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Investigating the Relationship between Social Capital and Awareness of Citizenship Rights Emphasizing the Mediating Role of Political Capital and Economic Capital (Case Study: Citizens of Ahvaz)

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EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Awareness of the rights and duties of citizenship and active participation of citizens in society is one of the challenging issues. The present study investigates the relationship between social capital and awareness of citizenship rights among citizens of Ahvaz. The research method is mixed type "quantitative descriptive survey type and qualitative field type with in-depth interview". In the qualitative part, the data foundation method has been used to theorize the data based on interpretive-constructive foundations. The statistical population of the study was all citizens aged 20 to 65 years living in Ahvaz. Using cluster random sampling, 526 of these citizens were selected as the sample. In this study, in-depth interviews, researcher-made questionnaires on citizenship, social capital, political capital, economic capital and demography were used to collect information. Atlas.ti software was used for qualitative data analysis and SPSS and AMOS software were used for quantitative data analysis. The research findings indicate that there is a significant relationship between social capital, political capital and economic capital and awareness of citizenship rights. In general, significant relationships were obtained between research variables and the research model was approved. It seems that the level of awareness of citizenship rights with respect to the significant relationship with social capital, political capital and economic capital, as an important and influential variable can provide the context for the welfare and political, economic and social development of the target community.

INTRODUCTION

Citizenship is one of the new emerging concepts that pay particular attention to equality and justice and has found a special place in social, political and legal theories. The category of "citizenship" is realized when all the people of a society enjoy all civil and political rights and also have easy access to the desired opportunities in life economically and socially

(Mohammad & et. al, 2017:147). One of the important variables related to citizenship rights is social capital. In short, social capital can be considered as including capital and resources from institutions, relationships and norms that shape the social interaction of the society quantitatively and qualitatively. Coleman believes that social capital, as an aspect of social construction, facilitates the actions of people who are inside the construction, and like other forms of productive capital, it is possible to achieve certain goals that cannot be achieved without it. (Coleman, 1998). Social capital is both a product of development and effective in the development process; Without social capital, the process of transition and achieving political, cultural and economic development and evolution is difficult, because in the absence of social capital, other capitals lose their effectiveness. In general, all theorists of social capital have emphasized the necessity of forming communication networks as a factor of social capital. The theorists of citizenship rights include; Marshall, Janaki and Heater, while emphasizing on citizenship rights and its dimensions, expressed its connection with types of capital. Increasing awareness of citizenship rights in the fields of employment and social welfare is affected by the role of social, political and economic capital. Also, Bourdieu, Putnam while emphasizing social capital and its dimensions; They express the effects of other capitals, such as economic and political capital, as fundamental, and consider it necessary to realize its connection with the issues and obligations of citizenship. By summarizing the ideas presented in citizenship rights, social capital, economic capital and political capital and examining their relationship with each other from an angle within the framework of concepts, it has played a role in creating a relationship between variables. Based on this, at the end, this question should be answered: Is there a relationship between social capital and awareness of citizenship rights (the case of Ahvaz citizens)? And what is the result?

METHODOLOGY

The research method is mixed (a type of sequential exploratory design). The statistical population under study is all citizens aged 20 to 65 living in Ahvaz city, which was 754,892 people based on the general population and housing census of 2015, of which 384 people were determined using Cochran's sample size formula with an error of 5%, but due to exploitation 526 of the appropriate results, as well as the lack of appropriate and incomplete answers, were selected as a sample by random cluster sampling

and the questionnaire was distributed among the respondents (506 of these questionnaires were collected and analyzed).

FINDINGS

Research shows that there is a significant relationship between social capital, political capital and economic capital and awareness of citizenship rights

CONCLUSION

In general, significant relationships between research variables were obtained and the research model was confirmed. Based on this, the level of awareness of citizenship rights with regard to the meaningful relationship with social capital, political capital and economic capital, as an important and influential variable, can provide the context of welfare and political, economic and social development of the target society.

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