Original Article

The impact of globalization on evolutions in Islamic cities in recent century

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Abstract

During times in globalization process world cities' construction and their appearance are evolved considerably, but evolution level in each city is dependent on various components. In this regard, Iranian cities- Islamic and Arabic- get metamorphosis during last decades. Modernism waves and its physical reflect in cities and following post- modernist movements have important impact on these cities' construction, context and function. The studies of global evolution present that urbanite and city expose to qualified- quantified basically transitions and as a result, cities and metropolis in developing countries (especially in Islamic countries) evolve basically. This process is continuing in high intensity. The positive aspects of globalization process include out of isolation, developing world communication, joining to metropolis network, recognition of the characteristics of each place in time bed, paying suitable role in recreating potential capacities by means of natural historical signs to improve links. In other hand, its negative impacts are uncontrolled urban growth, slums growth, increasing rural immigration, traffic problem, etc.

Keywords: Globalization, evolutions, Islamic cities

INTRODUCTION

Globalization and its expansive outcomes are the most interesting discussed issue in academia gathering in different dimensions such as economic, political and cultural aspects. It is the most important challenge in countries' political culture aspect in worldwide. In general, globalization phenomenon challenge borders' importance and country territory, in a way that all national governments trying to preserve their integrity in frame of government- nation. This aspect is important in economic and technological existence but its importance is more in cultural environment.

Globalization is multidimensional discussion. It is believed that there is new environment in world level which all international system' members and components are resulted by this environment. In fact, the most important

issues which are mentioned in this regard are the impact of globalization on other nation' social and cultural identities like national identity. (1).

Cities are the product of reciprocal relations among its natural and cultural environments. The establishment of cities is resulted by various factors such as religion, economy and military considerations. In other words, city is a system or integration which is resulted by urban spiritual- material culture units in different aspect which play social- economic role in its natural aspect. Therefore to recognize all city' integrity, its necessary to all organizational components and rules are identified genetically in respect of its performance and structure. This recognition includes the study of natural condition and requirements and evaluation of geographical potentials to develop cities, analyzing framework context and effective political cultural economic factors on formation, morphogenesis, population, various functions, ecological construction, and the relationship between city, village and etc. (2).

There are two factors which are important in formation cities: first human group which can build a castle, temple, market or port. Second, natural elements, means a place which is chosen in regard of local and regional advantages and can guarantee city' survival and growth. (3).

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THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

For the first time, Skilers, Lesli discriminate between globalization and becoming internationalized. In her view, becoming internationalized means globalization based on current system which is variable in national governments. While globalization is the sign of procedure and system emersion from social relations which isn't consistent based on national government system. It is necessary to differentiate between globalization and universalism. Universalism is related to values which considers to human as autonomous subjects regardless of time and place. But globalization which has more material aspect in comparison to universalism, includes values which all individual in all over the world interested it. In a way that they consider to the earth as material environment and its individual on it are world citizens, consumers and producers who wish collective execution to global problem solving. (4).

When we speak about globalization, our purpose is that the roles of supranational factors are increased in social, political, economic and cultural procedure in all countries. This evolution transits the relationship between human and his/her surrounding environment. Globalization helps to individuals to exit to introspective state which is resilience to a special region and moving to exospective state and reliant to supra territory.

Various explanations are provided by theorists in regard of globalization but up to now, there isn't any exhaustive explanations which include all aspects about this phenomenon. In this article, we consider to some general explanations about this item:

1- Globalization means obtaining to global condition which results local cultures are incorporated to each other. In this view, the term of global- localization is used by considering to Robertson explanation: globalization of culture is not considered as unified factor, because the term of global isn't contrary to regional absolutely. Therefore in Robertson point of view, globalization means tightening world and improving informing to world as a whole.

2- Globalization, is the west world' plan to mastery to eastern world. Therefore, in view of east world, globalization is equals to westernize and cultural invasion. The followers of new Marxist know globalization as Capitalism continuation. In their view, globalization is continuation of Capitalism and unequal social and economic survival. In this view, globalization' long time results is merging world economic and cultural which broaden the class gap in allover the world between poor and empowered

countries and in local level among rich and poor individuals. Samir Amin believes that in globalization process inequality is increased in global level. (5).

3- Globalization means universality and a period which is obtained following modernity. In this Albero says that basically global age wish to universality replace modernity. This issue means to comprehensive evolution based on action in social formation which is related to individuals and groups. (5).

By considering to first explanation' validity which intercultural relationship is focused in global society context, globalization can be considered as a procedure which increase political, economic, cultural and social links between player in national and international levels. Therefore nations- governments' power is decreased against supranational power centers. To prevent speaking expansion, the most important characters in globalization age are mentioned according to researchers' viewpoints:

1- Appearance of global electronic village (Macluhan, Marshal)
2- Formation of global civil society or global democracy (Held, David)
3- Information and communication explosion and republic (Castle, Manoel & Mac Luhan, Marshall)
4- Space- time compression
5- Developing supranational players and increasing their power
6- Developing political and social understandings and therefore developing democracy and decreasing legitimacy of powerful regimes.
7- The end of geography
8- Cybernetic age (6)

In economic dimension, globalization has more rapidity, widespread and deep. Economic changes have real identity in human association. Moreover, economic parameters have more measurement potentials and more reliability in comparison to other dimensions. To this aim, sometimes, economic globalization is mentioned as the most obvious characteristic. Because of population centralization, invest and government' presence in cities, the center of cities are always the place of rise and economic globalization evolution. Globalization' concepts and developing cities have close relationship. Large civil regions are the place of development and its stimulator and connection point to global interaction. (Lale Pour, et, al 2011). In globalization age, large and small cities of the world (from the farthest point eastern Asia to the heart of middle east, Europe and America) by computer systems and new transportation and interaction vehicles are integrated and different space- time differences elements are disappeared. (7).

THE CONCEPT OF GLOBALIZATION[1]

There isn't any integrated consensus among theorists and authors about providing exhaustive explanation in regard of globalization phenomenon. Each of them provide specific explanation about this item according to their views about this phenomenon and their mental backgrounds and political ideology which are belonged to them. In other political dimensions, culture or its relationship is more considered.

Therefore, in regard of globalization, providing complete explanation which is acceptable by all individuals is difficult. The experts who don't obtain to consensus in this regard about globalization' explanation and its concept realize that this issue is resulted by its complexity and contradictory nature. Peroton explain globalization as a multidimensional phenomenon which attain to technological, social, military, cultural, political, economic various reaction contexts in environment.

The point which is considered in globalization explanation is avoidance of identifying equality in globalization meanings and synonym (similar) concepts such as universalism, internationalization, global integrated universality and global homogenization are the concepts which sometimes are applied in turn of globalization, while each of them have their specific concepts. (8).

CULTURAL GLOBALIZATION

In the last decades of 20th century, culture is considered more than before. One of the most important challenges is globalization of cultural aspect. Some others consider to unifying nations is obtained because of large development in communication technology and information transfer and satellite, computer networks development and evaluate them as a positive aspect in globalization phenomenon.

Cultural globalization is formation and developing special culture in global aspect. This procedure creates a cultural standardization in the world and challenges all cultural aspects. A common customized interpretation about globalization of western culture is cultural Imperialism. In this view, globalization is the will focus on world cultural homogenization. (9). Antony Kidnez believes that the meaning of globalization isn't that global society is integrating. This phenomenon faces to division in some dimensions unlike integrity. In other words, globalization procedure isn't a homogenized procedure but also is segregated one and doesn't develop all thing together which its outcomes aren't dangerous and inevitable. (10).

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1   Globalization

IRANIAN CULTURE AND IDENTITY IN GLOBALIZATION AGE IN LAST CENTURY

Iranian nation and country is an ancient nation which tries to protect to its identity and integrity against other nations (1). The existing of various nations inside ancient society of Iran causes to cultural and social trades during history. This issue is useful and applicable and prevent to Iran society bent. This item is converted to cultural identity in Iran and cause to its potency. (Saleh, 2011). During history, cultural identity continuity in Iran is indebted by various ethnic groups such as Kurds, Azeris, Lurs, Baloch, Turkmen, Arabs and Persians. (11)

By considering to potentiality of Iranian culture and cultural, social evolutions in Iran during last decades, Iranian people understand exhaustively about world, global culture and their Iranian culture. This recognition and informing is impacted by interior and exterior environment. Increasing provincial and civil traffic in Iran, suitable situation in relationship between cultural area in Iran and travelling to foreign countries, using to mass media (national and international), developing general knowledge about countries and other cultures, political and social partnership, transition in global situation and developing intercultural relationship cause to Iranian people explain themselves in global society more than before. In regard of theoretical and practical aspect, this assumption that globalization cause to develop ethical identity isn't defendable because as a result of this item national identity in Ira is challenged. Following globalization and to identify the type of Iranian culture and global culture, it can be assumed that integrity, interaction and impacts between cultures are resulted by globalization. In respect of theory, among culture' globalization paradigms (cultural homogenization paradigm, cultural conflict paradigm, combination paradigm and cultures), interaction paradigm (among regional- local culture by global culture) can be applied in case of contemporary world situation. By considering to current difficulties in conflict paradigm methods which are based on Marx thoughts and homogenization paradigms, Robertson theory & Gidnez have more validity because of they consider to interaction and combination paradigms elements. (5)

Therefore it can be said that globalization means simultaneous presence of different cultures in comparison to special culture ascendency to other cultures. The cultures are differentiated from each other but independently are lived. They are positioned in intra cultural communication network, they are impacted by each other, and each of them is the constituent of global society and culture.

In fact, its meaningless to study Iranian identity status in globalization age regardless to global society structure and interpretation which is provided by global identity. Iranian culture isn't differentiated from global culture. In fact, Iranian culture is the part of global identity which interacts to global culture. This culture (Iranian culture) interacts to other cultures while protect main elements such as Islam, family, human relationship and humanism. (5). In other view, Iranian culture has the condition to link to other cultures. Among effective factors collections in globalization of Iranian world, Iranian application to electronic media, global cultural and material goods consumption, participation in global business and impact on immigration can be mentioned.

RESEARCH METHOD

The method of research is descriptive- analyzing which required datais collected by library resources- document and field study.

CONCLUSION

The subject of globalization and its impacts on nations national identity and culture such as Iran is one of the most important challenges in each country like Iran. Undoubtful, the most important issue of Iran in current and future times in levels of national and ethical is identity and globalization. Globalization is bifacial phenomenon which creates and removes distance, links, and identity. This phenomenon isn't positive or negative. It is a type of conformity which is depends on the ability of confirmation in countries. The entrance condition is ability and readiness to competition in countries. Necessity, globalization caused to remove and doesn't cause to improve national identity, its impact is conditional which can be acted as a challenge and also

a chance to national identity productivity. By considering to common identity role in formation movements and clarification of national and regional identities, it can be expected that in Iran society confront to two social movements in regard of globalization, as Robertson mentioned new concepts which is called global- regional. One of the resistance movements (like issues which are formed in Europa during these days which is called anti-globalization movement by Iranian context) and other movement is adaptive movement which is resulted by acts, values, technologies and other global products in Iran society. (12).

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