWORDS: quality of life, physical environment, T-test, 2 region of Kermanshah city

INTRODUCTION

Quality of urban life, one of the most important fields of urban studies in different countries. This is important due to the increasing importance of quality of life, and its role in the monitoring of public policies, as an efficient tool in urban planning and management is measured. In other words, urban areas in the main centers of economic growth, social and political status of any country in which, as the most attractive places to build wealth, work, creativity and innovation have demonstrated. However, urban areas with important challenges in the areas of physical and environmental degradation, social exclusion, insecurity, unemployment, housing shortages and traffic are facing the problems of urban life, greatly reduce (Urban Task Force: 1999 59). Nevertheless, policy-makers and planners at international and national levels on the ability of cities to improve the quality of human life are emphasized. In the current "crisis of quality", one of the main challenges of cities, followed by one of the main concerns of decision-makers, decision makers, implementers and users of the urban environment, will be considered. In the present study was to analyze the data and determine the level of satisfaction with the environment, according to the views of residents of the analytical method used, and the results of a single test sample T, obtained using SPSS software. The quality of urban life, one of the most important fields of urban studies, which indicate the importance of quality, in addition to the problems of living in a little as well. While the results, findings and perspectives of this research can be used to design future studies of urban life in Kermanshah province helpful.

Statement of the problem

Urban environmental quality evaluation, to assess the condition of the residential environment, urban life with minimal utility, and the factors affecting it may be, the amount and quality of social services, the hierarchy of the main uses and services city, urban social security, access to urban spaces, location of the town, in the context of land use and the environment, urban environment, the performance of different parts of the city, activities in the urban environment, according to the identity

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and native culture, etc., named. Important reason for such attention to (the) quality, attention to planning and urban design, including simultaneous and interactive solutions that can improve the performance of urban spaces, the researcher. Urban environmental quality parameters to evaluate the results of the planning process Pending design, after comparing different points of view and their analysis, and modeling the similarities and differences between the constituent elements of the urban environment, such as theories of Jane Jacobs, Lynch, Bentley, D. A. T. R, Cremona and John Pantr, the six indicators were considered. These indicators include permeability, diversity, safety, security, flexibility, inclusive and vitality. The quality of the urban environment, in accordance with the counter of the quality of the structure, activities and perceptions are formed. Of the combination of physical activity, performance occurs (Golkar, 2001: 56). However, the urban planners, and policy makers about the meaning of life, scrutinize, individual components that contain quality of life (QOL of, and interaction between them is obtained), and the method by which special programs quality of life improves, there is little agreement. Meanwhile, reports and projects, urban planning, many referred to the quality of urban life, whether as a result of the outcome of the project, and as this condition (Lotfi, 68: 2009).

World Bank Urban Strategy (1999), Third World cities on four basic characteristics of habitability, competitiveness, good governance and bankruptcy are concentrated, these four factors in increasing the welfare of the inhabitants of the cities involved knows (Baskha et al., 98: 2010). In the latest ranking, according to the indicators of quality of life among the countries of the world in 2014, unfortunately, the country was ranked 51 in the world, in a very bad position, located in the continent of Asia. (See table ranking countries in the world, in terms of quality of life in 2014 at the site www.economic.com), and among the provinces of Kermanshah province in 91 years, with the rank of life, 48/1, the level of quality of life is low, and the 25 provinces surveyed, ranked 22 in the allocated (Moazen 139: 2012). In general, according to the research field of information taken from the municipalities and authorities in line, and compare them with the standards defined by the sources and quality of life in neighborhoods of Kermanshah City of 2District, for various reasons were low, and should, be done exhaustive research in all disciplines, to urban development planning, urban planners, managers and placed in service.

Background research

Theoretical and experimental studies of quality of life, derived largely from Western societies. Quality of life in developing countries, and consequently the country, significantly, are rare. In recent years, articles in scientific journals in this field, and published abroad. Dr. Esfandiar Zebardast, to assess the scope and quality of life, housing, and life satisfaction In settlements marginal metropolitan Tehran, is discussed. In this paper, using factor analysis, seven sub-domains of quality of life such as housing facilities, housing quality and strength are identified. The results show the direct relationship between the causes of migration, Tehran marginal settlements, housing and sub-domains of quality of life there. In 2012, Mr. Ahmad Moazen, an article entitled to evaluate the quality of urban life, a model for evaluating and ranking Iranian provinces, using cluster analysis is done, and to determine the parameters of the theoretical measure of quality of life objectives, while providing a model for measuring quality of life in urban areas, according to statistics analysis (analysis of secondary data), and also with the use of cluster analyzing the ranking of provinces, in terms of the quality of life benefit is paid. The results show that the province, with 4/52 quality of life score higher than the average of the highest rank (rank 1) in the provinces of Iran, is allocated. Ilam province, with a score of 3/58 below the mean, the quality of life of the lowest rank, rank (30) in this case is. In 2012, Mehrdad Navabakhsh, an article entitled quality of urban life, and social factors affecting it has done in the city of Kermanshah. The purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of changing social, quality of life in the city of Kermanshah, which, using regression analysis showed that, with respect to the mean observed quality of life for the citizens of the city of Kermanshah, 172 which according to the average expected, which is 177. Quality of life of citizens, average levels tend to be low. In 1392, Madame Parvaneh Shah Hoseini, an article entitled Analysis of quality of urban life, to: Neighborhood Vardavrd district 21 of Tehran, was presented in this paper, the status and quality of life of citizens Vardavrd 21 regional districts of Tehran, on the influential parameters were investigated. Because multiple indicators of quality of life, for the good of the community, as a whole, each with several sub-sets, such vitality and identity, location, education, environment, housing, transportation, access to services, security and economic development on the basis of the questionnaire was prepared. The results show

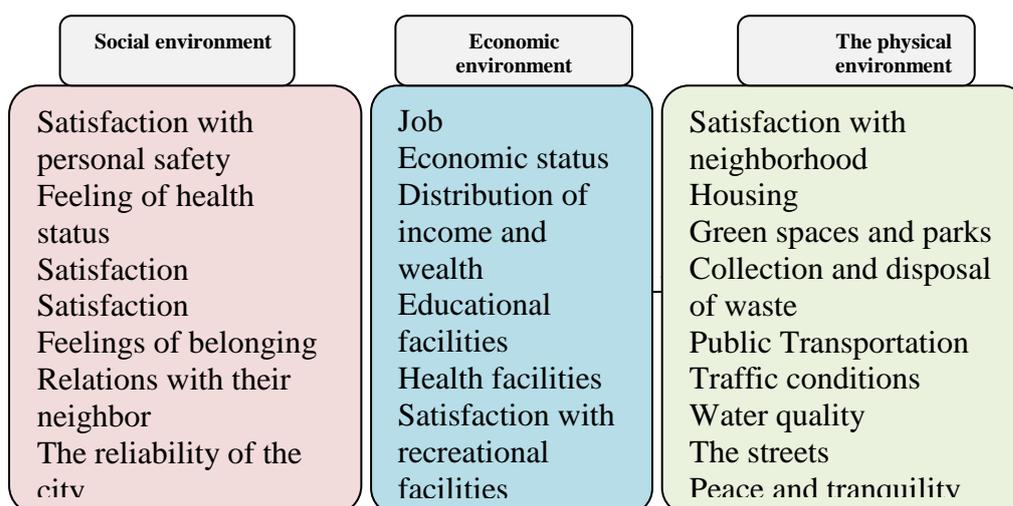
that the level of satisfaction with the overall index of the quality of urban life, as well as all indices 9, the difference between low and medium, and the correlation coefficient indicates that the quality of life, a correlation exists, and the improvement of housing conditions, and access to services is to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods of Tehran Vardavrd helped. In 2014, Mr. Alireza Khajeh Shokohi magnificent article entitled assessment of quality of life, and its impact on citizen participation in urban case studies: City Minoodasht, in this study, quality of life, in health, environmental, social, physical, psychological (mental aspects), as well as the quality of the urban environment (objective dimension), evaluated and measured, and then the relationship between the environment and quality of life, with the participation of citizens in municipal affairs, has been studied, the population of the study, all heads of households in "Minoodasht" that is, using the Cochran formula, and using simple random sampling, 250 samples were selected by the researcher made questionnaire, collected. The results show that, social and mental health, and environmental health and physical well above average, and the quality of the urban environment, are lower than average. The results of analysis of variance showed that the quality of the environment and life in the city, can increase citizen participation in urban affairs, lead, and there was no significant correlation between the two.

Theoretical Foundations

Quality of life can be, to identify problem areas, lack of public dissatisfaction, citizen priorities in life, socio-demographic factor effect on quality of life, and performance monitoring and evaluation of policies and strategies, and assist in quality of life (Sedigheh Lotfi, 66: 2009), various definitions of the quality of the environment is the sum of all the definitions, the sense of satisfaction and well-being of people, and places to live in an environment refers to, and consistent with subjective perceptions, attitudes and values that are that, among the different groups and individuals. In psychology, the relationship between people and the environment they live, in terms of satisfaction of residents living in a particular place, which is spoken of in the cognition, affect and behavior are examined (Bonaiuto and et al, 2003: 41). Elements of the urban environment, including three physical environment and the physical and social environment includes the symbolic environment, in all of these areas in the City "is expressed (Qarab, 2001: 88). Quinn Lynch," the in terms of environmental quality, in the form of a book of theory, the basic criteria vitality, meaning, relevance and consistency, availability, monitoring and control of efficiency and equity as stated areas of environmental quality, and the seven criteria as version Master of the City, suggests (Lynch, 2002: 135).

Quality of life can be, to identify problem areas, causes dissatisfaction of the people, the citizens of priorities in life, the influence of socio-demographic factors on quality of life, and monitoring and evaluation of policies and strategies, in terms of quality of life (Khademolhoseini et al, 2010: 52). Santos and Martinez, noted that the participation of local communities in the study of quality of life, can be an important support for policy and long-term goals (413: Santos and martins, 2007). Look anatomical-functional planning, the various aspects of life in the past was due to the late 1960s, under the influence of needs and new knowledge, new social concepts such as social welfare, quality of life and social justice in the realm of planning and development of the public (Mahdi Zadeh et al., 2006: 30). In recent years the participation of citizens in the process of improving the environmental quality of urban life, is taken into consideration. In management theory, suggest that participation in the third. There are different definitions of participation. "Sherry Arneshtein" citizen participation, is defined, so that the redistribution of power, poor people, ie those who have been excluded from political and economic processes, and do not count, to be empowered so that, in future, knowingly and deliberately included. (Piran, 2008: 758). Also, "Amartiasen", contributed to the ability of people to transform reality through social change, has been defined (86: Sen, 1999). Therefore it can be concluded that participation, empowerment of citizens for the promotion of urban affairs, relying on his own, with the help of professionals, in order to improve the quality of urban environment and quality of life of citizens, respectively. However, the quality of life of urban residents, the sustainable development of cities, is closely associated. Sustainable development, all aspects of development (environment, economy and society), in human society are emphasized. Due to the inherent complexity of cities, and various aspects of its impact are key factors in achieving sustainability, it seems necessary. In this regard, the present status of urban dwellers satisfaction, according to their wants and needs can, urban managers to achieve more sustainable cities, particularly social stability assist (Hoseinzadeh Dalir et al: 2009). In addition, quality of life, complex words with the terms and conditions of the population in one area. Psychological dimensions that include indicators such as satisfaction, happiness and security

will constitute a (subjective criteria). In some cases, also called social Testimonials. It also includes aspects of the environment that includes measures such as housing, access to services and environmental security (objective indicators). Other aspects, such as attention to social opportunities, hopes of employment, wealth and leisure. Some know (Seifoddini, 375: 2002). According to these definitions, it is clear that the concept of quality of life and quality of urban life, but after that, it is amazing possible interpretation and ambiguity, and the application area, and type of study vary. However, as the above definition suggests, the concept of objective and subjective quality of life, as it is coupled. Summarizing the content and cognitive definitions of quality of life as the mother, and other basic concepts of the obtained results, it can be more detailed understanding of the concept, and of course new and important quality of urban life. However, the quality of urban life, the concept of quality of life is not isolated, and the definition and example of the quality of life in urban areas and issues related to it, and certainly more limited, but the extent of urban problems, and binding of approximately all the problems of everyday life and human sciences, and most of the urban life in human society, the importance of the quality of urban life, and has a high status. Indicators of the quality of urban life can be in the physical environment, social and economic reviewed. The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of 22 (Figure 1), the citizens' satisfaction with the quality of their living environment, in three dimensions: physical, social, economic and we have discussed this with regard to the views of the residents of 2 District in Kermanshah, has been done to explore more scientific and more expertise, the quality of the environment, a more appropriate model for future planning, this type of habitat are present.



Projects compare the quality of urban life (based on the results and indicators identified a city or region), are common in many countries, such as Australia (Stokie, 1998,490) and the US (Besleme & et al. 1998,235,) do However, the identification and evaluation. However, the desirability of improving the quality of urban life, but, like life, is beyond a particular scientific field. (Shakoyi, 2006: 16) has multiple definitions that are different and even they suggest that (Boelhouwer, 2000, 5 & Schyns). Quality of urban life may feel good to be a combination of factors, such as reading a sense of place and local identity, collective memory and historical belonging And sense (Profect & etal, 1992 134,) the quality of urban life, often by subjective factors and the use Surveys, in order to collect and evaluate the subjective perception and satisfaction of the citizens of urban life, and also by objective criteria and using secondary data, and the weight of each index, the urban environment is done (1.McCrea & et al. 2004) quality of urban life, in addition to the individual in terms of social, economic, health, and so the sense of satisfaction that a person of life depend.

According to the above definitions, and main elements, the quality of urban life in general can be, and is operationally defined as follows: "the quality of urban life, a subjective term that includes two sets of indicators (qualitative) and objective (quantitative) which, according to the social, cultural,

economic, political, environmental, planning needs to follow the material and spiritual life of citizens, and their maximum satisfaction from life. In this regard, the quality environment, which is part of the potential, based on the perception of the environment is examined. Perception is the process by which human beings have the necessary data, based on the needs of the environment chooses. Therefore it can be targeted, the culture, attitudes and values that govern the perception depends upon thinking. In fact, environmental perception, perceptions and understanding of the interaction that occurs in the human mind can be experienced. In this process, the environment, a major factor in the growth, development, and finally, the focus is on learning (Motalebi, 2001: 56).

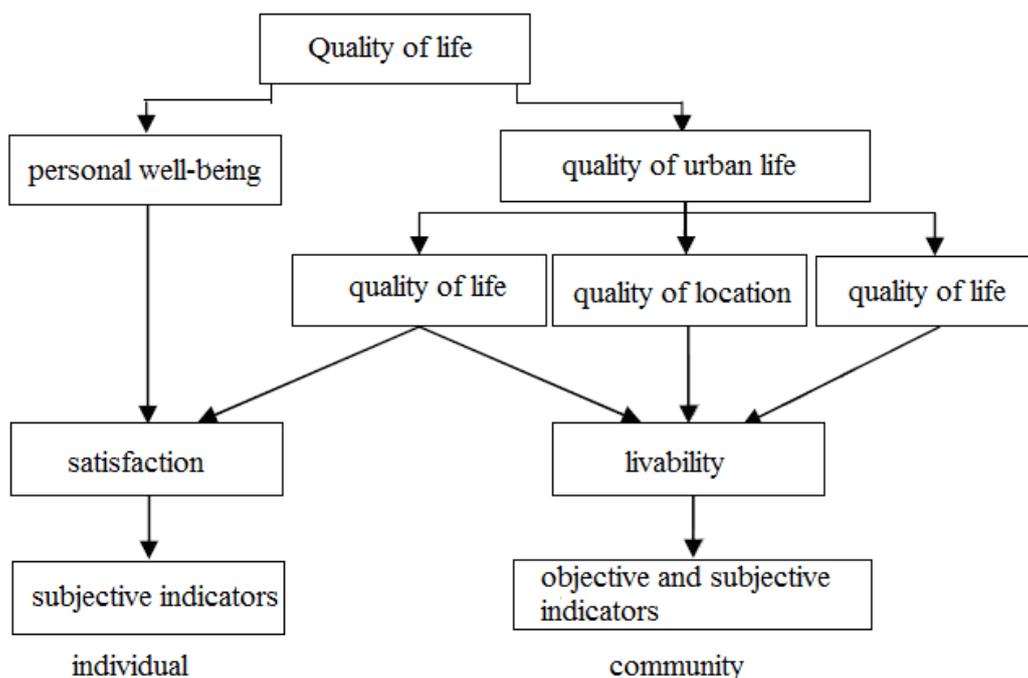


Figure 2: Components component of quality of life (Levent, 2006: 5)

This research, the objective, and the methodology or methodologies for the assessment of quality of urban life, and also the exploratory approach (causal-effect), and survey techniques based on analytical and descriptive method case. For data collection, the library method - documents, along with the field, both independently, is taken into consideration. Study area, and the population of this study, the citizens of District 2 Kermanshah city that, using the Cochran formula, and using simple random sampling, 375 samples were selected by a questionnaire, collected is obtained. To assess the reliability and validity of the questionnaire, a pilot study (30 questionnaires), with Cronbach's alpha, was performed using SPSS software. Results showed that the Cronbach evaluated for different sections of the questionnaire 0.892 respectively, which indicates the ability of trust, and trust is a research tool. In this study, to analyze the data, descriptive statistical analysis included central indices and inferential statistical tests including one sample T-test was used.

Research domain

Kermanshah city, Kermanshah province center, with the latitude 47 degrees 7 minutes east longitude, and latitude 34 degrees 19 minutes north, on the southern slopes of the Tagh of Bostan, the Zagros mountain range is located, and in different ways and develop respectively. Kermanshah, as the second largest city, and the population in West and Northwest (the city), the city of Kermanshah Province, is considered. The city is an important center of attraction of rural migrants in Kermanshah, Ilam and Kurdistan is part of the province. The study, to be precise District 2 City of Kermanshah, from north to zone 6, south of Zone 4, East District 3 City and the West in the Land Mahdiah, the main boulevard Dolatabad, Area 10,883,000 square in side West city of Kermanshah, located (the center of Statistics 2011). The population census of 2011, approximately 136,765 persons (Map 3).

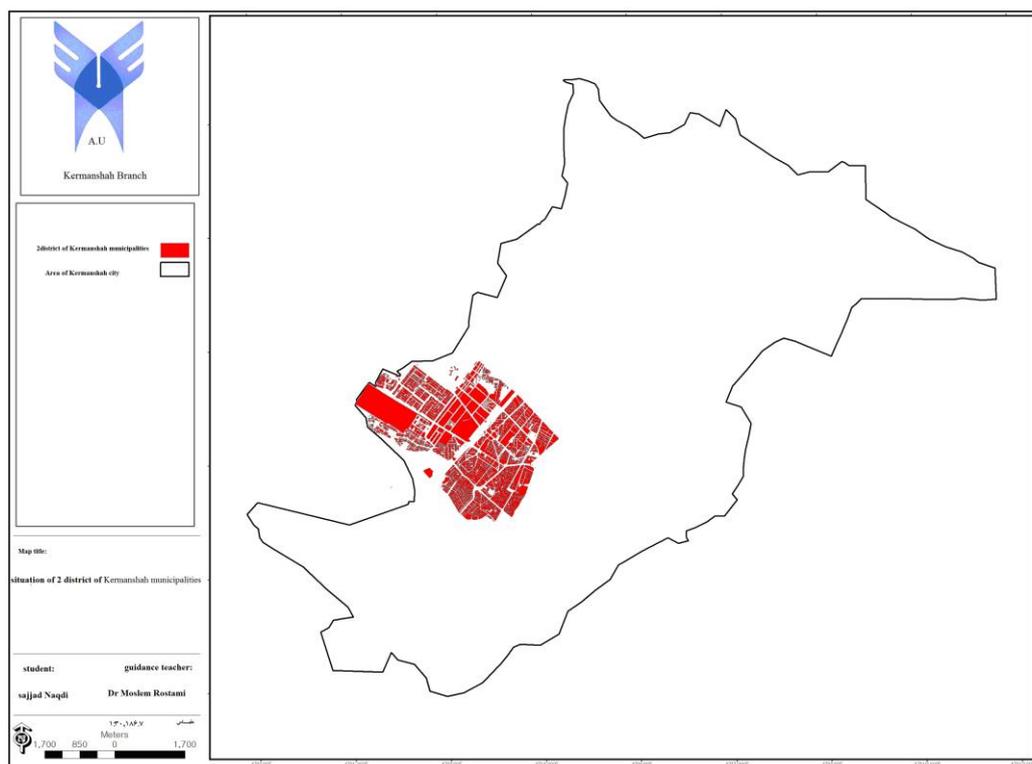


Figure (3): 2 position of the municipality, the city of Kermanshah

RESULTS

A. descriptive findings

The descriptive study is to describe the target population of female sex of 47/2, and 50/5% of men and 2.2% did not comment. The percentage of unmarried 50/3, 44/2% were married, and 4.1 percent of spouses on divorce, and 1.4 percent did not comment. 35% of respondents under 20 years of age, 44% of 30-21 years, 31-40 years, 13%, 3%, 50-41 years, 51-60 years, 2% and 2% have more than 60 years. The 11/5% of primary, 27.9 percent of high school and college 53/7 percent, and 6 percent had no opinion. When respondents were asked about their quality of life and intuitive, it was 7% of the quality of your life, completely dissatisfied, and 4.7% of the respondents were fully satisfied. Overall, 46% of participants were satisfied with the quality of life, and 31.8 percent were dissatisfied with the quality of life, and 2.2% of respondents were neutral on the floor.

B. Illative results

To evaluate the quality of life, in the 2 district of Kermanshah city of different indices to assess the physical, economic and social health of urban environment (of concrete), in the T-test analysis of one sample is used, so that the average index in order to assess and evaluate the quality of the living environment and data on each of the indicators are identified with this number. Moderate quality living environment is the number three, in this case the upper and lower limit values are used if both the upper and lower limit is negative, the average would be lower than the observed value, and if both the top and low positive, the mean is larger than the observed value. Thus, each of the indicators is examined. In one sample T-test analysis, assuming H_0 showed stability equal to the number three (medium quality), and the assumption H_1 showed no equality with moderate quality. Table (1) the physical indicators of environmental quality, has been revealed, neighborhood satisfaction, satisfaction with housing conditions, is higher than average quality. The satisfaction index of public transport, water quality, satisfaction, satisfaction with green space and parks in the area in the middle of their quality. Satisfaction indices of traffic, streets, satisfaction, satisfaction with the collection and disposal of waste at a lower than average, respectively

Table 1: Evaluation of physical indicators of the urban 2 district of Kermanshah city

.95 CI		3 = moderate quality				Physical indicators region
highest	lowest	mean difference	significant level	Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	
0/481	0/153	0/318	0/000	145	3/716	Satisfaction with neighborhood
0/240	-0/067	0/079	0/264	142	1/105	Satisfaction with housing
-0/295	-0/594	-0/446	0/000	145	-5/852	Satisfaction with traffic
-0/174	-0/468	-0/326	0/000	143	-4/493	Satisfaction streets
-0/326	-0/652	-0/490	0/000	145	-5/691	Satisfaction with the collection and disposal of waste
0/227	-0/114	0/055	0/531	144	0/658	Satisfaction with public transport
0/104	-0/267	-0/081	0/374	145	0/894	Satisfaction with water quality
0/201	-0/159	0/020	0/812	143	0/27	Satisfaction with green spaces and parks

Source: Field Studies, 2014

In evaluating the quality of the environment, the following economic indicators (Table 2) show three criteria: the satisfaction of the distribution of income and wealth, satisfaction, educational facilities, recreational facilities above average satisfaction with their quality, and the satisfaction index of health facilities, the average level of job satisfaction index, economic satisfaction than average, is lower.

Table 2: Evaluation of the economic indicators of the urban 2 district of Kermanshah city

.95 CI		3 = moderate quality				Economic indicators
Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	
-0/372	-0/715	-0/514	0/000	139	-6/215	Job satisfaction
-0/526	-0/898	-0/704	0/000	141	-7/514	Economic satisfaction
0/519	0/160	0/342	0/000	144	3/795	Satisfaction with income and wealth distribution
0/527	0/120	0/329	0/000	143	3/317	Satisfaction of educational facilities
0/390	0/060	0/222	0/000	140	2/705	Satisfaction with recreational facilities
0/262	-0/095	0/080	0/000	138	0/855	Satisfaction with health facilities

Table 3. Evaluation of social indicators of the urban 2 district of Kermanshah city, the feelings of personal safety, satisfaction and success are of above average quality. Satisfaction index of relationships with neighbors, people satisfaction, reliability, and hope for the future is moderate. The satisfaction indices of health status, satisfaction and a sense of satisfaction than average, is lower.

Table 3: Evaluation of social indicators of the urban, 2 district of Kermanshah city

.95 CI		3 = moderate quality				Social indicators of region
Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	Degree of freedom (df)	Value of t	
0/625	0/270	0/444	0/000	144	5/102	Feelings of personal safety
-0/312	-0/674	-0/498	0/000	143	-5/360	Satisfaction with health status
-0/050	-0/469	-0/618	0/014	144	-2/479	Satisfaction from Satisfaction
-0/013	-0/341	-0/179	0/033	140	-2/142	Feelings of belonging
0/305	-/443	0/291	0/000	145	3/774	Satisfaction with relationships with neighbors
0/173	-0/116	0/006	0/935	144	0/080	Satisfaction with the reliability
0/620	-0/270	0/465	0/000	145	5/026	Satisfaction with life success
0/330	-0/524	-0/095	0/661	141	-0/453	Hopefully

Each of the indicators of the quality of the urban environment, in 2 district of Kermanshah city is examined in Table 7. The results show that the citizens of the area's economic dimensions, the conditions are above average, and the quality of urban life, are in good condition. The social indicators, according to the results, the average level of quality of life and physical indicators in the city, the average is lower than the average Overloading.

Table 4: Evaluation of the quality of the urban environment 2 district of Kermanshah city

3 = moderate quality						Items of the quality of urban life
.95 CI		mean difference	significant level	Degree of (df) freedom	Value of t	
Highest	Highest					
-0/426	-0/590	-0/501	0/005	132	-8/854	Physical indicators
0/524	0/451	0/483	0/000	116	3/184	Economic indicators
-0/458	0/077	-0/012	0/784	120	-1/036	Social indicators

Conclusions and recommendations

Argument is that the quality of urban life, the second half of the twentieth century, important, and every day has also increased in importance is measured. The concern about the quality of modern life, which is characteristic of contemporary society, it can be a function of the quality of the environment. The decline in the quality of the urban environment, it can be concluded that some economic activities. As the urban population increases, increased activity tolerable limits in urban areas exceeds. The present paper attempts, until the satisfaction of the residents of 2 district of Kermanshah city, the environment itself to identify and evaluate, in other words, the study seeks to answer the fundamental question is that, "the satisfaction of residents in the area the quality of the urban environment has been created, is at what level? . The T-test results of this study indicate that the citizens of the area in which the economic aspects, including indicators of employment opportunities, educational facilities, recreational facilities and health facilities, in terms of higher than average, and the quality of urban life, the conditions are acceptable. The social indicators, including personal security, life satisfaction, success, relationships with neighbors and feelings of belonging, according to the results of quality of life is moderate, and physical indicators, including satisfaction collection, waste management, green spaces and parks, water quality, state roads, public transport, traffic on the Excessive Lower town mean average, respectively. Generally, it should be noted that the planning of development in 2 district of Kermanshah city, should be targeted and tailored to the availability of local resources, and objective and subjective needs of the people, in order to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of the town of. Also, it is necessary to improve the quality of life, as the main purpose of urban development, and local statutes. In this respect, the following suggestions may be helpful in improving the quality of life in this area:

- Conduct comprehensive studies on human and material resources available in the region;
- The possibility of leisure, at home, by increasing per capita public green space;
- Improved method of collection and disposal of municipal waste in the region.
- Require the residents of the principles of visual beauty, the construction of new housing units.
- Increasing the environmental health of the city, through the construction of a sewage disposal system, avoid annoying and noisy industries in residential areas
- Creating social vigorously to improve physical health, through conferences, sports, family,
- Assignment of possible different responsibilities in the provision of program management and implementation of the residents.
- Determination of short-term and long-term program to improve the quality of life of residents, and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired objectives;

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