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# THE EFFECT OF RURAL MIGRATION ON THE RURAL CULTURE IN TURKEY

TÜRKİYE'DE KIRSAL GÖÇÜN KIRSAL KÜLTÜR ÜZERİNE ETKİSİ<sup>1</sup>

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#### Abstract

The rural-urban migration began in the 1950s in Turkey, it has had a wide impact area along with the causes and consequences. The rural culture in one of these effect migration such results began to lose its rural culture, character and sustainability. In this study on the causes and consequences of rural migration in Turkey, with emphasis on rural culture influence will attempt to handle various aspects. In addition, the study will provide an overview of the creation of the infrastructure study done on rural culture. **Keywords:** Migration, rural migration, culture, rural culture.

#### Özet

Türkiye'de 1950'li yıllarda başlayan kırdan kente göçler, sebepleri ve sonuçlarıyla birlikte geniş bir etki alanına sahip olmuştur. Bu etki alanlarından biriside kırsal kültür olup bu tür göçler sonucu, kırsal kültür özelliğini ve sürdürülebilirliğini yitirmeye başlamıştır. Bu çalışmada, Türkiye'de kırsal göçün nedenleri ve sonuçları üzerinde durularak, kırsal kültür üzerine etkisi çeşitli yönleri ile ele alınmaya çalışılacaktır. Ayrıca çalışmada, kırsal kültür ile ilgili genel bir değerlendirme yapılarak çalışmanın altyapısının oluşturulması sağlanacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Göç, kırsal göç, kültür, kırsal kültür.

### INTRODUCTION

Despite the various definitions of migration, the geographical mobility of an individual or individual for various reasons is commonly defined as migration. Throughout history, mankind has left the regions of war, civil disturbance, economic development, political causes, climate and natural phenomena. But the Industrial Revolution, which was one of the most important economic and social turning points of humanity and started in the UK towards the end of the 1700's, caused serious developments in migration as every other area. These developments are the immigration mobilizations that originate from the oppression of the indisputable industry of agriculture, which ultimately leads to the dissolution of the rural community (Bilsborrow, 2002, Welsh, 2010, Haas, 2006).

Migrations to rural cities, which are an inevitable result of economic development and change, can be widely expressed as rural migration. Such migrations can affect not only the country in which they live but also the region at the same time with economic and social aspects. As a matter of fact, the industrialization that started in western Europe and the migration of rural migrants that have been taking place in the past

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have also affected other countries which are involved in this process in time. Turkey, have experienced directly the Industrial Revolution, though delayed and state in his hand promotion and application of the 1950s began to meet the economic and social consequences (Suter, 2013; Zhang and Song, 2003).

1950s, Turkey's multiparty life transition, the application possibilities of the liberal economic policies, such as the direction of the west, turning economic, is known as the year caused a great change and development along with social and political consequences. This year also, the population of Turkey to solve the rural areas where about 75%, and has led to the migration to the cities (Team, 2012). In the first year he started to experience the rural exodus, Turkey, albeit slowly acquainted with the phenomenon of urbanization even this kind of population mobility are supported in terms of both political and social framework has shown itself in nature. However, following years of migration to the city's actual rural severe and advanced, especially inextricable towards the middle of the 1970s has become complicated, so Turkey, economic and social development of normal and expected results of the rural migrants to the city, the country that started to perceive as a serious problem has become a country.

Rural migration in Turkey is trying to push and pull factors described gathered around a variety of reasons. However, it is known that rural migration is not only due to the problematic area, but also to a slope that can create serious concerns in urban areas as well as in rural areas. Especially in the cities where immigration from the village to the city is intense, life is getting harder.

The impact and results of rural migration can be evaluated in various aspects. However, it should not be forgotten that the impact on the cultural values which have very old and accumulated values of the rural migration is also a very important issue which should not be overlooked. It should be known that the impact on Turkish culture, which has especially rich cultural values and which has taken its past from Central Asia and intensified it in the Anatolian geography, has also been regarded as a special and important subject to be emphasized. It is also a matter of debate how and to what extent rural cultivation, which is an important part of Turkish culture and is intensively experienced in the villages, is influenced by rural migration. It is inevitable that the rural culture values that change itself due to the already changing human factor over time will be influenced by rural migration (Yılmaz and Telci, 2010).

# 2. Rural Culture and Rural Migration

The concept of culture can be described and defined in various aspects. One of these definitions is defined by the Turkish Language Association (TDK) as 'The whole of material and spiritual values created in the process of historical and social development and the means of showing the extent of the sovereignty of the natural and social environment of man, used to create them, to transmit them to later generations'. Culture is considered as the whole of art, language, belief, tradition and customs, music, crafts, attitudes and behaviors of a society (TDK, 2016).

It has acquired over a very long period of time and geography. It is a long time for the cultures to be able to form and maintain their continuity, an area where they can live together and an element that must coexist together. Culture, one of the most important values that transforms societies into nationalities, is an indispensable element of the existence of nations and their continued existence (Limon, 2012).

When Turkish culture is regarded as an upper identity, this culture is accepted as an active and accepted culture in the geography where it is integrated with the values of Central Asian nomadic and semi nomadic cultural values, Islamic belief and the Anatolian geography where they came from. Turkish culture; is a rich cultural value

that works to write love for a child who is lyrical to his child and continues his life by changing and developing. Today, Turkish culture continues to develop as a value that has lived and lived in various nations and societies, from the steppes of Asia to the doors of Vienna, from Batum to North Africa. Culture is a living thing, influenced, influenced, developed and changed. The most important reason for this is that people are influenced by time, geographical and climatic conditions and technical and scientific knowledge, and that inevitably the cultures of naturally changing people and societies change (Çubukcu, 1987: 9-41).

Considering the socio-economic structure in which people live, the concept of culture is considered as a subculture of rural and urban culture. Especially when evaluated from the sociological point of view, culture is considered as an important value in the formation of rural and urban identity (Koçak, 2011). There are some differences between rural and urban culture;

While urban culture is an upper identity that embraces many different cultures, rural culture shows a single culture character in the region where it lives more. While urban culture is in the framework of public order, law, intellectual and artistic, rural culture is influenced by agricultural and natural conditions. While urban culture is constantly evolving and changing (technical developments and constant population and human movements), rural culture shows a less conservative character.

Compared with rural and urban cultures, it is known that urban cultures have adapted to this change more quickly. Because the city man has to adapt to change. This rapid change is an inevitable reality that can lead to a clash of urban-urban cultures, which is very much expressed if you do not fit.

Starting in the 1950s, rural migration in Turkey, along with the causes and consequences of Turkey's socio-economic change and development has been the most important part (Team, 2012). Culture is a clear element of change and development, as mentioned before. Even the conservative aspect of rural cultures can not resist this change for a long time. rural culture in Turkey, associated with each other, although each village in Anatolia regions, avenue, shows some changes by region or neighborhood. Although these changes are complementary elements of the Turkish identity, which is the upper identity, they are in particular subcultures, which are affected by the geographical and climatic conditions of the region.

# 3. General Thoughts on the Concept of Rural Migration

Rural migration describes migrations from rural settlements to urban settlements. The rural settlement can be handled in two ways: (Wrestler, 2014: 28-71)

1. Economic aspect: Its economic structure is largely dependent on agriculture and natural conditions.

2. Social direction: Social life is shaped to a great extent by tradition and custom.

Urban settlements can be handled in the same way in two ways:

1. Economic aspect: The economic structure is largely dependent on industry and services sector.

2. Social direction: Social life is largely shaped by legal rules.

In the scientific studies or evaluations related to migration, both in the world and in our country, the rural settlement units are the settlement units that are determined in the administrative management style of that country.

In our country, the rural settlements are generally divided into villages, towns (formerly municipalities), sub-districts, sub-districts, hamlets, highlands and districts

(Law No. 6360 on the Establishment of the Thirteen Large Metropolitan Municipalities and Twenty Six Districts and Certain Laws and Decree Laws) the conversion of the villages connected to the illusions into the neighborhood). Urban settlements can be regarded as provinces and districts in general (village law 1924, village law no. 442) Article 1 - Population below two inhabitants (villages) and those with a population between two thousand and twenty thousand (towns) and those with more than twenty population (Village Law, 1924), where there is a municipal organization, even if the population is less than two.

Briefly, urban settlements are settlement places that are larger in terms of settlements and population than rural settlements and have a more homogeneous structure in terms of economic and social structure.

Rural migration can be examined in two periods in historical terms.

1. Before the Industrial Revolution: This period deals with the period from the early ages until the people who engage in hunting and gathering continue to migrate to agriculture and village society until the industrial revolution. During this period, the formation of the cities occurred in two directions.

a. As the villagers grow into cities,

b. The establishment of new cities for various reasons,

(Excess of production, the formation of merchant class and the existence of other classes).

It is difficult to talk about the existence of rural migration in this period. It is thought that rural-urban distinction is not so great in terms of economic and social structure.

2. After the Industrial Revolution: The industrial revolution can be considered as a revolutionary period in terms of world history, both economic and social change and transformation. It defines the Industrial Revolution in a less economical way with less labor and less production. The use of steam and machinery instead of arm power, wind and water power in production also defines the industrial revolution in technical terms. These developments have led to excesses in production, inadequate production of these surpluses, and the development of trade, money and finance. In short, the industrial revolution has led to the emergence of new and great powers, with great economic differences in both economic and regional sense. The rural-urban segregation differences have become clearer. These differences have led to the development of cities between rural and urban areas, and thus to places that are more advantageous than the disadvantaged regions, namely the cities.

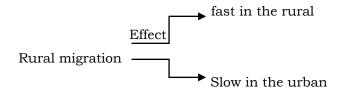
In Turkey, it said that the rural exodus began in the 1950s. However, it is rather difficult to say that the industrial revolution that started in Western Europe started in our country. During the Ottoman period, the industrialists who meet the needs of the palace and the army have come to the idea that the republic can be provided with the incentives of the state and private sector in the first years. So our country is not the beginning of the industrial revolution in the 1950s rural migration in those years, I must say that Turkey experienced some is the result of economic and social affairs. Multiparty transition to life, openness to the west, integration with the west, industrialization and partly penetration of this industry, increase in transportation facilities, etc. it can be said that the reasons lead to the beginning of rural migration. Above all, the majority of the population living in rural areas and in the villages is already poor, and this sector has been thoroughly impoverished with the increasing population and this population has been resolved with the increase of mechanization and transportation possibilities. The redirection of the rural population towards the Güreşçi, E., Kocaoğlu, M., Aktürk, O. & Çelik, F. (2018). The Effect of Rural Migration on The Rural Culture in Turkey, ss. 190-196.

cities was initially considered as a situation which is not perceived by the public authorities as a problem. However, it is also known that such heavy and advanced migrations in time cause new and heavier problems both in the cities and in the countryside (Güreşci, 2011).

### 4. Rural Cultural Impact on Rural Migration in Türkiye

Throughout the history, societies begin to change and develop through various stages. This process can be said not only with its own internal dynamics but also with its external dynamics. Economic, social and political changes and developments can change societies in time. Especially open-minded liberal societies can face more with this change. On the contrary, the conservative society is able to keep pace with these changes and developments. The cultural item, the product of a long period of time, can enter a new and different dimension with the change of societies (Cakir, 2011; Epstein and Gang, 2010; Mahdavi, Yarmand, 2012).

In general, the impact of rural migration on rural culture is within a gradual and systematic structure. This structure coincides with the fact that rural migration can create influence not only in rural areas but also in the urban environment. This change can be faster in rural areas, as the impact of rural cultures is more slowly and gradually changing in rural areas. (Figure 1). (Weisner, 1979).



It is the culture that Turks have at the forefront of the most important elements that make the nation in the historical process. However, the inclusive and roof-like Turkish culture can change in time and even some of the ingredients that make up the culture can disappear. The rural cultures, especially those with deep roots, are seen to gain a new dimension with the change of habits and to melt in urban cultures. The rural culture in Turkey, especially after 1950 have to say it kept going extinct even that has changed. The reasons for this;

1. rural migration in Turkey, the number of first place in rural settlements amounting to tens of thousands in Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, to have an accurate population moving to the big cities, including Bursa and melting of this includes the dominant and the dominant culture,

2. rural migration in Turkey, not in the form of migration to collectively place of rural settlements scattered throughout various dispersion cities and independently from one another, and thus the living rural culture and disengagement of experienced individuals and the destruction of rural culture includes time,

3. Culture is under the unconditional influence of the geographical and climatic conditions it has experienced and even the socio-economic structure. The result of the rural migration is a change in the habitat and socio-economic structure, leading to the depletion of rural cultures.

4. Developing and changing economic and social factors, changes in communication technology, rural cultures, even in rural documents, to meet different cultural or exchange values,

5. Culture is a living system that is open to development and change, which in time has kept pace with these changes and developments in rural culture.

especially the rural exodus results in Turkey have established their hometown associations of migrants in the city has been working to keep alive the culture break even partially. They are trying to respond to the wishes and desires of immigrants especially about funeral, wedding, engagement, circumcision and other elements of assistance.

# 5. Conclusion

The Industrial Revolution, which began in the late 1700s, has significantly changed the economic and social life of societies. Along with this change, the socio-economic and cultural structure has undergone a rapid development and change towards the rural area from the urban environment. It can be said that these developments in the world have gradually reached other countries in the following years. Life and multiparty liberal steps taking place in Turkey in the 1950s and the dissolution of the rural community already has led to the migration towards the cities with population of more. This development, which is called rural migration, has also caused the cultural life of the rural community to change or even disappear. With the rural migration, the increasing economic and social life of the city was imprisoned up to the founding of rural culture in the cities. Such a result can be expected in the long run because culture is a living and changing sociological element. However, rural migration in Turkey's rural culture exchange and that has an effect to accelerate the destruction is considered to be a reality.

The change and development of the rural cultural element is a social phenomenon. The progress of a society in economic and social life is closely related to the process of urbanization partly or wholly. This process, along with being part of the industrialization, is also a remarkable approach to cultural change. rural culture in Turkey, which is an integral element of urbanization should be a part of the rural exodus to the union to be evaluated time.

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