



## **Assessment the Socio-economic Factors Affecting Rural Youth Attitude to Occupation in Agricultural (Case of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer- Ahmad Province, Iran)**

*Mohsen Mosaei<sup>1</sup> and Ahmadreza Ommani<sup>2\*</sup>*

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### **Abstract**

The main objective in this causal-correlation field research was to identify effective factors on rural youth's attitude towards agricultural occupation, in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province, Iran. Rural youth 15-25 years old in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer- Ahmad province were the population of this study. The technique of sampling was cluster sampling. The technique of data collection is questionnaire. The panel of experts was used to validity of the questionnaire. Corenbach Alpha was used to gain assurance of the reliability of the questionnaire ( $\alpha=0.79$ ). The results of multivariate regression indicate the variables of type of farming system, rate of relation to organizations, participation in extension and education courses, insurance, age and income have the main role in showing the variations of attitude to agricultural occupation.

**Keywords:**  
*Youth, Attitude, Agriculture,  
Kogilouyh and Boyerahmad  
province*

<sup>1</sup> Islamic Azad University, Gachsaran Branch, Iran.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Agricultural Management, Islamic Azad University, Shooshtar Branch, Iran.

\* Corresponding email: [ommani75451@yahoo.com](mailto:ommani75451@yahoo.com)

## INTRODUCTION

The low level attitude of rural youths in the case of agricultural activities is the basis of their immigration to urban areas and their inclination to pseudo jobs (Ghadiri 2003). Swanson and et.al (1991) believe that the role of extension and education programs in motivating people for employment in agricultural section and decreasing the immigration of rural youths and achievement of the rural enduring stability includes several factors; the most important of them are the following:

1- Providing essential proficiency for appropriate employment.

2- Providing and improving the creative sense.

3- Fostering the citizenship identification.

Ommani (2006) believes that the essential ways of expanding the employment of youths in rural areas and decreasing their immigration to urban areas, include the following:

A- Verifying the rural economy,

B- Emphasizing the grouping of rural youths,

C- Emphasizing the technical and professional trainings.

The term, attitude means a set of tendencies, views, and beliefs of an individual about his/her environmental factors, and this tendencies and belief will be stabilized based on environmental effect, the gained experiences and the period of time (Rafiepour, 1993).

Need, meaning a kind of failure and desire causing the release of energy and provoking a force which causes a typical behaviour to achieve a particular goal (Roos, 1994).

It seems that the existing needs that is as a kind of failure and desire provokes some tension and drive which causes some behaviour. This behaviour is in accord with beliefs, opinions, knowledge, affections which is the outcome of an attitude. This attitude directed the individual to a purposeful activity or an activity which has a purpose and causes the goal achievement and satisfaction or dissatisfaction. The occurrence of this cycle causes the process of attitude, both in high and low levels of need, to have pro or anti orientation. Pro orientation help the individual achieve his/her goals, and anti orientations are obstacles (Arthor, 1995).

Swanson et al (1991) believes that the goals of influential and efficient plans for rural youths, include the providing of essential proficiency for employment, providing and increasing of leadership sense, fostering the citizenship identification, and the development of their attitude in the field of employment in rural areas ins very important.

Sinha(1993), in a study of the economical development and the expansion of employment of rural youths in rural areas, believes that the following items are important in changing the attitude of rural youths toward employment in rural areas:

- The expansion of peripheral activities in rural areas.

- The emphasis on the testing of benefits and optimal exploitation systems.

- The emphasis on the development of handicrafts in rural areas.

According to Radhakirshna and Ingram (2005) there is a need to create adult- youths partnerships to help youths participate in the development of policies that affect the lives and welfare youths. As they explained collaborative efforts between developed and developing countries should focus on programs such as leadership and communication, building positive relationship and solving programs, becoming lifelong, self \_ directed learners, preparing for careers, and healthy lifestyles, environmental awareness and human diversity.

Rural youths are currently live or have lived in urban communities, relocated to large centres to pursue post secondary education, find employment or accompany family.

Suitable condition instruction, favourable situation economical and expanding of social activates are necessary for increased motivation of rural youths and remain in rural areas and employment in agricultural section (Bajema and et.al.2002)

Ferry (2006) believes that the interdependence of family, school and community played a critical role in shaping the youth's occupation selection.

Vissaria (1998) believes that non formal education (extension) and social activities played a critical role in professional activity development and

preventing immigration of rural youths to other areas.

Sedighi (2006) in a study concluded that there is significant relation between economical situation, range of arable land, mechanization and attitude of rural youths to agricultural activities. Based on to the result of this study we say that economical characteristics are necessary and critical factors, affection attitude of rural youths for working in these areas. Lindely (1989) programming the rural youths states that rural improvement and development are following:

- Formal education for rural youths should be in the direct of development rural areas.
- For improvement of rural areas, non formal education for rural youths should be attention in rural level.
- Rural development programming should be assimilating of rural youths, not rejection.
- For development of youths professional skills should be establish of rural youths club.

Ommani and Chizari (2006) believe rural youths in undeveloped countries face some challenges such as unsuitable employment and limitation educational opportunity. Thus, education needs assessment and providing of suitable condition in these cases can inhibit rural youth's immigration.

The purpose of this study was to determine the effective factors into rural youth's attitude to agricultural occupation, in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, Iran.

The specific objectives of this study were to:

- Describe rural youths in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province by demographics characteristics

- Describe attitude level, rural youths for employment in agricultural activities (Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province).

- Describe of effective economical characteristics in to rural youths attitude for for employment in agricultural activities

- Describe of effective social characteristics in to rural youths attitude for for employment in agricultural activities.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research method employed was correlative descriptive and causal - correlation field. The population consisted rural youths in Kohgiluyeh and Bboyerahmad province in Iran. A cluster sample of rural youths (n=330) was selected. A questionnaire was developed to collect data and it consisted five sections: personal characteristics, social characteristics, arable characteristics, economical characteristics, and attitude into employment in agricultural activities. A panel of experts of

Table1: characteristics of respondents

Variable	f	%	cum%
<b>Age</b>			
15 to 18	64	20.7	20.7
18 to 21	70	22.7	43.4
21 to 24	107	34.5	77.9
>24	69	22.1	100
<b>Education</b>			
Elementary	47	15.2	15.2
Middle school	60	19.4	34.5
High school	56	18.1	52.6
Diploma	56	18.1	70.6
Associate	31	10	80.6
University student	60	19.4	100
<b>Exploitation (harvest) system</b>			
Personal agrarian	215	69.4	69.4
Division	46	15	84.4
Rental	23	7.4	91.8
Integrate	26	8.1	100

Table 2: coefficient of correlation and significant levels

Variable 1	variable 2	r	Sig
	Rural youths attitude	0.025	0.665
	Rural youths attitude	-0.076	0.138
	Rural youths attitude	0.017	0.767
	Rural youths attitude	0.130	0.023
	Rural youths attitude	0.270	0.000
	Rural youths attitude	0.158	0.005

faculty members at Islamic Azad University Shoushtar Branch established content and face validity. A pilot test was conducted with 30 rural youth of in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province. Questionnaire reliability was established by calculating cronbachs alpha. Reliability for the overall instrument was established at 0.79, which showed the reliability of questionnaire. 310 questionnaire were answered of total questionnaires (n=330). Data collected were analyzed using the statistical package for social science (SPSS). Appropriate statistical procedures for description (frequencies, percent, means and standard deviations) and inferential statistical (Spearman's coefficient of correlation, Mann –Whitney test, Kruskal Wallis test, multivariate regression) were used.

**FINDINGS**

Approximately 35% of respondent between 21-24 year old (table1). 15.2% of youths had an elementary education, 18.1% had high school diploma, 10% had post school education, and 19.4% were university students. Rural youths were asked to report their exploitation (harvest) system.

**Correlation Study**

For describing relation between independent variables with dependent variable (rural youths attitude for employment in agricultural activities), Spearman's coefficient of correlation was used (table 2).

**Regression study**

To describe the role of independent variable on dependent variable by multivariate regression, the method of Enter was used. The results of multivariate regression, done with the method of Enter, indicate that the variable of type of farming system, rate of relation to organizations, participation in extension and education courses, insurance, age and income have the main role (51%) in showing the variations of attitude to agricultural occupation (table 3).

**CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION**

The consequences of research indicate that between of income and rural youth’s attitude to agricultural occupation is significant relation. This result supported by Bajema, Miller and Williams (2002).

Table 3: Finding of multivariate regression, done with the method of Enter

Independent variable	B	SEB	Beta	t	Sig
Income	0.153	0.028	0.294	5.452	0.000
Age	0.023	0.010	0.128	2.325	0.021
Education	-0.007	0.020	-0.019	-0.330	0.741
Insurance	0.173	0.056	0.161	3.061	0.002
Type of farming system	0.070	0.037	0.103	1.923	0.055
Harvest system	0.109	0.027	0.227	4.063	0.000
Rate of relation to Organizations	-0.236	0.061	-0.216	-3.851	0.000
Participation in Extension and education classes	0.106	0.050	-0.116	-2.142	0.033
Social participation	0.028	0.019	0.077	1.450	0.148
Intercept	2.660	0.292		9.119	0.000

F=10.357

Signify F=0.000

R=0.714

R=0.51

- The consequences of research indicate that between social participation of rural youths and rural youth's attitude to agricultural occupation is significant relation. This result supported by Visaria (1990).

- The consequences of research indicate that relation between of rural youth's attitude to agricultural occupation and arable land system is significant. This result supported by Sinha (1994).

### RECOMMENDATION

With the attention to the consequences of research, present the following recommendation:

- Expansion of education and cultural different programming for increasing of rural social participation ability and improvement situation and role persons in community.

- Implementation of extension and education courses, corresponding with rural community situation and needs.

- Expansion of necessary activities for improvement of situation economical.

- Development and expansion of factors those effective roles to rural youth's attitude for employment in rural areas and loss immigration.

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