

Research Article

The Effect of Information and Communications Technologies on the Political Behavior of Elites

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Abstract: This Study was done with purpose of The Effect of Information & Communications Technologies on the Political Behavior of Elites. Satellite networks and the internet as a part of fundamental tools of cultural globalization, affect on the political, economic, social and cultural areas in different communities. Many of basic patterns of mentioned areas are changing. A kind of global society is formed in which the fate of different nations, has been tied together more than ever and are interdependent. In these conditions and due to the importance of communication tools, it is said: "Politics moves on the wing of media." Ethnicity is one of the most important areas which are affected by new communication technologies, Fundamental areas in this field according to the ethnic diversity of Iranian society are the Kurds. For this Purpose, the present dissertation began in order to survey the effect of satellite networks and internet on the political behavior of the kurd elites. According to the Theory, Research Hypothesis, The Evidence Epistemological and Democratic Changes were collected. By dividing the range of study to two periods, period before and period after the arrival and expansion of the satellite and internet in Iran and Kurdistan, the historical, comparative and secondary evidences were collected. After collecting supplementary data that were done by means of interviews with twenty-five elite, research hypotheses were tested with methods of historical, comparative, secondary analysis and analysis of interviews. Results and findings of analysis showed that the construct theory can be explained the problem. The results and findings of this study, revealed a meaningful relationship between two variables and positive correlation of the two variables were confirmed.

Keywords: Democratic behavior, ethnicity, information and communications technologies, internet, Kurd elites, satellite

INTRODUCTION

The process of globalization is shaping the political climate, economic, social and cultural development of our era (Abbinnett, 2000). This process has economic, political and cultural influences and outcomes. Existence of the phenomenon of globalization and its effects on human life is one of the principles adopted for research about globalization. The difference between researches is more about quality and how can act (Abbinnett, 2000, 2003). Optimistic look, pessimistic approach and attitude towards the combination of globalization suggest the presence of this different. Information and communication technologies and tools as the main driving force for the process of globalization has, changes, effects and different consequences in all areas. Changes in the technology, new information and communication have been established, which is enough to describe the new era of term (Adamson, 2002; Agre, 2003).

Nationality, identity and ethnicity are of the areas and issues that affect the process of globalization and communication revolution of the Researchers. Research studies about the impact of technology on the peoples

show the general approach of three ordinary: requires, negative and mixed Approach (Agre, 2002).

An approach to the study of three ethnic groups reveals new media communications. Thus, the identification and analysis of information and communication technologies with the attitudes and views the ethnic diversity of the people with the inalienable, will be necessary.

Consequently the process of globalization and new information and communication media of the economic climate of 1370, entered in to Iran's political and cultural space (Ahmadzadeh, 2003; Albrow, 1996).

Satellites and the Internet spread and influence attitudes and behaviors gradually and political particularly affected by the elite and the consequences of changes (Alexander and Mc Gregor, 1999; Alia and Bull, 2004; Alinia, 2004). Ethnic community in Iran is one of the most important areas of this new technology was effective. Kurds as the largest minority in the Middle East and Large population of Kurds scattered across the world led to them more vulnerable to the effects of New means of communication have been.

In fact, one of the most important variables influencing the political behavior of Iranian Kurds is the emergence and spread of satellite and Internet (Allen, 2003; Allen and Seaton, 1999).

Present study aimed to assess the impact of satellites and internet on political behavior of the Kurds elite.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESES

The central aim of this research is on the effects of satellite networks and the Internet on the political behavior of Kurd elites. For explaining and understanding the relationship between two variables, the main question was the following: What is effect of New information and communication technologies (satellite and internet), on political behavior of The elites.

In order to answer the above question, the following hypothesis will be tested and evaluated: Satellite networks and the Internet with the preparation and development of the epistemology and democratic developments can be Effective in changing the behavior of political elites to conduct peaceful, flexible, Tolerance, peaceful, free and democratic.

Defined concepts, variables and assumptions: New technologies of information and communication technology composed of two sectors such as communications satellites, Cable, optical cable broadband, Internet, etc. and information technologies such as computers, Software, etc., are formed.

In fact information technology covers the full range of ication technology, manufacturing, distribution and consumption of information through all media, from radio to satellite television and the Internet.

In this study, new information and communication technologies, contain, satellite and Internet networks.

The political behaviors cover the political activities and the consequences for political institutions in these activities and deals.

Elite political behavior in the two forms of peaceful and non-violent and peace full behavior can be divided.

Experience and research needs: Information and communication technologies as a fundamental process of globalization as an Unavoidable process has impacts and dramatic consequences on all areas of life and people. Social-Political life cannot continue its path away from consequences of these effects.

The family problem as part of our social-political life was impacted from this process.

Research aims and application: Our aim in this study was to analyze the effects and consequences of the satellite and Internet on the political behavior of elite. Since, there is no study on the effect of new communication technology on political behavior of elites, this research can opened the new look on this process.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

The study method is a combination of analytical-descriptive methods and comparative-adaptive analysis. Methods of gathering evidence and information, is documentation methods and semi-structured interview technique. We choose 25 Kurds elite and continue study with them.

Main question:

- What began as an elite wants and demands of the Iranian government do?
- Your behavior red lines about the government how to define?
- At what point, you take conduct the peaceful Framework?

Some noteworthy results in this section include:

- New media as a credible and reliable source of most of the elite were introduced.
- Most of the elite red lines is the legal framework and political culture approach, negotiation and dialogue, was defined.
- Democratic and peaceful values were confirmed by the behavior of elites.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on Our aim in this study was to analyze the effects and consequences of the satellite and Internet on the political behavior of elite. Since, there is no study on the effect of new communication technology on political behavior of elites, this research can opened the new look on this process, Summary of result showed in Table 1.

Using data analysis and interpretation the following results was obtained:

In the period before the emergence and spread of information and communication technologies, the political behavior of the elite, was violent and non peaceful. Space and areas of occurrence of this behavior was influenced by the following conditions:

Table 1: Comparative analysis of the political elite's behavior in the two periods

Area after new communication technology	Area before new communication technology	Periods components
Democratic and participatory practices	Esmael and SEMCO revolution, movement of democratic party	Political behaviors
Democratic, peaceful, soft and non violent	Non- peaceful and violent	Behavior shape
With the new wave and real the process of globalization	Weakens of the power of central government	Behavior background

Weakening of central government power, the interference of foreign forces and support these behaviors and effectiveness of the Kurdish Dayaspvray. Political psychological, social, economic and political factors have influence on this behavior. The media did not play a role in the gentler behavior. In the period after the emergence and spread of satellite and Internet, the behavior was democratic, participatory and was peaceful. New wave and real and inclusive process of globalization and democratization, climate behavior composed the main aspect of this period of time. Internal and external factors and pressures on these behaviors were effective.

New media such as satellite and Internet in the three-field shaped the behavior in this period: the nature and characteristics of seventeen-fold, reducing violence, the democratization process.

The behavior of the political elite in this period is due to space issues, factors and Internal and external pressures, direct and indirect effects on the satellite and the Internet, peaceful and democratic condition (Altheide, 1984).

The Internet has become an important tool for social interaction, information and entertainment (Lam *et al.*, 2009). However, as the Internet has moved into homes, schools, Internet cafes and businesses, the prevalence of Internet addiction has been increasing rapidly. Internet addiction is characterized as poorly controlled Internet use and can lead to impulse-control disorders (Tsitsika *et al.*, 2009).

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This study had several limitations because of its nature as follow:

- Resources were very limited in this regard
- Lack of sufficient justification and the officials
- The problem of interview with elite

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