

## The Role of the Shortage of Facilities and Services in the Migration of Villagers (Case Study of Villages in Zebarkhan District of Neishabour City)

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**Abstract** Immigration is one of the most ancient geographic events of the population that has undergone many changes in the structure of the human societies of the origin and destination, in the context of the place and time with various goals and motives. Today, immigrant literature from the village to the city has been of interest to researchers, focusing on numerous socio-economic problems and the lack of facilities over the past decades. The problem of village exclusion and rural population migration is considered as one of the important problems in rural issues. There are several reasons why this problem happens that lack of facilities and lack of access to various services are required. This has led to the migration of the village is considered as an undesirable event. In this paper, the role of shortage of facilities and services as one of the important factors in the migration of villagers of this region has been investigated based on field studies and introduction of features and facilities and services available in the Zebarkhan villages of Neyshabour district. The structural attitude

and attention to the abilities and limitations of the area under study are the dominant view in this paper. In the present study, two field methods have been used based on the use of questionnaire and non-field method for collecting data. The results show that lack of facilities and services play a large role in the migration of the villagers in the study area. Based on the results of this study and in order to modify and regulate the migration of villagers in the study area, the applied strategies are presented.

**Keywords** Migration of villagers, Zebarkhan branch, Lack of facilities.

### Introduction

The first step in any research is to select and recognize the exact problem. The issue is a perceived problem that the researcher is interested in and seeks to find a solution to it (Ghadamgahi 2015).

Trying to survive and search for more favorable conditions forced the man to leave his hometown and migrate to areas that had better environmental and social-economic conditions for living and meeting their vital needs. Thus with more complex living conditions and quality of life in human societies, individuals and groups of individuals with following the thinking process integration and development of technologies to facilitate life, especially in recent decades, showed a strong desire to gloss their residence and move to

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other centers of settlement. In between, the villagers as the poorest segments of society, especially in developing countries, due to political, economic and social conditions, as well as the existence of spatial inequalities dominated by settlements, for many years, they have faced poverty and livelihood problems. With increasing communication and rural-urban relationships in these countries, by comparing their own living conditions with other people (especially towns people), are trying to change this unpleasant situation, also gain more prosperity going to cities and other population centers (Hesamyani 2006).

Immigration and displacement of human beings have attracted the attention of researchers as a persistent subject in various fields of human and social sciences. The coherence of the relationship between human beings and the place is at the heart of the phenomenon of migration. Due to the wide range of migration in the today world, all human societies in some ways faces with immigration challenge, especially the migration of young people from villages to cities (Sajjadpour 2005).

The phenomenon of immigration exists both in developed and developing countries, but the nature and type of immigrations are different (Sceldon 2014). Migration is one of the four main causes of evolution and changes in population and due to its nature, in addition to long-term changes, it can create fast and short-term effects on population size and structure (Zanjani 2002 Afrakhte and Aghayizadeh 2011, Asheri 2004, Ebrahim Zadeh 2001, Javari and SaberiFar 2014). Research on the migration of villagers to cities mainly seeks to explain why villagers are migrating and what are the factors affecting their decision making for immigration (Taherkhani 2001). In most studies structural weaknesses in rural areas have led villagers to migrate to urban areas to get better opportunities.

What can be considered in the immigration process are the causes, motives and reasons for the migration of villagers to urban centers. There are important factors such as environmental hazards (drought, floods, earthquakes) meeting biological needs, access to services and livelihood-welfare-cilities, as well as the achievement of new jobs and

more income, the elimination of poverty and unemployment economically and fulfilling socio-cultural needs such as education, raising the level of culture and the desire to live in specific areas are the most important incentives for migrants to other settlements in the country (Taherkhani 2001).

Rural migration mainly is affected of the due to lack of proper infrastructure, economic and services in rural areas on the one hand and the expectation of income and better employment, along with the provision of superior welfare, educational and sanitary facilities in the cities, on the other hand (Ebrahimzadeh 2001).

The phenomenon of irregular rural migration as one of the main problems in the country has a predominantly has negative role in the origin and destination of immigration. Today, one of the main concerns of the government is to control irregular migration, solving the city's problems and reducing the miscomplications of migration in rural areas. If this problem is not addressed radically and fundamentally, uncontrolled migrations will become uncontrollable economic, social and political crises of the community (Asheri 2004).

Immigration statistics in Iran are also indicative of the massive migration of villages in the last half century. The problem of leaving and evacuating villages is one of the important issues in rural issues and this issue has made migration in the minds of most people as an unpleasant event (Afrakhte and Aghayizadeh 2011).

The results of the official census in Iran indicate that over time the share of rural population in the entire Iranian population has declined and many

**Table 1.** Changing procedure in village rate from 1335 to 2016 in Iran. Source : Statistics center of Iran, results of censuses from 1335 to 2016.

Indicator year	1335	1345	1355	1365	1375	1385	2016
Number of villages inhabited	49040	66438	65055	65349	68125	63904	62284
Village percentage	68/6	62	53	45/2	38/3	31/4	25/9

**Table 2.** The changing procedure of village in the study area during the censuses of 1385-2011.

Indicator year	1385	2011	2016
Number of villages	63	61	59
Number of rural population	34737	34292	34373

villages in the country have been inhabited (Table 1).

The decrease in the rural population of Khorasan Razavi has followed the decline of rural population in recent years and by examining the statistics of many years, the rural population decline is evident. According to the year 2016, Khorasan Razavi province's management and planning organization, the urban population is 73% and the rural population is 27% of the province's total population (Khorasan Razavi Management and Planning Organization 2016). Also, the survey of population status of villages in Zebarkhan district of Nishabour in three statistical periods of 1385, 2011, 2016 indicates a decrease in population in villages of this section.

The results of Table 2 show that during the last decade, the number of villages and the number of rural

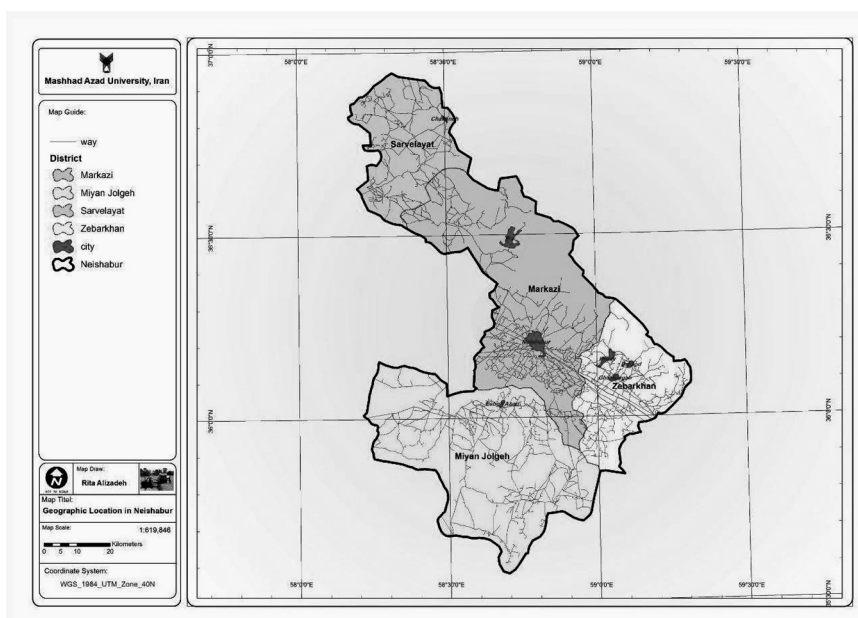
**Table 3.** Spatial distribution of questionnaires in the sample villages.

Row	Village name	Number of households	Required questionnaire
1	Hesar	78	14
2	Mohsen Abad	299	53
3	Borj	389	69
4	Esmat Abad	152	27
5	Hashite	171	30
6	Chenaran	392	69
7	Dane-Kashefiye	102	18
8	Moushan	90	16
9	Javadiye	92	16
10	Mohamad Abad	35	6
-	Total	1800	318

population has been decreasing. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the factors influencing the migration of villagers in the region through a comprehensive and deep look, by identifying the most effective factors and presenting appropriate and relevant strategies to reduce the migration process of villagers in the region.

Location, extent and political divisions of the study area

Zebarkhan is between 25° and 52' North and 58° 52'59°

**Fig. 1.** Program studies of Khorasan Razavi Province, Khorasan Razavi.

18° East longitude. This section is one of the six parts of the Neyshabour city located on the Southern slopes of the Binaloud Mountains. This part is limited to Torghabe of Mashhad from North and by East to Ahmadabad district of Mashhad, and from south is limited to Kadkan of Torbat Heidarieh and by west to the central and middle sections of Neishabur. This section with an area of 1102 square kilometers and an average elevation of 1250 meters above sea level and with the center of the city of Ghadamgah accounts for about 9% of the area of Neishabur city (Office of Program Studies of Khorasan Razavi Province, Khorasan Razavi Governorate 2017).

### Materials and Methods

Considering the fact that the present study evaluates the lack of facilities as one of the effective factors in rural migration of Zebarkhan district of Neyshabour city, it is an applied and descriptive-analytical method with the aim of collecting information from the field and non-field methods of collecting has been received.

In this research, rural migrations are dependent variables and lack of facilities and services are independent variable. In this research, the questionnaire was identified as the most appropriate research tool. On this basis, the questions of the questionnaire were divided into two general questions including gender, age status, literacy status, history of residency in the village, reasons for survival in the village, job status and kind of occupation, the desire to migrate and the causes of the migration of friends and relatives and the specialized questions (analytical-inferential) are based on Likert scale of option 5.

In the present study, the required data were collected using field and non-field methods and by collecting sample surveys, interviews, completing the questionnaire and recording the observations. The

**Table 5.** Results of Kolmogorov Smirnov test.

Row	Research variables	Descriptive findings		Kolmogorov-smirnov		Results
		Average	Standard deviation	Z statistical	Meaningful level	
1	Unemployment	3/83	0/79	2/933	0/0001	abnormal
2	Shortage of income	3/93	0/66	3/604	0/0001	abnormal
3	Shortage of welfare, health and services	3/41	0/72	1/555	0/016	abnormal

**Table 4.** Cronbach's alpha coefficients for research variables.

Row	Headlines questions	Alpha coefficient
1	Unemployment	0/7734
2	Shortage of income	0/7557
3	Shortage of welfare, health and services	0/7154
	Total	0/8543

statistical population of the study consisted of 48 villages with more than 100 people in the study area. The total population in 2016 was 1800 households. In this research, in order to determine the sample of villages from a total of 48 villages with a population of more than 100 people in 2016, 10 villages equal to 20% of the total population were selected as the sample for completing the questionnaire. Subsequently, using the (Cochran formula), the sum of 1800 households, 317 household heads were selected as sample. Table 3 of the questionnaires was distributed and collected in order to complete the sample villages.

In this study, formal validity has been used. Thus the questionnaire was presented to professors and experts in several stage and ultimately, according to the opinion of the supervisors and consultants, was finalized. To calculate the Cronbach's alpha coefficient, we first calculated the variance of the subscales of the questionnaire's questions and the total variance of the test. Then, using the following formula, we computed the coefficient

$$a = \frac{k}{k-1} \left[ 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k s_i^2}{\sigma^2} \right]$$

In this regard, K is the number of questions and Si is the standard deviation of the total score of the questions. The more positive correlation between

questions, the higher the Cronbach's alpha will be and vice versa, the higher average variance of questions, the Cronbach's alpha will decrease (Javari and SaberiFar 2014). In the present study, since the Cronbach's alpha coefficient is usually an appropriate index for measuring the reliability of measuring instruments and internal coordination among its elements, the reliability of the questionnaire used in this research has been evaluated using Cronbach's alpha (Table 4).

Considering the utility index of tool reliability in this research is 0.8543, the internal validity of the research tool is confirmed. In this research, descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. In descriptive statistics, frequency tables, percentages, mean and standard deviations, and inferential statistics, Kolmogorov Smirnov test was used to determine the normal variables and to test one sample for responding to the hypotheses of the research. Meanwhile, Spss / pc ++ software package was used to do the calculations (Table 5).

The normality of variables hypothesis test

Before determining the type of test used, especially in the comparative tests, it is necessary to make sure that the variables are normal. If the variables are normal, parametric tests are recommended, otherwise nonparametric equivalent tests will be used. To determine the normality of variables, the significance level should be considered. If the significance level is less than 0.05, the variable is abnormal and in the case of more than 0.05 normal. As it is seen from the table above, the significance level in all cases is less than 0.05, so all are abnormal.

**Table 6.** Frequency distribution of the response of individuals to the impact of the shortage of facilities and services in migration.

Items	Abundance	Percent
Very low	14	4/4
Low	40	12/6
Medium	124	39
High	106	33/3
Very high	33	10/4
Unanswered	1	0/3
Weighted average of items		3/32
Weighted standard deviation of items		0/97

Inferential analytic findings : The impact of facilities and services shortage on immigration. As seen in Table 6, the individual's response status to the impact of the shortage of facilities and services on migration in the sample was 4.4% very low, 12.6% low, 39% medium, 33.3% high and 4.8%, 10% is very high, 0.3% did not answer this question. Based on the results of the table and chart above, 43.7% of respondents answer to the impact of the shortage of services and facilities in migration high and very high.

Impact of shortage of cultural and recreational facilities in migration

As shown in Table 7, the individual's response status to the impact of the shortage of cultural and recreational facilities in the sample was 5% very low, 16.4% low, 35.5% medium, 25.8% high and 17% it has been very high. 0.3% did not answer this question. Based on the results of the table and chart above, a total of 42.8% of respondents have answered to the impact of shortages of cultural and recreational facilities in migration high and very high.

Impact of shortage of banking facilities and services in migration.

As seen in Table 8, the response of individuals to the impact of the shortage of banking facilities and services on migration in the sample was 3.8% very low, 20.4% low, 37.1% medium, 22.3% high and 15.7% has been very high; 0.6% did not answer this question. Based on the results of the table and chart above, a total of 38% of the respondents answered to the impact of the shortage of banking facilities and

**Table 7.** Frequency distribution of the response of individuals to the impact of the shortage of cultural and recreational facilities in migration.

Items	Abundance	Percent
Very low	16	35
Low	52	16/4
Medium	113	35/5
High	82	25/8
Very high	54	17
Unanswered	1	0/3
Weighted average of items		3/33
Weighted standard deviation of items		1/09

**Table 8.** Frequency distribution of individual's responses to the impact of the lack of facilities and banking services on migration.

Items	Abundance	Percent
Very low	12	3/8
Low	65	20/4
Medium	118	37/1
High	71	22/3
Very high	50	15/7
Unanswered	2	0/6
Weighted average of items		3/25
Weighted standard deviation of items		1/07

services in migration high and very high.

#### Outcome and solution

By examining the results of this study, it seems that the shortage of facilities and services in migrating villagers in the studied area is effective. Since the variable effect of the shortage of facilities and services on immigration of villagers in the region under study has an abnormal distribution, a parametric test of a sample sign will be used to answer the hypothesis. Now if we suppose that  $M$ , is the real median of the shortage of facilities and services in migration of the villagers in the study area.

Considering that the variable effect of the shortage of facilities and services in the migration of the villagers in the study area is dedicated to itself the amount between 1 and 5, hence we consider the values of less than or equal to 3 as non-effective and more than 3 as effective, therefore we have to test the following assumptions : Zero assumption : The shortage of welfare, health and services in migrating of villagers in the studied area has not been effective.

The shortage of facilities and services in migrating of villagers in the studied area has been effective.

As seen from Table 9, the average of the impact of the shortage of facilities and services on the migration of the villagers in the study area was 3.41 with a standard deviation of 0.72 and a median of 3.4. Also, the significance level of the sign test of one-sample mark test is equal to 0.0001 and is less than 0.05, therefore, the assumption of zero is rejected and we accept the opposite assumption that the shortage of facilities and services in the migration of the villagers in the studied area has been effective.

#### Conclusion

The research findings show that the shortage of facilities and services in the villages of Zebarkhan district of Neishabour city are an important part of the migration of villagers to the city. Therefore, the following measures are necessary to increase the satisfaction of the villagers. Establishing suitable facilities and services for villages, creating welfare and infrastructure services such as roads, healthy drink water, electricity, creating educational facilities, fair and equitable locational-spatial distributing of welfare, and social and economic services in villages will control the motivation to migrate to cities.

In order to control the rural migration due to the shortage of facilities and services, it is essential to understand the needs of the younger generation and provide rural facilities and welfare in order to meet the expectations of this generation and provide educational facilities. In addition, raising the living standards of the villagers should be encouraged with enhancing facilities and services and provide life support for guaranteeing population survival in the village and control migration. On the other hand, attention to the growth and development of the var-

**Table 9.** One-sample sign test, the shortage of facilities and services in immigration of the villagers in the study area.

Factors	Average	Standard deviation	Median	Less than median	Equal to median	More than median	Significance level
Impact of the shortage of facilities and services in the migration of the villagers in the study area	3/41	0/72	3/4	76	23	219	0/0001



ious sectors of society and economy, the provision and development of rural infrastructure in order to strengthen existing facilities and services in the village, create and expand and forecast of welfare in a short time horizon based on physical development plans and the organization of rural space, the creation, development and completion of educational facilities in the village, the fair and equitable distribution of spatial and space services, activities and welfare, social and economic resources in the region can reduce the unusual density of profits, capital, employment opportunities, welfare services and consequently, rural population migration, while reducing the incentive for immigration to increase the population's survival rate in the countryside. In order to modify and regulate migration, especially the migration of young people and active forces of the population, the following strategies are suggested : (1) Supply and provision of the necessary economic and social infrastructure to develop sustainable employment opportunities and eliminate the hidden unemployment in the agricultural sector of the village and its suburbs using the local capabilities, including the creation of conversion industries related to the agricultural sector, especially agriculture and horticulture in village and rural districts, development of rural tourism industry with regard to potential and actual capabilities, using modern technologies in the process of different stages of agriculture, marketing of crops and garden in place in order to economize agricultural activities, (2) Pay attention to the growth and development of the different sectors of the economy, (3) Developing entrepreneurship and participatory approach to rural development programs to create incentives for shelter in the countryside, (4) Provide and develop the infrastructure of the village and its perimeter area in order to strengthen the productive inputs, (5) Establishing and expanding amenities in a short time horizon based on approvals of physical development plans and rural development, (6) Creation, development, completion and improvement of educational facilities

(formal and informal) in the village, (7) The fair and equitable distribution of spatial and space services, activities and welfare, social and economic resources in the region from the unconscious density of profits, capital, employment opportunities, welfare services and then human populations in one or more settlements, while reducing the incentive for immigration from the village to city increased the survival rate of young and active population in the village.

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