



Climate change now requires sociological intervention

Social Desk

EXCLUSIVE

Iran is one of the countries most affected by climate change in the Middle East, with an increase in temperature and a decrease in precipitation rates. As a result, drought conditions have been exacerbated, impacting various areas of the country. The impact of climate change on the social lifestyle of Iranians is significant and harmful, and the urgency of the situation requires the involvement of sociologists. Climate change undoubtedly claims victims and generate violence and poverty, and the most vulnerable groups suffer the most. It is a man-made disaster caused by humanity's manipulation of nature, and the richest one percent of the world's population is one of the primary causes of this crisis. They emit greenhouse gases 30 times above the permitted amount, causing severe damage to

the environment and land. On the other hand, 50 percent of the world's impoverished population still releases greenhouse gases beneath warning levels.

Social aftermath of climate change

Climate change has caused social consequences such as the scarcity of uncontaminated water and adequate food, resulting in societal collapse, with immigrants being the pioneers whose drownings at sea are heard. Therefore, comprehending climate change and its consequences necessitates reconsidering notions such as biological justice, inequality, poverty, and development. These concepts fall within the purview of sociological studies, and it is anticipated that sociology will actively embrace this domain and champion this reassessment.

Although climatologists and geologists have warned against climate change's exploitation of natural resources, water con-

tamination, deforestation, and the emission of greenhouse gases, social science acts as an ignorant observer as if it does not have any idea about this information. While a few sociologists in certain parts of the world have realized the vast dimensions of the perils of climate change, and a few social research studies are being done in this field, it is still insufficient.

Iran's climate risk hotspot

The Middle East represents one of the climate risk hotspots, and global warming poses a threat to life in this region. Unfortunately, effective action by sociologists to communicate the consequences and the need to alter policies and plans has not been witnessed. Non-governmental organizations have engaged in environmental activities and demanded a change in climate policies, achieving significant gains. But we are dealing with a challenge that could result in societal collapse, and it is expected that sociologists will

comprehend the danger and establish a bridge between social science and society to bring about change and rectify policies through scientific decision-making.

Environmental campaigns

Environmental campaigns against pernicious projects, deforestation, pollution, and a myriad of other challenges can serve as an impetus for sociology and, in fact, offer prompt responses to some of these issues. The intricate social problems stemming from these mega-challenges can have dire repercussions for society. This series of crises poses a threat to human existence, and the world is currently grappling not with just the proliferation of risk, as in the past, but with the proliferation of life-threatening danger.

Iran is facing significant challenges due to the mishandling of natural resources and water management, resulting in some provinces embroiled in water dis-

putes and many villages suffering due to dam construction projects and water transfer schemes. Rural communities have been ignored, leading to the risk of marginalization and forced migration. Sociologists have failed to undertake any meaningful action in the realm of environmental and water management. The few sociologists who have shown an interest in these issues have stepped in out of personal motivation.

It is essential to address the problem from a sociological perspective and develop strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change on human society. By integrating sociology with environmental science, policymakers can create effective solutions that consider the social dimensions of climate change, such as poverty, inequality, and injustice. It is time for sociologists to step up and contribute their expertise to this critical issue, which has the potential to affect every aspect of human life.

Big cats of Iran and their status

In contrast, the Alborz Mountains are home to the Caspian tiger, which [Page 1 >](#) was once widespread throughout Iran but is now considered extinct in the country. However, there is still hope for the Caspian tiger as efforts are underway

to reintroduce the species to its former range.

While the Persian leopard and Caspian tiger are both iconic big cats of Iran, it is the Persian cat that has gained worldwide fame. Bred in Iran for centuries, these beautiful felines are known

for their long hair, round faces, and gentle personalities. They were originally kept as pets by Persian nobles and were highly valued for their beauty and companionship.

Today, Persian cats are popular all over the world and are recognized as one

of the most iconic feline breeds. They have become a symbol of Iran's rich cultural heritage and are a testament to the country's long-standing love and appreciation for animals.

Iran is also home to the Asiatic cheetah, aka the Iranian cheetah, one of the most endangered big cats in the world.

It is estimated that there are less than 50 individuals remaining in the wild, all of which are found in Iran. The cheetah's habitat has been greatly impacted by human activities such as poaching, habitat loss, and fragmentation. In addition, the cheetah's prey base has also been depleted due to overhunting and competition with livestock.

Efforts are underway to conserve and protect the Asiatic cheetah in Iran. The Iranian government has established protected areas for the cheetah including the Kavir National Park and Touran Biosphere Reserve. The Iranian Cheetah Society, a non-governmental organization, is also working to raise awareness and support for the conservation of the species. Despite these efforts, the Asiatic cheetah remains critically endangered, and more needs to be done to ensure its survival in the wild. The Iranian lion, also known as the Asiatic lion, was once widespread throughout the Middle East and Central Asia. However, due to various human activities such as hunting and habitat loss, the population of the Iranian lion has drastically declined. By the mid-20th century, the Iranian lion was extinct in most of its former range, with only a small population remaining in the Gir Forest National Park in India. Efforts are underway to reintroduce

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the Iranian lion back into its former range in Iran. The Iranian government has established protected areas and wildlife corridors for the lion, and captive breeding programs have been established to increase the population. However, the success of these efforts remains uncertain as the Iranian lion faces many threats including poaching, habitat loss, and conflicts with humans. The conservation of the Iranian lion is crucial not only for the survival of the species but also for the preservation of the unique biodiversity of the region. And lastly, the Iranian caracal, also known as the desert lynx, is a medium-sized wild cat that is found in the deserts and semi-arid regions of Iran. The Iranian caracal has a distinctive reddish-brown coat, long tufted ears, and a short tail. They are skilled hunters and feed on a variety of prey including rodents, birds, and small mammals. Like the Iranian lion, the Iranian caracal is also facing threats from hunting, habitat loss, and other human activities. The population of the Iranian caracal has declined significantly in recent years, and it is now considered a vulnerable species. Conservation efforts are underway to protect the Iranian caracal including the establishment of protected areas and the implementation of anti-poaching measures.

Iftar feast of Bandar Abbas mayor with emissaries of Iranian Foreign Ministry, consulates of China, India, Kazakhstan



IRAN DAILY – Mayor of Bandar Abbas met and talked with political emissaries of the consulates of China, India, and Kazakhstan as well as Mr. Eskandari, the Iranian foreign ministry's representative in Bandar Abbas, in the early hours of April 1, 2023, in the Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas.

During the friendly two-hour meeting, the mayor of Bandar Abbas first welcomed the guests and then, highlighted the care that Bandar Abbas Municipality gives to expanding its relations with different cities in the world including the cities of India, Kazakhstan, and China.

Nobani added that Bandar Abbas is a city with various cultures, rich traditions, unique garments, extremely delicious

foods, highly active commerce, growing industries, and an infusion of seafaring, maintaining that these are the reasons why it should be an ideal and beautiful city in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf as a result of urban development.

Expressing his readiness for establishing ties and sister city relationships with those cities of the guest countries that are on equal footing with Bandar Abbas, he stated that exchanging information, gaining experiences, investing in diverse areas (especially in maritime tourism), offering infrastructural experiences in urban development, and introducing local cultures, traditions, and arts of various regions are of great significance to the municipality and voiced his hope that the municipality can achieve good results through cooperation. Nobani noted that Bandar Abbas has been an innovative city in terms of its handicrafts and local indigenous games, adding that the municipality set up a permanent handicraft market in the city's Velayat Park and hopes that they can take another key step by forging cordial relations with cities active in the realm of handicrafts.

During the iftar feast and the friendly meeting, the emissaries of China, India, and Kazakhstan expressed their gratitude to the mayor of Bandar Abbas, their happiness in being present in the city of Bandar Abbas, and their readiness for improving relations and cooperation with the Bandar Abbas Municipality. Finally, the mayor thanked the emissaries of China, India, and Kazakhstan for accepting his invitation and attending the meeting by handing them certificates of appreciation.