

The Survey of the Social Security Status in Sari Citizens

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Abstract: The present study was conducted aimed to evaluate the status of social security among Sari citizens. The study is survey regarding the methodology used and applied in terms of purpose. The population consists of 311 546 residents of Sari who are over 15 year of age. According to Krejcie and Morgan standard sampling table, 384 people have been chosen as the sample. Cluster sampling method was used to collect the sample in the study. The data collection tool has been social security questionnaire. The validity of the questionnaires has been obtained with the opinion of experts and reliability for social security questionnaire has been 0.81 through Cronbach alpha. One-sample t-test and Friedman rank test have been used to test the hypotheses. Finally, the results showed that Sari citizens have social security and its dimension (job security, health security, emotional security, moral security). Moreover, test results showed the ranking of the components of the social security of Sari citizens, from the perspective of the present study. The ranking is as follows: Health security ranked first with an average of 3.78, Job security ranked second with an average of 2.40, Emotional security ranked third with an average of 2.20, Moral security ranked fourth with an average of 1.61

Key words: Social security, job security, health security, emotional security, moral security, citizens of Sari Citizens

INTRODUCTION

Undoubtedly, the issue of security is the prerequisite for the life of any social and political system and governments spend a wide range of facilities and time to have it. Security issue, as an ideal and a reality, is one of the fundamental rights of the people and the resultant of a set of interactions, cooperation and harmony among various components of the social system. Today, the role and importance of security in the development of any society is to an extent that, it is known as the prerequisite for any development. This is true especially in the developing world that faces a variety of ongoing crises and challenges caused by underdevelopment and instability of different political, economic, social and so on structures. In these societies, security plays a decisive and important role in creating different types of development (Chalabi and Mobaraki, 2005). Overall, the total sense of security and high security factor are of the indicators of development and organization of societies. In addition, peace of mind is one of the main indices of social welfare, lack of which affects even the enjoyment of social welfare indices. In his division of the needs, Maslow supports this, where he places security immediately after physiological needs. Moreover, the development of talents, creativity and valuable activities in a society is impossible without security. To achieve a

degree of success in life and to achieve grand goals of humanity, after physiological needs that form the basis of his existence, human needs to be safe and feel safe. After the physiological needs of human, the need for security is considered as one of the fundamental structures making up the personality of a person and as long as a person does not feel safe in his daily life, he will not make any progress in his personality structure (Coleman, 1998).

The current state of our society has made the need to pay attention to the issue of security of the citizens in different forms and angles necessary. The critical state of security will definitely have a devastating impact on citizen's behavior and will prevent them from establishing good relationships and personal development. In fact, according to psychologists, living with anxiety and fear is not a pleasant situation. On the other hand, in the Iranian society where achieving welfare is one of main demand of the people and as an end of development has been of the most important goals of the authorities and planners by reducing security, the aspirations of people reduce. Community excellence, development of ideas and the development of talents are all rooted in the security element. Today's societies, especially in large cities, have reached very high levels of complexity and they experience a high degree of short term and long-term changes. In big cities like Sari where due to educational,

medical, commercial and other facilities compared to other neighboring provinces, we always have the issues of increasing travel and migration, continuous increase in prices or rental of housing, unemployment and other social factors. This congestion and increase in cultural and ethnic diversity-difference in this city, in one hand, has made the increase in the variety of social problems such as addiction, divorce, theft, availability of many types of drugs to young people and so on change from the state of simple social phenomena into a social problem. On the other hand, the rapid rise and spread of mass media, relative ease of access of most individuals to them and their being informed of issues related to crime and social problems have imposed a lot of financial cost to citizens and government and this reduced social security has imposed psychological costs on citizens as well. Thus, feeling secure would lead to self-confidence of the citizens and as a result as human capital, it would be able to play its crucial role in social, economic, cultural and political development. At the same time, a sense of security among citizens would lead to a greater trust in the leaders of the government and provide their increasing participation to help provide security. In contrast, decreased sense of security would cause mistrust, spread of pessimism, rumors, lack of participation and cooperation in economic, social, political and security programs of the country that would provide a fertile ground for social unrest. Given that the sense of security is one of the most fundamental human needs, obviously, this level of insecurity can have devastating effects on the lives of citizens of this city. Thus, in this study, Sari metropolis is the focus of the attention of the researchers as a case study. Now, according to what was said, the main research question is whether citizens of Sari have social security or not.

The theoretical framework: The concept of security is controversial due to conceptual complexity. Security in terms of concept is ambiguous and cannot have a precise meaning (Wolfers, 1962). Lexically speaking, security means having no fears, safe, safety and being safe (Dehkhoda, 2006; Moin, 2002). Moreover, security means the sense of relief and comfort (Amid, 1981). In Oxford Dictionary, social security is defined as the relationship of security with society and a type of security that has taken social shape and form. The expert's point of view, security is considered as a tool on the one hand and a goal on the other (Roshandel, 1995). On the one hand, security seeks an independent concept and on the other, it is defined under concepts such as power, war and peace, as topics of interest for political science, strategic science and International Studies (Buzan, 1997). In the definition of

security, some experts have emphasized the concept of avoiding threats and coping with them. John Moores believes that security means relative freedom from damaging threats (Rabii, 2004).

From the perspective of Hoffman, security is supporting and protecting a nation from the attack of others and protecting people's economic activities from devastating external happenings. Wolfers states that security in the objective sense is the absence of threat against the values obtained. In fact, the preservation of values is as establishing security. In this definition, implementing and maintaining security in the light of expected values is perceived (Lemi, 2003).

In the definition of social security, Carl W. Doikh states that social security is a closed group of people in a territory along time that has an extended and institutionalized collective sense. Moreover, its customs are pervasive, powerful, reliable enough and insure social life over a long time and it experiences slow changes along with predictable expectations among its people.

Moreover, in defining security, some others have emphasized concepts such as development, welfare, justice and sustainable peace. In his practical definition of social security, Wandergreili considers it as human development level and the level of economic inequality (Andera, 1998). From the perspective of Larorini Martin, security is to ensure future prosperity (Rabii, 2004). Kegaz believes that social security in a broad sense contains human rights, development, gender issues and other items labeled as human security. In addition to the mentioned components, he raises other components such as justice at the national level, the eradication of poverty and the freedom of future generations to inherit a healthy environment. From the perspective of Booth, the concept of security is based on the realization of different kinds of social justice which is necessary to achieve a lasting peace (Both, 1991).

In addition, according to some social scientists, social security is linked with concepts like social and national identity. According to McSweeney, social security is how societies create and reproduce their interest and identity. Haizman and Weaver believe that social security focuses on threats to social and cultural identity (Ayoob, 1991).

Hanntington and Nelson (1976) believe that communities are in a fight to continue their basic features in the environmental changes and against actual or potential threats. Precisely, social security is the ability to protect and create acceptable conditions for the development of traditional patterns of language, culture, social relations, national and religious identity and social customs.

In their view, if a society lost its identity, it would not be able to ensure its survival. According to the above, three main approaches could be named in scientist's definitions of social security.

In the first approach, security is considered as the concept of freedom from all kinds of threats to society. In the second approach, security means preserving identity in social, cultural and national dimensions and in the third approach, security has been defined using concepts such as welfare, development, justice and peace. In general, considering the above discussions, it could be argued that social security is the ability to maintain and continue the integrity of the community in a given territory to promote and develop patterns of identity, participation, power and social systems in the process of environmental changes. Moreover, this is supported with mutual thought, emotion, power and exchange tensions with the of nature rationality.

Typology of social security: The sense of security is a kind of positive mentality and mental orientation (satisfactory, convincing and relaxing) of citizens towards the lack of influence of incidents and the occurrence of anti-security events in the current and future conditions in the areas of social security, political stability, identity solidarity, unity and territorial integrity. On the other hand, security has two dimensions: subjective and objective. In the objective dimension, security means lack of threat to the values obtained and in the subjective aspect, it is lack of fear of attack to the values.

For the first time, Barry Buzan raised social security and the sense of security coherently. According to Buzan, human security is divided into five classes of military security, political security, economic security, social security and environmental security. Some theorists of security issues believe that the reality of feeling of insecurity is a structure depending on urban and the suburban violence and form and type of crime that undermines the social body and tissue. In his definition of social insecurity, Alkaiz has focused on the threat of domestic violence, financial crises, poverty, war and criminal behavior. On the issue of security, Job has identified four main approaches in this field including individual citizen's security, security of the nation, regime security and security of the administration. The primary concern of any society is providing security for citizens because the context of balanced development is not provided except with this elixir. According to Talcott Parsons, a community is a whole unit and social system is a set of subsystems. These subsystems are economy, culture, politics, law or religion. Normal or equilibrium state is achieved when the function of each of these

components is as much as required and useful. When one of the sub-systems has disproportionate growth or social institutions interfere in each other's roles, the balance is disrupted. If the imbalance in a society went beyond a special limit, the social system would not last long, some circles "security" become subject to crisis and insecurity arises. From this perspective, it does not include just economy, culture, politics, or family but encompasses all aspects and facets of social life. Security and insecurity should be searched not within the framework of a subsystem but in the quality of interaction and balance in all sectors and sub-systems. Security is a general and universal concept to which the sub-systems of a society give meaning, such as economic security. It is alongside these concepts that "security," social security, moral security and judicial security become meaningful. Imbalance in the sub-systems, in three types of societies creates three types of insecurity (Baghi, 1997).

Fatalistic insecurity: In a closed society, politics and power dominate other institutions. In such a society, the individual is considered as an organ of the body and a piece of the social machine and individuality and independence for all people and individual, those in power, are in their lowest level. In this society, decisions are made and people have no role in determining their own destiny or are less involved.

In semi-closed communities, where the basic rules of a traditional or closed society are dominant, people's will is effective as long as it does not conflict with "source of power." In semi-closed communities, although individuals and parties have relative freedom, they are able to force a will and opine within the framework of the interest of a higher power or authority (Giddens, 1999). A closed society has high stability or security index. This superficial security is obtained at the expense of general insecurity. This community is always prone to insecurity at its core and the stability in its social construction is a fix but fragile balance. This situation is called fix balance with a fragile state in which stability lacks flexibility. In this society, there is a kind of institutionalized insecurity that can be called "fatalistic insecurity."

Anomic insecurity: In a closed society, social solidarity is appreciated by a strong collective consciousness (i.e., common and shared values supported and induced by the dominant entity). Nevertheless, in an open society, because of a loose collective consciousness, free individuality, independence and will arise. In this community, there is a need to replace shared and common values appropriate to modern society to maintain social solidarity. In an open society, institutions and

sub-systems do not have equal relations but “power” and equilibrium are established in the social system. Stability in this society is the result of all parts of social so more stable. Equilibrium of the social structure in an open society is a dynamic equilibrium. In this society, stability and power are not hard and fragile, but like a flexible barrier, they collapse with the incoming blow, move and return again to the right place. If good relations between sub-systems and independence are destroyed in cooperation between institutions and imbalance exceeds the extent that could be corrected, this society is exposed to another type of insecurity. Uneven development of individuality and complete eradication of shared values are of the complications that threaten an open society. Selfishness growth and the loosening of the social solidarity make the society lack norms and “anomic insecurity” arises.

Insecurity of transitional state: Insecurity of transitional state is similar to anomic insecurity. Those transitional societies that have moved away from the closed position but have stuck at the stage of seeking cooperation and have not become competitive experience this type of insecurity. However, these communities are not immune against the risks of fatalistic insecurity. Participation without competition (competition of party and union type) leads to distinct society and the emergence of mass society. In a cooperative and competitive system, there is no institution of domination and all system components maintain their independence while cooperating. In this system, individuality and free will of people are manifested in the cooperation and common and public values, common interests and social solidarity find form and content in parties and competition. Decisions and changes start bottom up that is from inside unions, associations and parties.

Review of the literature: In their study, Lotfi, Bardi, Moradnejad, Sasanpour have explored the sense of security in public spaces (Case Study: Shiraz Metropolis). Research findings show that the sense of security in public spaces of low-income areas, with an average of 12.74 is more than the average in public spaces in the middle class (11.56) and affluent (12.42) areas. According to the average of data in different areas of Shiraz, the differences observed between the averages of different areas in sense of security in public spaces, although with little difference are approved.

In an study entitled “Studying and evaluating sense of security in different urban areas,” showed that in selecting insecure areas in the whole city, people have relative understanding. The majority of them see the slum,

areas around unfinished buildings and deserted and dark alleys as spaces with low security. This sense of insecurity reduces in busy and crowded streets. Nouruzi and Fooladai Sepehr have conducted a survey study entitled “Examining perception of social security for women of 15-29 year of age in Tehran and the factors affecting it.” The statistical results showed security of location, economic and social bases have a direct positive impact and religious adherence has a negative reverse impact on women’s sense of social security. Multivariate regression analysis has shown that security of location, social and economic bases, social order and religious adherence have played a major role in explaining the sense of social security of women and the explanation rate obtained has been 36%.

In his study, Modiri has examined the “Effect of crime and violence in reducing sense of security in public spaces.” He has found that the role of crime in reducing the sense of security is more than violence. by examining “The status of women’s fear of crime in urban areas in 22 regions of Tehran,” Alikhah and Najibi (2006) show that about half of the female respondents do not feel safe while commuting in urban public spaces. This is higher among women with low income and education and women living in areas with abandoned lands and buildings.

In a survey entitled “Sense of security among women in Mashhad,” has explored some of the factors affecting the sense of security among women. The sample in this study has been women of fifteen years and older in Mashhad and the results have shown that social class, employment and occupational status affect the sense of security.

Conducted a survey study entitled “Sociological explanation of the sense of security among Tehran citizens” with an emphasis on media and social capital. The population of the study consisted of citizens aged over 18 in Tehran, of whom 778 were selected using multistage cluster sampling. The major findings of this research are:

- The sense of insecurity is different in terms of gender, place of residence, marital status and age of the respondents
- There is a significant relationship between sense of insecurity and incidence of crime, media coverage, identity and trust

In the book “People and Design in the Violent City,” offers suggestions about restructuring the urban environment, including the creation of physical capacity of surveillance in space to create monitoring opportunities for residents and others institutions.

With the book “The Death and Life of Great American Cities” is introduced as the first theorist in the field of security. He believes that by clear distinguishing of public and private sectors, the need for watching eyes from the natural owners using the variety of activities and functions that attract people is strengthened.

Another study has been conducted in South Africa as “People’s perception of security” with a sample size of 270 people in survey method. The findings have shown that more than 70% feel insecure in their neighborhood and even in their own homes, 79% have more sense of insecurity in public places than in privacy and 33% in means of transportation. Moreover, 74% of the respondents have referred to variables such as the decline in public trust, impairment in social relationships and government’s lack of attention in increasing the feeling of insecurity.

Another study has been conducted in South Africa as “People’s perception of security” with a sample size of 270 people in survey method. The findings have shown that more than 70% feel insecure in their neighborhood and even in their own homes. Besides, 23% have felt insecure in means of transportation and 74% of the respondents have referred to variables such as the decline in public trust, impairment in social relationships and government’s lack of attention in increasing the feeling of insecurity.

Goals: The main goal has been studying social security status among Sari citizens.

Minor goals:

- Studying health security among Sari citizens
- Studying job security among Sari citizens
- Studying emotional security among Sari citizens
- Studying moral security among Sari citizens

Hypotheses: The main hypothesis: Sari citizens have social security.

Sub-hypotheses:

- Sari citizens have health security
- Sari citizens have job security
- Sari citizens have emotional security
- Sari citizens have moral security

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted to evaluate the status of social security among Sari citizens. The study is survey regarding methodology used and applied in terms of purpose. The population consists of 311546 citizens of

Table 1: Summary of the results of the statistical tests of the hypothesis
Group statistics

Variables	Frequency	Mean	SD	Deviation from mean
Social security	384	53.6875	11.52549	0.58816
Health security	384	16.8620	4.116350	0.21006
Job security	384	13.0104	3.588480	0.18312
Emotional security	384	12.5547	2.718690	0.13874
Moral security	384	11.2604	3.081980	0.15728

Sari who are over 15 year of age. According to Krejcie and Morgan (1970) standard sampling Table 1, 384 people have been chosen as the sample. Cluster sampling method was used to collect the sample in the study. The data collection tool has been social security questionnaire. The validity of the questionnaires has been obtained with the opinion of experts and reliability for social security questionnaire has been 0.81 through Cronbach Alpha. One-sample t-test and Friedman rank test have been used to test the hypotheses.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Considering the Table 2, as the t statistic calculated ($t = 65.990$ and $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ for the first hypothesis), ($t = 54.665$ and $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ for the second hypothesis), ($t = 68.869$ and $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ for the third hypothesis), ($t = 52.522$ and $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ for the fourth hypothesis) at the confidence level of 95%, ($\alpha = 0.05$) and the degree of freedom $fd = 384 - 1 = 383$ is larger than the t in critical table ($ct = 1.64$), the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected and research hypothesis is strongly confirmed. Thus, with 95% confidence, we can conclude that Sari citizens have job security, health security, emotional security and moral security.

Moreover, in general, considering the Table 3, as the t-statistic calculated ($t = 86.180$ and $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ for the main hypothesis), at the confidence level of 95%, ($\alpha = 0.05$) and the degree of freedom $fd = 384 - 1 = 383$ is larger than the t in critical table ($ct = 1.64$), the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected and research hypothesis is strongly confirmed. Thus, with 95% confidence, we can conclude that Sari citizens have social security. Test results show that ranking of the components of social security of Sari citizens from the perspective of the present study is as follows:

- Health security ranked first with an average of 3.78
- Job security ranked second with an average of 2.40
- Emotional security ranked third with an average of 2.20
- Moral security ranked fourth with an average of 1.61

Table 2: Summary of the results of one-sample statistical t test for research hypotheses

Row	Variables	Frequency	t-value	df	Sig.	Result
Main hypothesis	Social Security	384	86.180	383	0.000	H ₁ confirmed
1	Health security	384	65.990	383	0.000	H ₁ confirmed
2	Job security	384	54.665	383	0.000	H ₁ confirmed
3	Moral security	384	52.522	383	0.000	H ₁ confirmed
4	Emotional security	384	68.869	383	0.000	H ₁ confirmed

Table 3: Ranking: social security components of Sari citizens according to Friedman test

Social security components	Rank mean
Health security	3.78
Job security	2.40
Emotional security	2.20
Moral security	1.61

- Health security ranked first with an average of 3.78
- Job security ranked second with an average of 2.40
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One of the most important problems and issues faced by citizens in urban areas is social security and consequently sense of security. Security as a basic need has a special place in human society. Planners and designers of social areas, especially cities, try to identify threats to security, particularly in public spaces, to provide security for the users of those spaces. Although security is an important issue, many sociologists and scholars in this field describe sense of security as more important and necessary than the existence of security and believe that in different societies many factors are involved in the lack of this feeling. In addition, many scientists believe that security is a sensational and perceptive phenomenon and mostly refers to the psychological sense of the citizens of the factors threatening like crime. Moreover, the feeling of insecurity of the person may not match with the external reality of threats, or vice versa, depending on the amount and effects of the threatening factors, the person's insecurity may also fluctuate. Thus, one cannot state that in a society where there is security, there is the sense of security for sure because it comes from other issues like people's perception of the studied society. Without security, there is no development opportunity in any field, in fact, diverse and many talents of individuals could be actualized when there is security. Safe man is full of motivation to progress. The security of citizens in urban areas will bring many social and economic benefits. Sense of security in citizens can be effective in the promotion of social activities and bring about better cooperation in the community.

Thus, the present study has been conducted aimed to investigate the social security status among Sari citizens. The results and findings of this study indicate that Sari citizens have social security and its components (job security, health security, emotional security, moral security). Moreover, the results showed that the ranking of the components of social security of Sari citizens from the perspective of the present study is as follows:

Therefore, in general, considering the findings of the present study, some suggestions are offered as follows: Considering that the need for health security is one of the most important needs of citizens, it is essential that health officials and planners of the city adopt basic strategies and decisions in this regard, so that this important requirement of the citizens is met in a desirable and useful way. This is because this aspect of social security can be considered as a subset of safety. In addition, some measures should be taken so that the people who are not able to use health service and facilities because of lack of economic welfare use them. Moreover, medication officials should try hard so that the citizens' scarce and basic drugs are prepared with ease and comfort for treatment and health security as soon as possible. Hospital administrators in public health centers should recruit qualified doctors with sufficient experience, so that the people who are unable to afford treatment by doctors in private hospitals and centers, due to bad economic conditions, use public services and facilities of public hospitals.

Given that employment and having, a decent job is one of the most important and fundamental social issues of the citizens, consequently enjoying job security and having security in this regard is considered as one of the most important essential needs of citizens. Therefore, it is essential that the authorities, planners and city managers seek to adopt appropriate strategies and decisions and thus bring about employment and entrepreneurship for the citizens. As the emergence of false job creates social violations and deviations in society, they should try to provide a platform to people who have jobs so that they have no concerns of losing the job and have confidence that they can be promoted in the their career. People should have enough stability in the job where they are working, the managers should prevent the unhealthy competition for employees in the workplace that creates worry and anxiety and they should create an environment so that the employees feel they are in the process of development and progress.

Due to the fact that one of the basic needs of the citizens in today's society is emotional need, it seems that a number of factors, including the economic and welfare situations have caused citizens not to have adequate emotional security. Problems arising from it have made the citizens, especially the family members and relatives, unable to have a face-to-face relationship and in the mechanical society today, several problems have provided the context for emotional separation between spouses (husband and wife) and parents and children as well as relatives and friends. All this has threatened the security of the families and has put individuals into serious danger. This is because, if citizens do not have faces to face relations with each other and do not have sympathy and intimacy, mistrust increases and social relations reduce among citizens and spontaneously the context for incidence of deviance and social problems in the society is created. Thus, through the mechanisms of socialization in the community such as schools, universities and higher education institutions, cultural institutions, especially the mass media such as radio and television, the rich culture of visiting relatives and its importance and effects in today's society, the quality of social relations in society and so on should be taught to the citizens. These should be done so that people, here citizens, do not have a sense of lack of affection and have the security and reliability required in this regard. This increases the expression of love and affection among citizens. Otherwise, the context in the society for emergence of deviations and social problems is provided. Given that in today's society because of the emergence and development of urbanization and consequently the massive immigration from less developed rural areas to urban areas, different types of social deviations, especially obliquity, have emerged in urban areas, people do not trust one another much and are distrustful towards the honesty of speech and actions. In addition, as they look at each other with a view of profit and benefit, they lack good intentions in speech, behavior and conduct. Because of such problems, they have no tolerance and patience, do not see each other with good intentions, are unwilling to invest in order to improve their own welfare and to develop employment and entrepreneurship for citizens, they do not give their financial assets at the disposal of each other.

CONCLUSION

Moreover, they refuse to carry out important transactions without any ethical and legal guarantee.

Thus, it is necessary that training in the principles and moral patterns of relationships such as trust, honesty, goodwill, tolerance, benevolence, etc. should be given to citizens, so that we witness the increasing incidence of moral security of our citizens. The existence of moral security and providing the necessary mechanism in this regard make people (citizens) have more trust, honesty, goodwill, tolerance, benevolence and the incidence and spread of moral deviation between citizens is stopped.

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