

Urban Problems and Contrasting Values with Special Reference to Tehran – A Sociological Appraisal

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ABSTRACT Cities in the twentieth century have widely changed due to various reasons including population growth, industrialization and so forth; all leaving behind problems of various qualities and characteristics. Likewise, such phenomenon has changed the value and normative system of the city-dwellers. This process has caused the quality of life also to undergo changes in two directions, that is, positively and negatively. Concentration of industries in cities, and the rise of business activities in urban areas has transformed the city life, affecting cultural integration, cultural change, behavior patterns of the citizens etc. Many sociologists are of the opinion that the demographic revolution has made the city conditions so. With the growth of urbanization, the Third World has already faced and will face different challenges, and thereby the physical and social problems in cities such as violence, crimes, gangsterism etc., all affecting peace of life. Big cities are known to be problematic due to overconsumption, congestion and pollution. Housing, health and transport as indicators of quality of life are also some of the concerns of the big cities of the present time. So far as the provisions and supply of food, energy, safe water and shelter are concerned, urbanization is also problematic. Unprecedented changes in different socio-economic aspects have brought about generation gap. Tehran too, as a fast growing Asian city has been analysed with its own contracting values, which cyclically must tolerate new social problems.