

# Research Paper: Identifying the Factors Affecting Internal Migration (intra- and inter-provincial migrations) in Kermanshah Province



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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** The present study aimed to investigate the factors affecting the migrations within and outside a province.

**Methods:** The method used in this study was quantitative, descriptive-analytical. The population consisted of 340 respondents from urban and rural communities using Cochran's alpha. The sampling method was simple random sampling. The reliability of the study was calculated by Cochran's alpha as 0.75 and the validity of the study was confirmed by experts in geography and social sciences.

**Results:** The findings showed that the most important motivations for intra-provincial migration included earthquakes with the mean of 4.28, occupation (4.12), and living costs (4.10). The most important motivations for inter-provincial migration were occupation with the mean of 4.86, living costs (4.85), and income (4.84).

**Conclusion:** Regarding the influential factors on satisfaction with inter-provincial migration, the following factors can be ranked in terms of priority: willingness to return to the place of residence (4.8), satisfaction with the migration (4.7), and willingness to migrate to another place (2.57). The factors of willingness to migrate to another place (with the means of 4.7), satisfaction with migration (4.4), and others' advice on migration (4.5) can be considered, in order of priority. The findings of the Spearman correlation indicated a significant relationship between the 6 variables and intra-provincial migration.

## M 1. Introduction

Migration is a strategy for family's livelihood recovery, which is an option for

vulnerable communities to make changes in their living conditions and attain a source of income, resources, and to overcome the welfare, social, economic and institutional constraints in their living place (Aqayari

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Hir, 2018: 46). Migration is one of the most common and effective social phenomena, which makes changes in the population structure and consequently plays an important role in socio-economic changes in different geographical spaces. Recently, rural-to-urban migration has increased more than ever due to the development of urbanization and the modernization process in the country (Vatankhah Noughani, 2018: 63).

Humans' migration and movement have long attracted the attention of researchers in different fields of humanities and social sciences. The dynamics of humans' relationship with place is at the core of migration. Migration is one of the four main factors of population change and development, and in addition to long-term changes, it can cause overt short-term effects on the number and structure of the population due to its nature. Migration from villages to cities is an integrated part of economic development. Some economists define economic development as the transfer of agricultural labor to industry. However, in many underdeveloped countries, rural-to-urban migration is associated with slight growth of industrialization and high rates of unemployment and poverty in urban areas. Therefore, these countries lack what is called the attraction of industrial sector for rural work labor; however, the migration rate in these countries is high (Esfandiyari & Nabieeyan, 2018: 2). Due to the increasing rate of migration across the world, all human communities are challenged by migration, especially the migration of the youth from villages to cities. Regarding the fact that man as a thoughtful creature is the focus of social studies, and plays various roles through getting aware of his surroundings and controlling the environment to reach his goals, factors such as socio-economic status, fear, suffering, hope, age, gender, occupation, specialization, education, personal experience, and learning affect the visual perception of man about the environment and force him to make decisions and exercise behavior (i.e. migration) (Shokouei, 2008: 129).

Population migration and displacement reflect man's dynamics and endeavor. Those who find themselves limited within a geographical area try to migrate (Shams et al, 2011: 58). Migration is considered an influential factor in population growth and change. Migration is one of the main factors of change and development in population and, due to its nature, can cause long-term changes as well as prompt and short-term effects in the number and structure of the population, or cause balance or imbalance in affected populations (Zanjani, 2001: 22). The importance of migration is now extensively under investigation and analysis by researchers all over the world in order to facilitate human development and form

settlement patterns (The UN: 2011; Bank World: 2009). Migration is a global phenomenon intensified in developed countries after Industrial Revolution and in developing countries over the last half-century. Migration in industrialized countries is under control and is no longer considered a problem; however, developing countries not only have failed to address the problem under the required measures but also have deteriorated it due to inequalities between regions (Shams et al, 2011: 58). The structure of internal migrations is a concept that has been greatly focused on by researchers in the contemporary era. According to some demographic experts, just as age structure and other demographic phenomena have regularities, the change and stability of migration flows between the source and destination areas have a certain order and regularity. On the other hand, these flows reflect many individuals' and households' decisions for accumulated migration. Understanding these structures can be effective in the identification of new patterns of population distribution (Mahmoodi et al, 2010: 48). Therefore, internal migration is one of the important issues in the analysis of population dynamics, which is influenced by development patterns, geographical conditions, etc.

Migration is one of the important demographic phenomena, which has been of great consideration in developing countries. The increasing growth of population in cities, lack of adequate urban facilities, the creation of suburban neighborhoods, poverty, and lack of health are some of the problems in the third world countries. Findings of the causes of uncontrolled migration have not yet led to a comprehensive theory in this regard, and each of the available studies has investigated a part of the phenomenon and rarely led to prove a general principle. Some holistic theories that have investigated the issue at a macro level have not reached an acceptable conclusion due to weaknesses in explaining the issue. Therefore, investigation of this issue requires the experts' attempts. In particular, the scholars in the third world countries, which suffer from implications of migration, are expected to focus more on these issues; they should use their thinking to solve the problem and avoid using western ideas that are based on their own social issues or their views toward the issues in the third world countries (Sayani, 2008: 12).

The phenomenon of migration is one of the main issues considered by sociologists, demographers, and institutions responsible in countries because it causes technological and social changes over time in different aspects of society. This phenomenon exists in both developed and developing countries, but its type and nature are different. Migration in industrialized countries raised in the

17th century reached its peak in the 20th century, and then decreased. While, in developing countries, rural-to-urban migration is in its infancy due to development programs in rural and urban areas (Vosougi, 2004: 23).

The history of internal migration in Iran goes back to the period after the socio-political events of contemporary Iranian history, especially land reform, the modernization of Iranian society and industrialization, the Islamic Revolution and the imposed war, as well as their direct and indirect effects. For example, over the last three decades in Iran, an average of 1 million people migrated within the borders every year. One of the spatial consequences of such displacement can be observed in the increased urban population, as well as increased rate of urbanization from 30% in 1956 to about 47% in 2016 (Abbasi Showazi et al, 2017: 100).

Migration as one of the main factors of dynamics of population makes changes in age and gender structures, the average growth of population, and social, cultural, and economic changes in source and destination areas. Since the growth of population and displacement was on smaller scales, it did not have considerable effects on economic, social, and population structures of source and destination areas, and was considered as a natural and even useful phenomenon. However, migration today has turned to one of the most important demographic issues but, in some countries, it is now a social crisis. For example, it can be observed that the migration of villagers and inhabitants of small cities to large cities and metropolises in Iran has recently caused various changes in immigrants' attitude, lifestyle, and behavior, making the ground for some unpleasant social and psychological problems and deviations in the society (Valigholizade, 2019: 160).

Migration as a demographic mechanism and strategy is highly influential on the ethnic, religious, and social composition of source and destination areas, and can easily change the demographic balance and lead to conflicts between human groups and the formation of social, economic, political, and security crises; for example, increased religious and ethnic conflicts in modern communities, especially among immigrants and local people, are considered as crises that are of great importance in terms of geographical-political and even geopolitical aspects; there are also grounds for such conflicts in Iran (Hafeznia, 2006: 180-181).

Generally, according to what was discussed, from a geographical-political perspective and despite the number and biological and demographical features, popula-

tion as a dynamic and dialectic element can easily play various roles under the influence of the phenomenon of migration, especially due to its distribution and homogeneity or heterogeneity, geographical-political dimensions, empowerment in the geographical-political structure of governments, especially in heterogeneous governments. This role is sometimes positive and sometimes against the national security of countries. At present, a similar situation can be imagined in Iran. In other words, the demographic political geography of Iran is formed in a way that the phenomenon of migration is one of its most important geographical-political realities. However, it can be said that the geographical-political role of this phenomenon is in its infancy, and the lack of an appropriate solution to this problem can even lead to more problems in the geographical-political structure of Iran.

According to the latest report of the Statistical Center of Iran, 34,928 people migrated from the province of Kermanshah between 2011 and 2016. The report stated that the net migration rate, which is calculated based on the number of immigrants entering and leaving each province, showed that the provinces of Tehran and Alborz were the greatest immigrant reception centers by attracting 166290 and 140232 people, respectively.

The provinces of Khuzestan, Lorestan, and Kermanshah were the greatest immigrant repatriation centers with the migration of 81859, 64122, and 34928 people, respectively (Statistical Center of Iran, 2016). This indicates a high rate of migration from the province of Kermanshah.

Regarding intra- and inter-provincial migration in Kermanshah, a variety of social and economic problems have always attracted the attention of researchers. This is due to different consequences of migration in both source and destination areas. Therefore, it is of great importance that different aspects of this issue be studied. Due to the importance of this issue and since migration and factors affecting the motivations of migration differ from person to person and from city to city, the present study sought to find an answer to the question of what the factors affecting intra- and inter-provincial migration and the immigrant reception and repatriation foci in Kermanshah were.

## 2. Literature Review

Nademi and Jalili Kamjoo (2020) introduced drought as one of the motivations of inter-provincial migration.

Declined groundwater level increases the rate of migration and turns it into a serious problem.

Mojtabaei et al (2020) believed that political, social, and ethnic tensions are the consequences of migration. Also, social segregation is another effect of migration, which leads to social problems and decreased level of participation in society.

Saghaei et al (2020) stated that one of the consequences of migration is the unofficial settlement of people in towns and suburbs, leading to economic, social, and cultural problems. Other problems such as urban traffic and pollution are other consequences of rural-to-urban migration.

Using a descriptive-analytical method, Valigholizade (2019) analyzed the potentials of the geographical-political role of migration in relation to the geographical distribution of population, homogeneity-heterogeneity of population, and centralized political structure of Iran. Although migration is one of the important dimensions of socio-economic development, the issue of migration has turned into one of the complicated issues for immigrant reception centers and even immigrant repatriation centers, due to high level of migration and demographic movements within different geographical-economic-cultural- and social sectors and consequently the formation of spatial disharmony, especially social and cultural disharmony, as well as different types of problems, as well as political, cultural, social, and economic crises. Iran with its special territorial and demographic composition in terms of cultural-ethnic, political, and economic aspects faces these problems.

According to Hosseini and Khani (2019), migration processes show that the provinces of Khuzestan, Kermanshah, and Sistan and Baluchestan are among the main immigrant repatriation centers, and the provinces of Bushehr, Gilan, Mazandaran, and Hormozgan are the main immigrant reception centers. In general, regarding the massive population at working age, low level of development, high rate of unemployment, lack of job opportunities, migration, especially inter-provincial migration, has increased.

Hogland and Jeldsen (2021) show that immigrants in the Scandinavian countries are influenced by racist policies; this leads to the marginalization of immigrants.

Hutton (2020) believed that the main factors of migration in Europe are individual characteristics and traits that can change under external macro factors. These in-

dividual and psychological characteristics and traits can lead to the process of migration.

Halland and Routh (2020) stated that the labor market is one of the most important reasons for migration. The labor market is now influenced by the current circumstances and has negative effects on immigrant reception. Also, it is a reason for the dissatisfaction of local people with the increasing rate of migration.

Kapel (1976) considered industrialization and change in social thinking as the reasons for migration in new patterns of migration, which are derived from sociological theories. Nowadays, i.e. the communication era, transportation is easier and its dimensions are broader. It is mainly aimed at making progress and achieving better welfare and facilities. Humans have always been familiar with migration, but the flow of migration has considerably increased since the post-industrial revolution. Migration is done in different forms (internal, international) and for different reasons. According to Ballan (1981), increased number of studies about migration since 1932 has been a response to the increased interest of policymakers and planners in the issue of the growth of population, especially urbanization. Therefore, migration has different reasons, among which social and economic reasons are decisive.

Garaski (2002) believed that the process of making the decision to migrate is influenced by three individual, family, and local factors. Factors such as attraction or repulsion, including differences in income, working conditions, and quality of life between source and destination areas, were investigated by some researchers such as Ranis and Fee (1961), Sastad (1982), Todaro (1969), Harris and Todro (1979), Todro and Marisko (1987). Migration as one of the main factors of dynamics of population leads to changes in the age and gender structures and average annual population growth as well as social, cultural, and economic changes in source and destination areas.

Aqayari Hir et al (2018) believed that "individual perception of environmental quality" is the most effective factor on the person, as the active decision-making factor for migration from the village. The results of the covariance matrix of independent variables indicated that the variables under investigation had a highly significant relationship in estimations of "path analysis".

Vatankhah Noughani et al (2018) investigated the effects of individual migration. They found that the most important positive gender effects of males' migration

based on 5 factors with 68.38% variance, in order of priority, were increased power of women in making decisions for family (21.21% variance), women's increased financial independence (16.2%), increased psychological empowerment (13.4%), willingness to do income-generating economic activities (9%), and increased participation in economic and social areas (8.5%). Moreover, the most important negative effects of males' migration based on 5 factors with 63.17% variance were respectively disruption of gender division of labor in the family (19.2%), women's increased dependence on others (13%), decreased chance of marriage and child-bearing (12.5%), problems in managing family affairs (10%) and inclusion of children and the elderly to economic activities (8.5%).

Ma et al (2017) studied the migration behavior of students and graduates under the prevailing regional dichotomy, and the experimental results showed that studying in a high-quality university was the most important motivation for graduates' migration.

Esfandiyari and Nabeeyan (2018) believed that the variables of poverty, the difference between wages in cities and villages, and the difference in the rural and urban Gini coefficients had a positive and significant effect on migration from villages to cities, while the variable of labor productivity in agriculture had a statistically negative and significant effect on migration from villages to cities.

The findings of Narutzky et al (2015) showed that social capital and network can suppress migration. Family can also affect one's desire to migrate.

According to Pam (2014), finding a white-collar job by the youth is a motivation for them to migrate from villages to cities.

Negvin et al (2013) investigated the relationship between migration, vulnerability to poverty, and rural citizens' welfare in three provinces of Vietnam. They showed that migration as a strategy to increase living standards occurs due to economic and agricultural shocks and is more common among families with higher manpower and more financially capable. In addition, migration has positive distributional effects and reduces poverty in rural areas.

Chen and Ravalion (2007) estimated absolute poverty for developing countries in a study by using time series data between 1981 and 2004. To calculate the number and percentage of the poor, the international poverty line

(one dollar daily) was used. The results showed that the percentage of the poor was significantly decreased during the years under investigation but no considerable results were found about the number of the poor, though the condition was different in China, i.e. the number of the poor also reduced.

Goldsmith (2004) studied migration from villages to cities and productivity in agriculture in Senegal using simultaneous equations model (SEM) during 1961-1996. The results indicated that migration from villages to cities was directly related to the ratio of urban per capita income rate to rural per capita income rate. Moreover, the results showed that investment in agriculture can decrease migration.

Renis (1997) studied migration from villages to cities and showed that assuming that the redistribution rate exceeds population growth and the labor force is transferred from the agricultural sector to the industrial sector, the covert unemployment rate will decrease and the labor force composition in economic returns will increase.

Sa'di et al (2014) argued that educated young people migrate to cities to find a good job.

Shahidi et al (2009) studied the effects of drought on low groundwater resources and concluded that water level in the plain of Shiraz dropped one meter from 1993 to 2007. The living of most inhabitants of the area depends on agriculture and thus many of them will have no choice other than migration due to the drought, destruction of agriculture, and the lack of job opportunities in rural areas.

Investigating the reasons for migration in immigrant families, Hagen-Zanker (2010) found family relations to be the effective factor. Some villagers migrate due to changes in their lifestyle.

Aka and Medodov (2010) explained the factors affecting internal migration in Ghana and claimed that young and educated people migrate more. The factors affecting villagers' migration can be explained through the evaluation of their desire for migration. Desire is a behavioral intention that is followed by an action. Intention is one's motivations for action. If a person really intends to act in a certain way in a particular situation or subject, this will be reflected in his/her behavior. According to Ajzen's (1991) theory of planned behavior (TPB), three core components affect behavior: 1. Attitude toward the behavior or mental evaluation; 2. Subjective norms resulted from social pressures; and 3. Perceived behavior



control, which depends on the ease or difficulty of past behaviors and experiences, barriers, and predictions. Fig 1 presents the conceptual model of the study.

**Theoretical Foundations**

Theoretical topics of rural-to-urban migration have a long history. Understanding the general framework of different attitudes and views toward migration can help us to introduce the theories of migration. A migration theory is a relatively comprehensive logical framework that, like a non-experimental system, attempts to describe and analyze the phenomenon of villagers' migration and their developments in their socio-historical context, and find answers to the questions in this regard by explaining the regulations of development and valid issues and thus it enables the researcher and planner to control, direct, and guide them (Taghavi, 1992: 50). These theories are called after the scholars who proposed them. The best-known ones are as follows:

Some researchers in social sciences consider Ravenstein's theories as the first theories of migration. He first expressed his theories in an article entitled "Laws of Migration" and developed them in 1889.

According to this law, the immigrant moves from areas with fewer opportunities to areas with numerous available opportunities. The place the immigrant chooses to move to depends on the variable of distance because immigrants prefer to migrate to nearby places. Ravenstein realized that any migration flow from villages to cities is followed by returns from cities to villages. He believed that urban dwellers are less willing than the villagers to

migrate and that the flow of migration accelerates due to the development of industries (Zanjani, 2001: 131).

Larry Sastad rephrased Ravenstein's theory of economic motivations for migration and investigated the issue of migration from the perspective of investment. The discussion was gradually developed and called the theory of human force capital. According to him, an immigrant chooses to migrate when it has economic returns that are beyond the income difference in source and destination areas. According to this theory known as the theory of cost-benefit, migration occurs when income in the source area and the real cost of migration are less than the expected income. Otherwise, even if the income in the destination area is more than the income the person earns in the source area, no migration will happen. In his theory, the costs of migration include direct monetary costs, indirect monetary costs, and psychological costs, which altogether are called real costs of migration (Zanjani, 2001: 132). Everett. S. Lee published an article entitled "A theory of migration" in the American Journal of Demography and conceptualized the factors associated with the decision to migrate and the process of migration into the following four categories: factors associated with the area of origin (triggers or inhibitors), factors associated with the area of destination (triggers or inhibitors), intervening obstacles, and personal factors. Lee attempted to provide a general framework to analyze the migration size, development of flows and anti-flows, and immigrants' features. He started his theory by a broad definition of migration and considered migration as a permanent change of living place and stated that regardless of short or long distance, ease or difficulty of the task, each action includes a source, a destination, and the intervening obstacles (Todaro, 1988: 22).

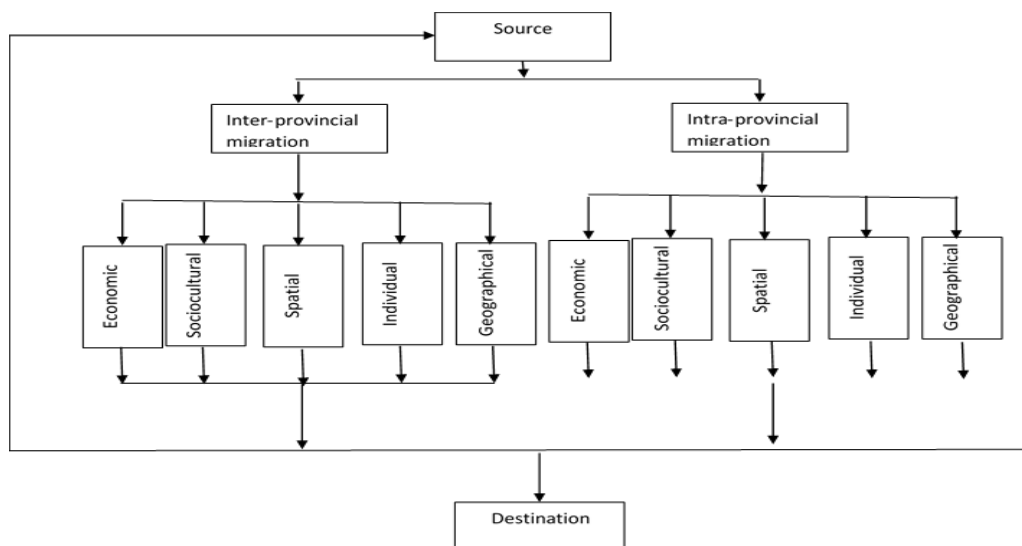


Figure 1. Conceptual model of the study

According to Arthur Louis's (1954) theory developed later by Fee and Ranis, migration is at the heart of economic development processes. In their view, in a dual economy consisting of modern sector of capitalism and traditional sector of livelihood, the economic modern sector that is based on workforce productivity for production, sale and economic profit contrasts with the traditional sector of livelihood that is self-employed and has less productivity and returns due to lack of economic use of capital and technology so that its labor efficiency is negligible, even close to none. This is what the economists call "hidden unemployment". In such conditions, the traditional economy sector has an excess labor force with low efficiency and the sector of the modern economy needs labor to use economic force returns. Therefore, the transfer of workforce from the traditional sector to the modern sector of the economy leads to extra value in the capitalist sector, resulting in an increased ratio of savings and capital to gross national product. As long as this situation continues, migration will continue and even intensifies (Aqaeizade & Afrookhte, 2011: 96).

Like many other scholars who studied the issue of migration, Todaro made attempts to explain village-city migrations. He investigated the issue in the book "Economic Development in the Third World" and explained its theoretical aspects in his other work in 1969. In his view, migration from village to city in developing countries cannot be explained only through the difference in the expected real income between the cities and villages, but the possibility of finding a job in the city is also effective. Influenced by these two factors, immigrants make economically rational decisions that may, or may not, lead to migration (Ibid: 135-136).

The explanation of migration function is based on the sociological theories of classic functions. This view has many opponents in the sociology of migration and has long been the subject of theories and research about migration. The theories of migration functionalism are based on an explanation of the reasons and consequences of migration (Papeli Yazdi & Rajabi Sanajerdi, 2003: 223). In fact, the theory of migration functionalism has borrowed its methodological foundations from sociological views and anthropological functionalism and is focused on functions of social phenomena. The tradition of functionalist theories of migration relies on the explanation and justification of reasons for migration (Taghavi, 1992: 55).

According to the theory of classic economy of migration, people migrate from the areas with low income to the areas with high income (or from poor areas to

wealthy areas) to maximize their income. The difference in income between immigrant reception areas and immigrant repatriation areas is an important factor in starting the migration. Migration is regarded as a personal strategy to maximize efficiency. This theory explains migration flows within the framework of economic principle of "supply and demand".

Considering this theoretical approach, Cadwalder (1992) and Jobz (2000) believed that displacement is the result of the weight of economic options of places. People choose a place that can improve their living conditions. In this regard, the theories proposed by Sastad and Todaro can be mentioned.

The opponents of the theory of new economics of migration have criticized the theory of neoclassical economics since they believe that the decision to migrate is a personal decision. This view expands the actors to the family level and assumes that the family income will increase in relation to the person's income (Stark, 1984). According to some studies, the motivation and ability to migrate and migration patterns are influenced by household resource levels, age and gender structures of family and household, and family life cycle stage (Harbison, 1952). As a result, migration is, in nature, a family strategy by which families distribute economic risks (income and employment) based on remittances from immigrant members of the family.

According to the theory of migration value expectation, the actor selects his/her residence from a set of alternative places, which maximizes efficiency in different aspects (Dejong and Gardner, 1981). Some special factors affect this expected value of migration: "individual and family characteristics", "social and cultural norms", "personality factors such as risk-taking or adaptation", and "structure of opportunity" (Haj, 2008: 588). Dejong (2000) believed that valued expectations and goals determine motivations for migration. The family's decision to migrate or send a family member is made based on the expectation to achieve valued goals. In this view, an immigrant's previous intentions affect the actual decision to migrate. According to his view, expectations along with family rules about migration predict previous intentions for movement, which are respectively the immediate determinants of migration. To study decisions to migrate, Dejong particularly determined the concepts of expectations/values, family migration norms, gender roles, satisfaction of residence, immigrants' network, and the requirement and direct behavioral facilitators. The results of studying gender, values, and intentions of movement in rural areas in Thailand (Dejong et al, 1996) showed

that the main determinants to make decisions to migrate for males are the values of dependence and comfort, social networks, the presence of young people in the family, and land property. While, for women, income and comfort, the presence of the elderly in the family, the size of society and missing opportunities are the important factors. In general, demographic features of immigrants and the existing and expected economic conditions in source and destination areas are the main determinants of migration behavior and types of migration in theoretical views.

### 3. Methodology

The method used in this study was descriptive-analytical. Using Cochran's formula, the sample size was determined. Determining the statistical population, the sample size was calculated (340 people). The sample

size under investigation was determined using simple random sampling method. The microanalysis level was used in this study because the people's and experts' attitudes were evaluated in relation to the variables and factors under investigation. Cronbach's alpha test was used to obtain the reliability of the questionnaire. The results of this test are presented in Table 1. To confirm the validity of the questionnaire, the opinions of experts in sociology and geography were used.

SPSS and EXCELL were used to analyze the data. Testing the hypotheses, in this study, means comparison tests such as Wilcoxon and correlation tests such as Spearman were used. Then, path analysis was used to extract the direct and indirect factors.

Table 2 presents the variables and factors used in the study.

**Table 1.** Reliability of the research

Variable	Alpha value	Acceptable/inacceptable
Factors affecting intra-provincial migration	0.83	Acceptable
Factors affecting inter-provincial migration	0.77	Acceptable
Immigrants' motivation for intra-provincial migration	0.71	Acceptable
Immigrants' motivation for inter-provincial migration	0.72	Acceptable
Total	0.75	Acceptable



**Table 2.** Variables and factors used in the research

Variable	Factor	Variable	Factor	Variable	Factor
Factors affecting migration and emigration	* Earthquake	Factors affecting immigrants' satisfaction with intra- and inter-provincial migration	* Return to the place of residence	Factors affecting migration	* Individual characteristics
	* Occupation		* Satisfaction with destination area		* Infrastructures of the source area
	* Living costs		* Giving advice to others to migrate		* Ethical features
	* Marriage		* Economic improvement		* Social relations
	* The future of the children		* Social improvement		* Spatial factors (such as distance)
	* Income		* Receiving better services		* Lack of facilities in the source area
	* Interest in living in big cities		* Achieving goals		* Educational facilities in the destination area
	* More facilities		* Re-migration in case of dissatisfaction with the previous conditions		* Leisure time
	* Being uninterested in the previous living place		* Realizing the plans		* The opportunity for children to make progress in the destination area
	* Lack of previous appropriate residence		* A better future for the family		* The differences in urban and rural qualities of life
	* Following other members of the family		* A better future for oneself		
	* Education		* Opportunities for progress and improvement		
	* Job transfer		* Willingness to return		
	* Hard work of farming		* Forced migration		
	* Being close to relatives				
* Passing free time					
* Gaining fame					
* Military service					





## 4. Findings

### Intra-provincial Migration

Table 3 shows the reasons for intra-provincial migration. As the table shows, economic factors play a key role in intra-provincial migration and, in the social dimension, marriage and following other family members are of great importance. The important note is that the recent earthquake in Kermanshah forced a considerable number of people to migrate to the city of Kermanshah. In other words, natural risks are highly important in intra-provincial migrations. Regarding the issue of income, agricultural products and consecutive droughts and in some cases, floods are the main reasons for intra-provincial migrations due to the destruction of a considerable amount of agricultural products.

Table 4 shows the people's satisfaction with intra-provincial migration. In general, it can be said that people

were satisfied with the destination area; however, some stated that they were considering migrating to other places and cities. In other words, migration was not over for them.

### Inter-provincial Migration

Examining the reasons for inter-provincial migration, it was revealed that the most important reason was economic factors such as occupation and income. Regarding social factors, education and facilities of the destination area were important reasons for inter-provincial migration.

As table 6 shows, people had high satisfaction with inter-provincial migration. These results indicated that inter-provincial migration caused relatively high satisfaction with migration and brought people closer to achieving their goals.

**Table 3.** Reasons and factors of intra-provincial migration

Variable	Mean	Mean	Rank	Sig t-test
Earthquake	4.28	High	1	0.0
Occupation	4.12	High	2	0.0
Living costs	4.10	High	3	0.0
Marriage	4	High	4	0.0
Future of the children	3.98	High	5	0.0
Income	3.96	High	6	0.01
Interest in living in big cities	3.67	High	7	0.0
More facilities	3.60	High	8	0.0
Being uninterested in the previous residence	3.55	High	9	0.0
Lack of previous appropriate residence	3.43	High	10	0.0
Following other family members	3.42	High	11	0.0
Education	3.33	High	12	0.0
Job transfer	3.30	High	13	0.0
Hard work of farming	3.28	High	14	0.0
Being close to relatives	2.29	Low	15	0.0
Passing free time	2.23	Low	16	0.0
Gaining fame	2.18	Low	17	0.02
Military service	1.11	Low	18	0.0

Very low=1..... Very high=5

**Table 4.** Immigrants' satisfaction with intra-provincial migration

Variable	Mean	Attitude	Sig t-test
I will not return to my previous residence.	2.4	Low	0.0
I am satisfied with the migration I made.	4.4	High	0.0
I would like to migrate to another place.	4.7	High	0.0
I recommend others not to migrate to this place.	4.5	High	0.0
My economic status has improved.	2.5	Medium	0.0
My social status has improved.	2.3	Low	0.0
I receive better services.	3.7	High	0.0
I achieved my goals.	2.5	Medium	0.0
I would migrate again if I were in the previous situation.	3.9	High	0.0
I achieved what I expected.	2.5	Medium	0.0
I hope for a better future for my family.	3.7	High	0.0
I hope for a better future for myself.	2.6	Medium	0.01
I gained more progress opportunities.	2.7	High	0.0
I sometimes think of returning to my previous residence.	2.7	High	0.0
I had to migrate.	3.9	High	0.0

Low=1.....medium=2.5.....high=5

**Table 5.** Reasons and factors of inter-provincial migration

Variable	Mean	Attitude	Rank	Sig t-test
Earthquake	2.55	High	17	0.0
Occupation	4.86	High	1	0.0
Living costs	4.85	High	3	0.0
Marriage	4.80	High	4	0.0
Future of the children	4.77	High	5	0.0
Income	4.84	High	2	0.00
Interest in living in big cities	3.11	High	12	0.02
More facilities	4.20	High	18	0.0
Being uninterested in the previous residence	3.25	High	11	0.0
Lack of previous appropriate residence	3.97	High	10	0.0
Following other family members	4.15	High	9	0.0
Education	4.50	High	6	0.0
Job transfer	4.32	High	7	0.01
Hard work of farming	3.28	High	14	0.0
Being close to relatives	3.60	High	8	0.0
Passing free time	2.98	High	16	0.0
Gaining fame	3.8	High	13	0.0
Military service	3.55	High	15	0.0

Very low=1.....very high=5



**Table 6.** Immigrants’ satisfaction with inter-provincial migration

Variable	Mean	Attitude	Sig t-test
I will not return to my previous residence.	4.8	High	0.02
I am satisfied with the migration I made.	4.7	High	0.0
I would like to migrate to another place.	2.57	Medium	0.0
I recommend others not to migrate to this place.	3	High	0.0
My economic status has improved.	2.8	High	0.0
My social status has improved.	4	High	0.0
I receive better services.	3.8	High	0.0
I achieved my goals.	3	High	0.0
I would migrate again if I were in the previous situation.	3.21	High	0.0
I achieved what I expected.	3.33	High	0.0
I hope for a better future for my family.	3.43	High	0.0
I hope for a better future for myself.	4.28	High	0.00
I gained more progress opportunities.	4.56	High	0.0
I sometimes think of returning to my previous residence.	3.55	High	0.0
I had to migrate.	2.54	High	0.0



**Factors affecting intra-provincial migration**

To identify the factors affecting migration, a set of influential factors were identified. Using the Spearman correlation test, it was revealed that all factors were at the significance levels of 0.01 and 0.05. That is, there was a significant relationship between individual characteristics, infrastructures of the source area, ethnic characteristics, social relations, spatial factors (such as distance), and economic features (Table 7).

Table 8 shows the relationship between intra-provincial migrations as the dependent variable and a set of variables. As indicated, all variables have a significant relationship with internal migration.

A variety of factors play a role in intra-provincial migrations, which can be studied in order to attain optimal management of intra-provincial migration. In this re-

gard, the factors affecting local periodic markets are as follows:

Table 8 shows the direct and indirect factors affecting intra-provincial migrations. The effect is based on the beta coefficient. The final column of the table presents the sum of direct and indirect factors.

To this end, first, the direct effects of each independent variable on the dependent variable were calculated and recorded in the column of direct effects. Then, the indirect effects from multiplying the paths from the final independent variable to the independent variable were calculated. Since the variable of infrastructure can lead to the dependent variable of satisfaction through different paths (social relations and local traditions), the two paths were calculated and added (Fig 12). The sum of direct and indirect effects of each independent variable was recorded in the final lines.

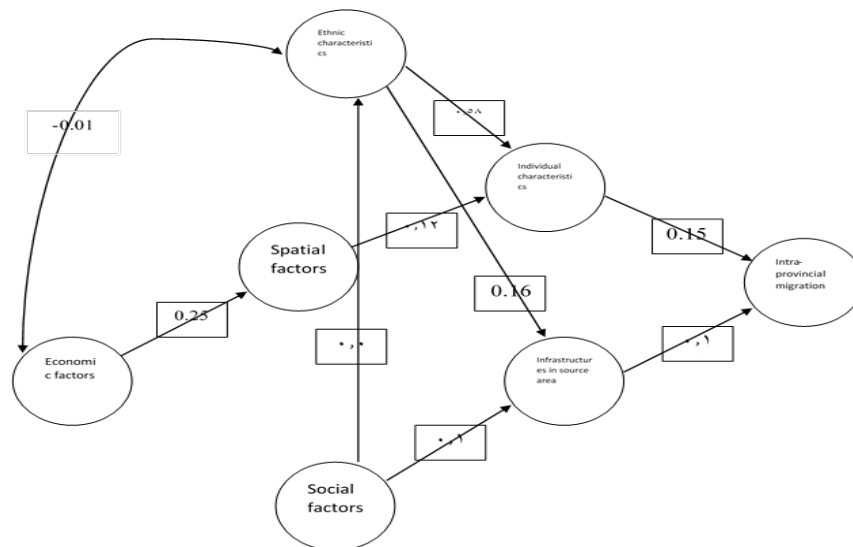
**Table 7.** Spearman correlation between intra-provincial migration and influential independent variables

Dependent variable	Independent variable	R value	Significance
Emigration	Individual characteristics	0.48	0.0
	Infrastructures of the source area	0.39	0.0
	Ethnic characteristics	0.33	0.0
	Social relations	0.27	0.01
	Spatial factors	0.40	0.02
	Economic factors	0.32	0.0



**Table 8.** The sum of direct and indirect effects of independent variables on the dependent variable (intra-provincial migrations)

Independent variable	Direct effects	Indirect effects	Sum of direct and indirect effects on each variable
Individual characteristics	-0.15	-	-0.15
Infrastructures of the source area	0.14	-	0.14
Ethnic characteristics	-	-0.15*0.58=-0.08 0.14*0.06=0.008 0.14*0.15*0.05=0.001	-0.71
		Sum total 0.008-0.08+0.001=-0.71	
Social relations	-	0.02	0.02
Spatial factors (such as distance)	-	-0.01	-0.01
Economic factors	-	0.004	0.004



**Figure 2.** Causal model of path analysis for intra-provincial migration



As shown in Table 8, the development of urban and rural communication, local traditions, marketing, social relations and family activities in the market were influential factors on sellers' motivations in local periodic markets.

In the final stage, it is required to draw a proper diagram between the existing variables and the effect on the motivation of sellers in the local periodic market.

Fig 2 shows the direct lines from the relationship between the independent variables and dependent ones, which is shown by the beta coefficient. These variables are called internal coefficients. However, the relationship between marketing and income is called the external variable because none of the arrows toward it are direct, and the numerical value is the correlation coefficient.

These two variables are related to the curve via a two-way arrow.

This diagram clearly shows that a variety of factors, both direct and indirect, affect people's motivation to migrate. This indicates the complexity of the internal migration.

The variables under investigation were 6 affecting each other in both direct and indirect forms, as shown in Fig 1.5.

This model based on the coefficient R2 indicates the determination coefficient value at about 0.65. Thus, the error value or the value not explained by this model is calculated as follows:

$$R^2=1-e^2 \quad (\text{formula 1})$$

0.65= 1-e2

e2=0.35

### Interpretation of the model

According to the interpretation of the model, the factors affecting intra-provincial migrations directly depend on individual economic motivations and infrastructures. However, the communication between cities and villages, which is the result of economic and social interactions, relies on families' individual characteristics and abilities. Moreover, people's family motivations play an important role in encouraging them to expand their communication with cities. Families' motivations also depend on their income. In other words, the income expected from migration has a key role in people's motivation and consequently increased migration rate.

Nevertheless, local traditions rely on social factors. The more the social and cultural communications of cities and villages are, the more migrations in the market will be. On the other hand, local traditions also depend on families' social relations because the development and expansion of social relations usually contribute to the

motivation to migrate. These traditions lead more people to migrate.

### Factors affecting inter-provincial migration

Spearman correlation was used to identify the factors affecting inter-provincial migration. The results showed a significant relationship between inter-provincial migration and variables of lack of facilities in the source area, educational facilities in the destination area, leisure time, facilities for children's progress in the destination area, and differences in the quality of life in source and destination areas (Table 9).

Table 10 shows the direct and indirect factors affecting inter-provincial migrations. The effect is based on the beta coefficient. Accordingly, first, the direct effects of each variable were calculated and recorded in the column of direct effects. Then, the indirect effects from multiplying the final independent variable and the independent variable were calculated. Since the variable of marketing can lead to the dependent variable of migration through different paths, the two paths were calculated and added (Fig 10). The sum of direct and indirect effects of each independent variable was recorded in the final lines.

**Table 9.** The relationship between inter-provincial migration and influential variables

Dependent variable	Independent variable	r value	Sig.
Inter-provincial migration	Lack of facilities in the source area	0.43	0.0
	Educational facilities in destination area	0.35	0.0
	Leisure time	0.32	0.0
	Facilities for children's progress in the destination area	0.29	0.3
	Differences in the quality of life in source and destination areas	0.30	0.0



**Table 10.** Sum of direct and indirect effects of the independent variables on the dependent variable (inter-provincial migrations)

Independent variable	Direct effects	Indirect effects	Sum of direct and indirect effects on each variable
Lack of facilities in the source area	0.22	0.22*0.12=0.02	0.24
Educational facilities in the destination area	0.09	0.01*0.12=0.001	0.091
Leisure time	0.12	-	0.12
Facilities for children's progress in the destination area	-	0.05*0.15*0.09=0.0006	
		0.05*0.15*0.01*0.12=0.00005	
		Sum total 0.0006+0.00005=.00065	
Differences in the quality of life in source and destination areas	-	0.15*0.09=0.02	
		0.15*0.01*0.12=0.00018	
		Sum total 0.02+0.00018=0.0218	0.0218





In Fig 3, the direct lines are the result of the relationship between dependent variables and the independent variable, which is represented with the beta coefficient. These variables are called internal coefficients.

This model is based on the R2 coefficient and indicates the determination coefficient at about 0.51. Thus, the error value or the value not explained by this value is calculated as follows:

$$R^2 = 1 - e^2 \quad (\text{formula 1})$$

$$0.51 = 1 - e^2$$

$$e^2 = 0.49$$

### Interpretation of the model

The immigrants' motivations for inter-provincial migration depend on lack of facilities in the source area, educational facilities in the destination area, leisure time, facilities for children's progress in the destination area, and the difference in the quality of life in source and destination areas. Moreover, most immigrants believed that they would have a better and happier life in the des-

tinuation area outside the province due to entertainment facilities in the area.

### Comparison of reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migrations in Kermanshah

In this part, first, the reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migrations were compared. To this end, the Wilcoxon test was used. The results of Tables 5-14 indicated a significant difference at 0.05 level between the reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migrations. This revealed the reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migration.

Considering the differences between the two groups, the variables were analyzed. Here, the Wilcoxon test was used. The results indicated a significant difference in indicators of the two groups. Table 12 shows that earthquake is the main reason for inter-provincial migration. In addition, being uninterested and unfamiliar with the living place is another reason for increased inter-provincial migration. While in most economic indicators, no significant difference between the two groups was found; in other words, they were considered the main reasons for both inter- and intra-provincial migration.

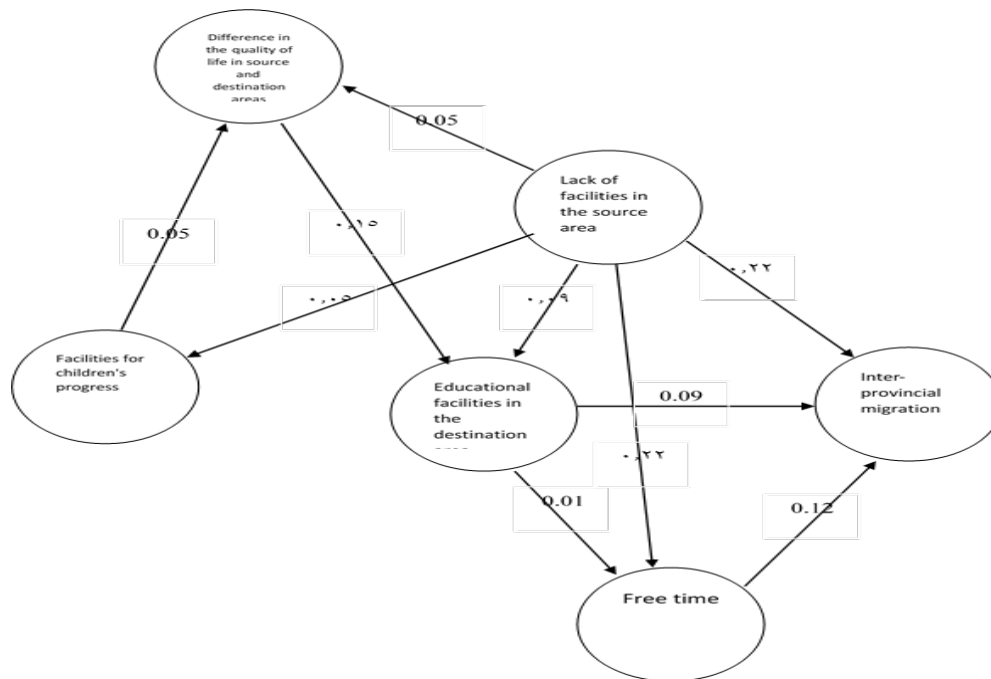


Figure 3. The causal model of path analysis of inter-provincial migration



Table 11. Comparison of reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migration

Variable 1	Variable 2	Wilcoxon statistic	Significance
Reasons for inter-provincial migration	Reasons for intra-provincial migration	0.48	0.02



**Table 12.** Comparison of reasons for migration

Variable	Wilcoxon statistic	Significance
Earthquake	0.58	0.0
Occupation	0.12	0.07
Living costs	0.12	0.08
Marriage	0.12	0.08
The future of children	0.13	0.09
Income	0.19	0.07
Interest in living in big cities	0.11	0.12
More facilities	0.18	0.07
Uninterested and unfamiliar with the previous residence	0.37	0.0
Lack of the previous appropriate living place	0.12	0.08
Following other family members	0.13	0.08
Education	0.12	0.08
Job transfer	0.14	0.09
Hard work of farming	0.14	0.09
Being close to relatives	0.16	0.09
Passing free time	0.3	0.0
Gaining fame	0.28	0.16
Military service	0.17	0.09



Table 13 shows the differences in reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migration. This indicates that motivations were different in some situations. Each individual motivation was analyzed in order to identify the differences.

Table 14 clearly shows that the motivations for inter- and intra-provincial migration were different in some variables. For example, the immigrants' satisfaction with the destination area was different; most people who migrated to big cities were more satisfied.

Also, hope for return is less in inter-provincial immigrants.

### Comparison of Reasons for villagers and urban dwellers' migration

Table 15 shows that there was a significant difference between the reasons for migration in rural and urban dwellers. In other words, villagers' migration to cities and urban dwellers' migration to bigger cities were due to different reasons.

Table 16 shows that the motivations of earthquake and income, occupation, better job and status for personal life and that of children all had a significant difference with urban dwellers' motivations for migration. This indicated that villagers had stronger motivations to migrate than the people in cities.

Table 17 shows the differences in motivations to migrate between villagers and people in cities. There is a significant difference in migration motivations between villagers and people in cities. In other words, the difference between villagers and people in cities was more.

**Table 13.** Comparison of reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migration

Variable 1	Variable 2	Wilcoxon statistic	Significance
Reasons for inter-provincial migration	Reasons for intra-provincial migration	0.45	0.00



**Table 14.** Comparison of reasons for inter- and intra-provincial migration

Variable	Wilcoxon statistic	Sig.
I will not return to my previous residence.	4.5	0.0
I am satisfied with the migration I made.	0.47	0.0
I would like to migrate to another place.	0.43	0.01
I recommend others not to migrate to this place.	0.43	0.0
My economic status has improved.	0.40	0.0
My social status has improved.	0.18	0.72
I receive better services.	0.19	0.70
I achieved my goals.	0.18	0.71
I would migrate again if I were in the previous situation.	0.18	0.71
I achieved what I expected.	0.19	0.70
I hope for a better future for my family.	0.23	0.63
I hope for a better future for myself.	0.22	0.60
I gained more progress opportunities.	0.23	0.61
I sometimes think of returning to my previous residence.	0.48	0.0
I had to migrate.	0.12	0.40


**Table 15.** Comparison of reasons for villagers' and urban dwellers' migration

Variable 1	Variable 2	Wilcoxon statistic	Sig.
Reasons for villagers' migration	Reasons for urban dwellers' migration	0.55	0.00


**Table 16.** Comparison of reasons for migration among villagers and people in cities

Variable	Wilcoxon statistic	Sig.
Earthquake	0.58	0.0
Occupation	0.59	0.0
Living costs	0.50	0.0
Marriage	0.48	0.0
The future of children	0.58	0.0
Income	0.48	0.0
Interest in living in big cities	0.39	0.0
More facilities	0.42	0.0
Uninterested and unfamiliar with the previous residence	0.44	0.0
Lack of previous appropriate residence	0.50	0.0
Following other family members	0.51	0.0
Education	0.56	0.0
Job transfer	0.14	0.09
Hard work of farming	0.14	0.09
Being close to relatives	0.16	0.09
Passing free time	0.29	0.07
Gaining fame	0.28	0.0
Military service	0.19	0.08



**Table 17.** Comparison of migration motivations among villagers and people in cities

Variable 1	Variable 2	Wilcoxon statistic	Sig.
Reasons for villagers' migration	Reasons for urban dwellers' migration	0.45	0.01



Table 18 shows the difference in motivations of inter- and intra-provincial migration in some variables. This is due to the difference in the place and facilities; the villagers' motivation to migrate is also stringer.

### Post hoc test in analysis of variance

Using post hoc test ANOVA, the significant differences between the cities of the province in terms of inter- and intra-provincial migrations showed that there was a significant difference in both forms of inter- and intra-provincial migration at the significance level of 0.01 and 0.05, respectively (Table 19).

Then, Tukey test was used to determine if there was any difference between cities. The results showed that the cities of Kermanshah and Sarpol Zahab were signifi-

cantly different from other cities because the city of Kermanshah is more considered as an immigrant reception center and the city of Sarpol Zahab is more considered as an immigrant repatriation center due to the recent earthquake in this city.

### 5. Discussion

Since the 19th century, migration and in particular migration from villages to cities has emerged as an important social phenomenon. Thus, it has attracted scholars' and experts' attention in a new way. The emergence of rapid changes in urban societies, the attraction of cities, and seeking more welfare and wealth created a new type of migration and consequently, the terms 'rural abandonment' and 'counter ruralization' became common in the first three decades of the 20th century.

**Table 18.** Comparison of migration motivations among villagers and people in cities

Variable	Wilcoxon statistic	Sig.
I will not return to my previous residence.	0.45	0.0
I am satisfied with the migration I made.	0.47	0.0
I would like to migrate to another place.	0.58	0.0
I recommend others not to migrate to this place.	0.59	0.0
My economic status has improved.	0.50	0.0
My social status has improved.	0.48	0.0
I receive better services.	0.58	0.0
I achieved my goals.	0.48	0.0
I would migrate again if I were in the previous situation.	0.39	0.0
I achieved what I expected.	0.42	0.0
I hope for a better future for my family.	0.44	0.0
I hope for a better future for myself.	0.22	0.0
I gained more progress opportunities.	0.23	0.01
I sometimes think of returning to my previous residence.	0.48	0.0
I had to migrate.	0.12	0.40



**Table 19.** Post hoc test in analysis of variance

Migration	Freedom degree	F statistic	Sig.
Intra-provincial	13	54.03	0.03
Inter-provincial	13	52.01	0.00



Regarding the flows of inter- and intra-provincial migration in Kermanshah, researchers have always paid attention to various social and economic problems since migration has different consequences in both source and destination areas. Due to this important issue and since migration and factors affecting the motivations for migration differ from person to person and from city to city, the present study aimed to find an answer to the question of what the factors affecting intra- and inter-provincial migration and the immigrant reception and repatriation foci in Kermanshah are.

The present study was an applied research aiming at investigating the relationship between different variables in order to achieve its goal. Applied studies are fundamental and new researches conducted to further expand the frontiers of knowledge or better understand the issues under study. In other words, applied research is established using the background and information provided by basic research to meet human needs and improve and optimize tools and patterns for the development and welfare, and increasing human living standards.

The findings of the study indicated that the most important motivations for intra-provincial migration were earthquake with the mean of 4.28, occupation (4.12), and living costs (4.10). The most important motivations for inter-provincial migration were occupation with the means of 4.86, living costs (4.85), and income (4.84). The factors affecting satisfaction with inter-provincial migration were, in order of priority, return to the place of residence (4.8), satisfaction with migration (4.7), and willingness to migrate to another place (2.57). Discussing inter-provincial migration, the following factors were found, in order of priority: migration to another place with the mean of 4.7, satisfaction with migration (4.4), getting advice from others to migrate (4.5). The findings of the Spearman correlation indicated 6 variables with a significant relationship with intra-provincial migration. Then, path analysis in the dimension of intra-provincial migrations indicated the following factors with the beta coefficient of 0.65 as influential factors on intra-provincial migration: lack of facilities in the source area, educational facilities in the destination area, leisure time, facilities for children's progress in the destination area, and the differences in the quality of life in source and destination areas. Moreover, 5 variables with the beta coefficient of 0.51 had a significant relationship with inter-provincial migration; according to the findings of path analysis, these variables were lack of facilities in the source area, educational facilities in the destination area, leisure time, facilities for children's progress in the

destination area, and the differences in the quality of life in source and destination areas.

This study, like Kapel's (1976) study, claimed that migration in the province of Kermanshah is aimed at gaining more progress, welfare, and better facilities. Also, the findings of the present study, like those found by Garasky (2002), showed that a set of attraction and repulsion factors such as difference in income, working conditions, welfare, and quality of life between source and destination areas affect migration. Similarly, in line with the results of Aqayari Hir et al (2018), the results of the present study showed that "individual perception of environmental quality" is the most effective factor on the person as the active decision maker for migration from villages. The study showed that the realization of income-generating economic activities is one of the factors affecting migration.

In addition, this study mentioned the role of the University of Razi in Kermanshah in internal migration and the role of universities in metropolises in inter-provincial migration. Ma et al (2017) also showed that studying in a high-quality university is the most important motivation for graduates' migration. Moreover, in line with the findings of Esfandiyari and Nabieeyan (2018) and Pam (2014) and Chen and Ravalion (2007), the present study showed that poverty and unemployment were effective motivations on inter- and intra-provincial migration in Kermanshah. The findings of Narutzky et al (2015) indicated that social capital and social network can suppress migration. The family can also affect the person's willingness to migrate. Consistent with the results of Goldsmith's (2004) study, this study showed that increasing income and revenue motivations were the motivations for villagers to migrate, and migration can be reduced by investment in agriculture. The results of the present study were in line with those found by Sa'di et al (2014); it was revealed that the educated young people migrate to cities to find a good job, especially due to the fact that the province of Kermanshah has the highest rate of unemployment. In line with the study of Shahidi et al (2009), this study mentioned drought and destruction of agriculture as well as lack of job opportunities in rural areas as the reasons for migration.

This study, consistent with the study of Hagen-Zanker (2010), argued that family relations especially relations with immigrants are a reason for migration.

In the end, to effectively manage migrations, it is suggested to:



1. Develop infrastructures, including services and economic ones
2. Increase the motivation to live and work in the source area
3. Establish communication between immigrants and inhabitants to develop the source area
4. Increase local people's satisfaction with small cities and villages
5. Decrease unemployment and increase effective employment
6. Eliminate deprivations from villages and small cities
7. Reduce inequalities in urban and suburban levels

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#### Conflict of Interest

The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

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