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ASSESSING THE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF YOUTH AND ITS INFLUENTIAL FACTORS IN AFGHANISTAN CASE STUDY: KABUL CITY

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Abstract

This study was conducted to examine political participation and its effects on the young citizens of Kabul city. The research was carried out using the survey method, and the statistical population included citizens of Kabul in the 18-35 age group. A double-sized sampling method was applied, and the sample volume was 533 respondents. The major findings of the research are; the average political participation, in general, is lower than the average of 1.99, political trust is low, socialization among young people has not been properly carried out, and religious commitment seems to be higher than the normal rate. Regression analysis has shown that among the independent variables, religious commitment has a significant and direct impact on political participation. The examination and measurement of political participation among ethnic groups and religious groups have shown that among the various ethnic groups residing in Kabul, Hazaara ethnic group and Shiite believers have the greatest political participation.

Key Words: Participation, Political Participation, Political Trust, Political Socialization

Introduction

Considering youth as a country's most influential population, youth problems are among the most important issues in the present-day Afghan society. Researches carried out in various countries in recent decades highlight the importance of this issue. Undoubtedly, changes in the structure of societies are among the main reasons that cause the emergence of these topics. The role of youth in the political arena is one of the most important issues that should be accurately considered and analyzed. An accurate consideration of this issue can be a good way to solve many of the problems of today's societies, especially those of the Afghan society (Qayum Zadeh, 1387).

Nowadays, political participation in the context of a democratic and Islamic society is institutionalized and can be counted as one of the main indicators of a developed and democratic system, with elections being its most important symbol. Political participation is a process in which political power is distributed among individuals and social groups in such a way that all citizens and active and participatory groups have the right to vote, criticize, be selected, be evaluated, and participate in policy and decision making (Golparvar and Khajeh Hassani, 1390, p. 204). Political participation, as the most important indicator of the political development of nations, has become inevitable. This inevitability is seen more severely in third-world countries.

For political legitimacy, governments must accept political participation. And, the high rate of political participation in political decisions and policies shows a society's level of cultural and political development (Ibrahimi et al., 1392, p. 265). From a religious point of view, active political participation and sensitivity to our destiny and the society's fate is not only right, but indispensable, necessary, and worthwhile for educated youth and society. So far, research has been conducted on the sociological aspects of political participation, and it has been found that the level of a country's development is positively and vigorously correlated to the participation of that country's citizens in political activities and the increase in their presence in the field of political destiny. Political participation is a form of public expression and willingness of the people to determine their collective destiny. The degree of a country's political development depends directly on this component. The most popular political participation in the present era is electoral participation. Elections are the process in which some people are exposed to the selection of others.

Heelsum considers political participation as the involvement or engagement in political activities; he also considers voting in the election as an obvious example of political participation (Heelsum, 2002, pp. 179-200). Political participation is one of the most common concepts in the field of politics. While discussing development in this field, political participation is one of the most useful and prominent concepts and is generally referred to as the main component of political development. If political development is a process through which the necessary fields for the institutionalization of political participation and the consequent ability of a political system are possible, then different countries are at different levels of political development.

Political participation has a high status in political sociology. Its various aspects have been discussed by various researchers. Political participation is deeply linked to the most important topics in political science. Examples of such topics include parties, pressure groups, people-state relations, and civil societies. Despite the rich texts available on these topics, the issue of participation and its causes and arguments are still discussed and debated; also, the differences in these concepts are tangible, ambiguous, and worthy of consideration (Firooz Jaeyan and Jahangiri, 1387, P. 84).

Reducing political participation in the society increases the separation between people and the political system. This situation ultimately disrupts the basic planning for social organization and community administration and stability. Also, by creating tensions and crises, it prevents the development of economic, social, and cultural programs. Increasing political participation in the society can play a very positive role in creating the necessary social balance and coordination.

If political systems are to remain, they must be relatively effective and legitimate. What a government is doing should at least satisfy the citizens, rather than turning them against the government. These systems must be fully embraced by citizens as their proper means of governance for their long-term survival. The stability of a political system is fundamentally influenced by competition and political participation. Competition and political participation will affect the effectiveness and legitimacy of a system (Almond, Verba, 1963, p. 330).

Significance of the Study

Today, the political participation of societies forms the basis of the political development of countries. This partnership is especially important in democratic systems. Many scholars have commented on the importance of political participation as a key factor in ensuring the accuracy of modern democracies (Ginieniewicz, 2007, pp. 157-172). Dahl believes that all forms of democracy require the participation of ordinary citizens to influence the policies of the state (Dahl, 1971, p. 108). According to Wangc, political participation leads to greater awareness and understanding of politics and increases the sense of political influence in individuals (Wangc, 2004, pp. 1-3).

Verba and Nie consider political participation as a set of activities that citizens directly or indirectly act to influence the selection of government and government members or their programs and activities (Verba & Nie, 1979). About the above subjects, it can be concluded that the political participation of people, especially young people in a country like Afghanistan which after three decades of imposed wars now wants to experience the phenomenon of democracy, is very significant in several ways. These ways include 1) institutionalization of democracy, 2) participation in political life, 3) rejection of authoritarian regimes, 4) fight against Talibanism, 5) consolidation of national unity, 6) legitimization of the government, 7) regulation of the transfer of political power from one group to another, 8) continuation of the elite turnaround and transformation in the ruling group, 9) increase in the sense of responsibility against violent and repressive demands by rulers, 10) reduction in violence of oppositions, and 11) positive impact on the political culture in the society through political socialization.

Objectives of the Research

1. Examination of the extent of youth political participation.
2. Investigating factors affecting youth political participation.

Research Questions

1. What is the rate of political participation of youth in Afghanistan?
- 2) What are the factors affecting the political participation of youth in Afghanistan?

Definition of concepts

1. Participation: Deh-khoda has defined participation as the meaning of partnership, cooperation, and exploitation (Deh-khoda, 1358, p. 46). Participation can also be defined as the voluntary and intended activities through which members of a

community engage in the affairs of their neighborhood, city, village, and contribute directly or indirectly to the shaping of their social life (Tabrizi, 1375, p. 521). Some experts in the definition and analysis of participation have gone beyond national development. They have perceived participation as "active participation of human beings in political, economic and cultural life, and in general all aspects of life" (Sarokhani 1370, p. 521).

2. Social Participation: Participation in the social sphere involves a variety of individual or collective activities to influence public policy decisions and decisions from lower levels (municipalities, education system, etc.) to higher levels (apparatus Supreme Legislative, Executive, and Judicial). People's participation in groups, social programs, especially voluntary associations and non-governmental organizations, indicates their social participation. There are other definitions of social participation, these include

- In a broad sense, social participation encompasses a variety of individual and collective actions to interfere in determining their destinies and that of the society, and to influence decision-making processes on public affairs (Rezaei, 1375, p. 54).
- Social Participation is somehow explicit participation in the economic life and cultural activities, spending leisure time, as well as assuming political, civil, and other responsibilities (Tabrizi, 1375, p. 99).

3. Political Participation: In the international encyclopedia of social sciences, political participation is defined as the voluntary participation of members of the society in the selection of directors and direct or indirect participation in public policy making (Mosafa, 1375, p. 84). In the book of Sociology Culture, Political Participation is defined as a process by which society members participate in the organization of society through participation in decision making. In other words, political participation involves participation in political processes that lead to the selection of political leaders and affect and develop public policy (Abraxis et al., 1376, p. 38). In general, political participation can be defined as a voluntary activity through which members of a community select rulers and directly or indirectly shape their community politics (Tabrizi, 1375, p. 93).

Context of the study

There have been a number of researches conducted on the subject of participation and political participation in the world. In Afghanistan, however, there is only one case study conducted on women's political participation, and no research carried out in the field of youth participation and political participation. Therefore, the context of the present study is limited to the results of several studies conducted in English and the Dari language.

According to Majidi, the take-up of the new political system in Afghanistan since September 11, 2001, prompted a review of the issue of women's political participation in the country, but Afghan women themselves were victims of their own beliefs until they became aware that socio-political needs are unlikely to reduce their level of political participation. On the other hand, the problem of women in Afghanistan is a cultural issue, and, along with the establishment of laws and the institutionalization of women's affairs in the laws, there is a requirement for cultural planning and institutionalization and consolidation of the presence of women in the minds of the people of the community (Majid and Ghalladar, p. 206).

The research conducted by Dianati (1382) examining factors affecting the political participation of students in Tabriz shows that there is a meaningful correlation between political participation and political awareness, membership in voluntary

associations, having political friends, being from a political family, being in an open political space, and using mass media (Dianti, 1382, p. 1). In another study, Dawas and Hughes examined the impact of the individual and family background of students on their political reflection in the United States. They concluded that boys had expressed more willingness to participate in politics than girls.

They finally concluded that social class was effective in determining the political awareness of the students of the school (Daws & Hughes, 1971, pp. 1-2). In a different study, Beck, by using panel data, examined the impact of various factors on the American youth political participation from 1965-1973. Such factors included parents' socioeconomic status, parental political participation, youth attitude and activities in school. He found that parents' civic affairs have had a profound impact on teenagers' political participation. It was shown in this research that the influence of parents and their civic tendencies is largely indirect, but parental participation and the activities of adolescents in schools have a direct effect on their political participation (Beck, 1982, pp. 94-105). In "Investigating the relationship between political participation and political efficiency," Campbell concluded that as much as a person feels more political, his political participation increases. In his view, economic and social base, income, and occupation are also strongly linked to political participation (Campbell, c & Jovchelovith, 2000, pp. 255-270).

Theoretical Background

Organized citizens' efforts to select their leaders require effective companies in social and political affairs, as well as influence on the formation and direction of government policy (Gulparvar and Khajeh Hassani, 1390, p. 205). Participation protects freedom, promotes justice and encourages stability (Weiner and Huntigton, 1379, p. 138). Participation practices from the perspective of Varbah, Kim, Ney et al.: voting and elections are one of the most commonly used methods of political participation. Now, the question is that; what are the ways to strengthen the participation of youth and how can the attention of all youth or the majority of the youth of the society be attracted to participate in their destiny and community problems? One of the most important ways of strengthening political participation is political persuasion. Political persuasion is a process through which we try to change the attitude of others and, in a simpler sense, to try to change attitudes (Kia and Sa'idi, 1383). Convincing is an individual or organization's deliberate effort to change attitudes, beliefs, values, or individual or group perspectives (Gill, Adams, et al., 1384, p. 51). The English sociologist Herbert Spencer, by presenting an analogy between body and society, and the necessity for the participation of members in the body makes it obvious that there is a community where participation is added to the phenomenon of being together (Durkheim, 1373, p. 44). Participation can be explored from its various dimensions. One of these dimensions is political participation. Participation in political affairs stems primarily from the social nature of man. The social element in society creates common interests, which protect them inevitably from participation for every individual in the community. It is said that the full and creative participation in the political and social dimension is a necessary condition for the survival of the social system. In this type of engagement, all individuals, social groups, and nations participate in their affairs at local, regional, national and international levels. Partnership must be understood as both a goal and a means and one of the basic human needs (Kautter et al., 1379, p. 3). Mike considers political involvement as a political partnership in various political levels in the political order from non-conflict to political status. Considering the distinction between the three basic approaches of elitism, pluralism, and Marxism in political sociology, he has given three distinct meanings for political participation. While in elite theory, political participation is more limited to elites, and the masses are depicted as inactive and elite hand tools. In

pluralist theory, political participation is considered to be the key to political behavior due to its impact on policy-making and the distribution of power. In Marxist terms, political participation means class consciousness of their state, which will ultimately lead to their politicization (Michael, 1377, p. 123). The initiation of studies on political participation can be sought in the 1940s and 1950s, which these studies focused on electoral behavior and electoral participation in the form of campaign or party campaigns (Taj Mazinani, 1382, p. 125). Some scholars and political philosophers also agree that participation in electoral districts is one of the obvious manifestations of public political participation in various societies. However, there is a difference in whether the qualitative participation of the qualified people in the electoral arena is desirable or discriminatory. Some, like Rousseau and John Stuart Mill, believe that increasing public participation in political activities will increase the education and training of the public through the improvement and deepening of the concept of life and the value of human relations with each other. On the other hand, some scholars are indifferent and reluctant to appear in the political arena, representing the satisfaction of individuals and the factor of stability in the society, and the high percentage of the general political participation of society is the cause of instability, which is a sign of fundamental problems in the political structure of government. These scholars refer to the Weimar Republic in Germany from 1919 to 1933 as evidence of their claims. Participation is a learning experience that fosters youth not only from their rights but also from their duties and responsibilities. Such a view is found in the writings of Aristotle, John Stuart Mill, Tocqueville, and Rousseau. A society in which a large part of the population outside of politics is potentially more explosive than a society in which most citizens regularly engage in activities that some involve the concept of participation in decision making (Lipset, 1963, p. 18). Therefore, one of the most important variables in explaining political participation is socialization in general and political socialization in particular. In the course of political socialization, individuals internalize the values of political participation, and through various factors of socialization (family, school, friends, universities, media, etc.) learn political behaviors that eventually emerged in political participation. Nowadays, if there is a conflict between these factors, with little thought into studies done, changes can be made in the direction of youth in the field of political participation.

Studies have shown that family is one of the most important factors of socialization in general and political socialization in particular since most people often consult with their family members and rarely disagree with them (Tayibinia and Naqdi, 1391, p. 61). Accordingly, it can be stated that the kind of socialization that occurs in the family is effective in directing the behavior of family members. The same studies show that the socialization type which occurs through friends (especially for youth) is significantly important.

Theoretical Framework

Proposed Definition: Political Participation is the systematic and organized behavior of individuals to select leaders; participate in social, political, and civil activities; as well as influence government policy formations.

Theory is a researcher's guide and leads him to a definite path. Theorems from theory form the basis of the analysis of data (Daws & Hughes, 1971). According to Turner, theories explain how and why events occur. Hence, sociological theories describe how people behave, communicate and organize themselves (Tumer, 1998, p. 1).

In the social sciences, there is less theory found that can comprehensively analyze and explain social phenomena. Each theory usually emphasizes one aspect of social issues and neglects other issues. Therefore, in this study, a combined theoretical model that

includes the theories of Huntington, Nelson, Ken Brown, Mullerth and Guelle, Lerner, Cohen, and political socialization is used.

Huntington and Nelson in their model have paid special attention to the participation in the political system. In their view, there are two basic factors involved in increasing the political participation of the community, one is the elite, and the other is socio-economic development. The social elites also contribute to political participation in their survival in the economic and social power. First, it promotes the social mobility of the people of society, which leads to higher status and the sense of political efficiency in the people of the society, which ultimately leads the person to more political participation. Second, socio-economic development has created a group cohesion and contradiction, which increases group awareness and the involvement of more people in organizational activities and, ultimately, political participation. According to these two scholars, in the long run, an acceptable relationship between these variables and political participation can be established; and in the short term, between other variables such as immigration, religious interests, and so on. In general, according to Huntington and Nelson, the most important variables affecting political participation are socio-economic status, party and group awareness, affiliation with ethnic and religious groups, the level of education (more literate participation than illiterate), gender (more men's participation than women), community type (more community participation than rural community), social status, and membership in unions, parties and various partisan and nonpartisan associations (Huntington & Nelson, 1976, p. 163).

Ken Brown, in a study conducted in the UK, concludes that various factors contribute to electoral participation. These influential factors include family, location, ethnic origins, party ideas, mass media, social class, and religion. According to him, each of these factors affects people's voting behaviors.

Bandura mentions individual (confidence) and structural (trust in the political environment) factors as effective factors in political participation and states that when trust in the state and self-esteem are high, political participation is also high. Otherwise, another type of behavior emerges that goes beyond political participation (Browne, 1994).

Melbrath and Guile consider the political participation of youth as a rational and purposeful issue. According to them, the most important variables in youth political participation are political motives, social centrality, social status (level of education, place of residence, class, and ethnicity), personal characteristics and the political environment, skills, resources, and commitment (Michael, 1377, P. 125).

Lerner searched for social participation in social mobilization. In his view, social mobilization can be fulfilled while individuals' capacity is expanded to have the potential for sympathy (Lerner, 1958, p. 49).

In his view, factors that influence the development and expansion of participation are urbanization, literacy, and access to the media or mass media (Jafari et al., 1381, p. 165).

One of the most important theories in political sociology is political socialization, which has many uses in explaining political behavior (participation). Thinkers consider political socialization as a continuous process of learning about political behaviors, thoughts, and attitudes. This is the process by which individuals acquire their rights and symbols in society through acquaintance with the political system and the acquisition of information and experiences (Qawam, 1373, p. 77). Effective socialization can lead to the mobilization of the masses and the provision of their field of participation. Political socialization is usually through primary and secondary

factors. Factors considered in this research include primary factors (family and peer groups) and secondary factors (educational environments, mass media, membership in associations, religion, and religious institutions). These factors are intimately motivated, educated and motivated by behavior and politically affect people and cause them to be politically passive or active (Tayibinia and Naqdi, 1391, p. 65).

Hypotheses of the Research

The hypotheses of this research are as follows:

1. The level of youth political participation varies from gender to gender.
- 2- There is a relationship between the age of youth and their political participation.
3. The degree of political participation of youth varies by their field of study.
4. There is a relationship between the level of parents' education and the level of political participation of youth.
5. The level of political participation of youth varies from one place of residence to another.
6. The degree of political participation of youth varies according to their ethnicity.
7. The level of political participation of youth varies according to their religion.
8. There is a relationship between the use of mass media and the level of political participation of youth.
9. There is a relationship between the level of education and the level of political participation of youth.
10. There is a relationship between the level of religious commitment of youth and their degree of political participation.
11. There is a meaningful relationship between political trust and political participation.
12. There is significant meaning between political socialization and political participation.

Research Methodology

Since this study closely examines the extent to which participation and factors affecting the level of political participation are related, the survey method was used specifically for such measurements. The statistical population of the study is youth aged from 18 to 35 in Kabul city.

According to the formula from Cochran calculations, the sample of 533 respondents for the present study was interviewed in different parts of Kabul city. The adjusted questionnaire was used with 33 people by pre-test. Most of the questions from the questionnaire were in the form of a Likert scale. It was arranged that the questionnaires be filled up on the doors of shops, houses, and crowded places of the city (Khaki, 1390).

To determine the sample size and Cb-alpha, all the data was indexed, the political participation indicator (which is the most important indicator in this study) was selected, and the mean error and variance of each indicator were calculated. The sample sizes and each of the variances and mean errors are shown in the table below:

Table of Indicators and Details

	Indicators	Valid	Mean Error	Variance	Cr Alfa	Missing
1	Political Participation	33	0.045	0.41	0.94	1
2	Religious Commitment	33	0.038	0.11	0.73	1
3	Political Socialization	33	0.047	0.75	0.59	1
4	Use of Mass Media	33	0.057	0.5	0.78	1
5	Political Trust	33	0.059	0.11	0.71	1

Research Findings

1. Demographic Characteristics

In this research, the average age of the sample population was 24.75 years (higher than 24 years); the youngest respondents were 18 years, and the oldest were 35 years old. 36.8% of the respondents were female, and 63% were male. Similarly, 62.3% of respondents were single, and 37.5% were married. 5.3% of the respondent had a postgraduate degree, 32.9% a graduate degree, 25.4% completed the 14th grade, 22.2% had a diploma, 4.1% completed the 9th grade, 3.8 % could read and write, and 6.4% were illiterate. Ethnically, 26.6% of respondents were selected from the Pashtun ethnic group, 37% from Tajik, 18.1% from the Hazaaras, 1.1% from Uzbek and 17.1% from other ethnic groups. Considering religious belonging, 59.2% of the respondents were Hanafi, 34% were Shiites, and 6.8% belonged to other religions. 20.4% of respondents were Pashtu speakers, 75.1% Dari speakers, and 4.5% speakers of other languages. 38.7% of the respondents were born in provincial centers, 13.7% in district centers, 21.4% in villages and 26.1 % in cities. 16.4% of the fathers of respondents were illiterate, 12.8% could read and write, 7.5% completed the 9th grade, 19.4% completed the 12th grade, 10.5% completed the 14th grade, 21.6% had a bachelor's degree, and 11.8% had a postgraduate degree. 49.4% of the mothers of respondents were illiterate, 16.7% could read and write, 7.7% completed the 9th grade, 13.3% completed the 12th grade, 5.3% completed the 14th grade, 6% had a bachelor's degree, and 1.5% had a postgraduate degree. Among selected respondents, 53.8% studied the humanities, 41% the natural sciences, and 5.1% the military sciences. 26.3% of the respondents gave irrelevant answers. Irrelevant answers came from illiterate or less literate respondents. Also, 8.3% of fathers of the respondents were teachers, 4.1% physicians, 15.6% managers, 8.5% heads, 9.2% farmers, 10% shopkeepers, 18.4% workers, 8.3% unemployed, 8.5% military, 4.1% officers, 2.6% high ranking, and the rest were school lecturers and ministers. 7.9% of mothers of the respondents were teachers, 2.4% physicians, 2.3% managers, 2.3% officers, and 83.6% housewives. 20.5% of the respondents said their place of residence was bad, 37% said they were modest, and 42.5% marked as good. Here, due to the large dispersion among respondents' household income, there is only a minimum, a maximum, an average, and a median of this, with an average monthly income of families of 33,593,000, at least 3000,000, and a maximum of AFN 12,000,000. This research has been very different in all of the seventeen districts of Kabul city, for example, the smallest of the respondents was Kabul, which had eight people and most interviewees were those in the sixth district of the city with 103 inhabitants. The reason for this is that at first, the quantum dot has not been quoted, and has chosen a tailor-made method.

Table of mean of quantitative indicators of political participation in Afghanistan

#	Indicators	Mean	Standard Deviation	Maximum	Minimum
1	Political Participation	1.99	0.34	3	1
2	Political Trust	2.46	0.3	3	1.25
3	Religious Commitment	2.61	0.25	3	1.19
4	Political Socialization	1.41	0.33	2.75	1
5	Use of Mass Media	2.32	0.34	3	1.12

The results of the quantitative index of political participation show that the lowest is 1 and the highest is 3; the average statistics also indicate that the average political participation among the youth is 1.99 (downward moderate). Standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion of the political participation of Kabul young citizens is at an average of 0.34, which reflects the fact that the political participation of the majority of youth is below the average. The results of the quantitative indicator of political trust show that the lowest is 1.25 and the highest is 3. It also indicates that the average political confidence among the youth is 2.46 (moderate upward). The standard deviation is also a sign the average distribution of political trust among Kabul youth is at an average of 0.30, which reflects the fact that the political confidence of most of the youth is below the average. The results of the quantitative indicator of religious commitment show that the lowest of these variables is 1.19 and the highest is 3. The average statistics also indicate that the average religious commitment of youth is 2.61 (upward moderate), the standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion of the religious commitment of youth is 0.25. The results of the quantitative indicator of political socialization indicate that the smallest amount of this variable is 1 and its highest is 2.75. The mean statistic also indicates that the average political socialization among sample members is 1.41 (downward moderate). The deviation also indicates the average dispersion of the political and social mobilization of Kabul citizens is from an average of 0.33. The results of the quantitative index of mass media used indicate that the lowest is 1.12 and the highest is 3. The average statistics also indicate that the average of mass media among sample members used is 2.32 (upward moderate). The standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion of the mass media of Kabul youth is from an average of 0.34.

Table of qualitative indicators of Political Participation in Afghanistan

#	Indicators	Frequencies	Very low	Somehow	Very High
1	Political Participation	533	12.4	64.3	23.3
3	Political Socialization	533	77.4	21.4	1.1
4	Use of Mass Media	533	5.6	39.4	55
5	Religious Commitment	533	3.2	22.6	74.2
6	Political Trust	533	7.5	43.2	49.2

The qualitative index of political participation shows that 12.4% of respondents are very low for political activities, 64.3% partially, and 23.3% too much. The quality of political trust index indicates that 7.5% of the respondents have political trust, 43.2% have no theoretical relation, and 49.2% are low in their total confidence. The religious commitment quality index shows that 3.2% of respondents are very low, 22.6% average, and 74.2% very religiously committed. The qualitative index of political socialization suggests that 77.4% of respondents are very low, 21.4% low and 1.1% are

highly socialized and qualitative. Use of mass media indicated that 5.6% of young respondents are very low, 39.4% less, 55% have used too much of the mass media.

2. Explaining the Findings

Multiple regression analysis of political participation

The tables and charts related to the quantitative indicators of the main variables of the present study have been explained and described using their central statistics and dispersion. Now, for a clear and precise understanding of how the independent variables influence the dependent variable, regression test attempts to determine the direction and effect of independent variables on the dependent variable. As it is seen, the tables below show the independent variables to the regression model at different stages. Political Participation is the dependent variable which is that described, and independent variables in the order of entering include political socialization, the use of mass media, religious commitment, and political trust; according to their designed impact on political participation, measured by the stepwise method.

Table of regression correlation and determination of Political Trust in different steps

Model	Correlation	Coefficient	Coefficient Correlation	Error Estimation
1	.098 ^a	0.01	0.008	0.33953
2	.192 ^b	0.037	0.033	0.33514
3	.412 ^c	0.17	0.165	0.31141

The stepwise of the above table shows that the regression operations were performed to three stages, and the correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination in each step were significantly higher than the previous stage and the standard error in the final stages was significantly decreased compared to the first stage. An examination of the independent variables shows that all three variables studied (use of mass media, political trust, and religious commitment) play a decisive role in explaining the dependent variable (political participation). As it is seen, these three variables are $r = 0.412r$ with the dependent variable of correlation. The resultant coefficient of determination (R square) is also expressed in that 17 percent of the changes in the political participation of Kabul youth are a function of the independent variables.

Table of the results of the examination of final model of multiple regression of political participation

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	.595	1	.595	5.163	.023 ^b
	Residual	61.100	530	.115		
	Total	61.695	531			
2	Regression	2.279	2	1.139	10.145	.000 ^c
	Residual	59.416	529	.112		
	Total	61.695	531			
3	Regression	10.490	3	3.497	36.056	.000 ^d
	Residual	51.205	528	.097		
	Total	61.695	531			

The results of the above table show that the final model of regression of political participation in which the three variables, use of mass media, political trust, and religious commitment are independent variables or preconditions and are quite significant in the sample. This indicates that $\text{sig}=0.000$ and can be generalized to the statistical population (all young people residing in Kabul).

Table of relative effects of independent variables (Factors affecting Political Participation) in different steps

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.729	.119		14.558	.000
	Political Trust	.109	.048	.098	2.272	.023
2	(Constant)	1.214	.177		6.839	.000
	Political Trust	.086	.047	.078	1.811	.071
	Religious Commitment	.218	.056	.166	3.872	.000
3	(Constant)	.701	.174		4.026	.000
	Political Trust	.063	.044	.057	1.429	.154
	Religious commitment	.106	.054	.081	1.967	.050
	Use of Mass Media	.372	.040	.376	9.202	.000

The results presented in the table above show the intensity and direction of the effect of independent variables on the dependent variables. All the independent variables (use of mass media, political trust, and religious commitment) in the final stage (step 3) are introduced into the regression equation to predict the dependent variable based on the standardized coefficients as follows:

$$Y = 0.372 (\text{use of mass media}) + 0.106 (\text{religious commitment}) + 0.061 (\text{political trust}) + 0.701 (\text{constant value})$$

As it is seen, four independent variables of the present study have entered the equation. Comparison of standard coefficients shows that among the four independent variables, three variables (use of mass media, political trust, and religious commitment) have an increasing impact on the level of political participation among youth in Kabul. This means that with each unit, the change in the size of the variables is as large as the coefficient of influence (beta) of the change in the dependent variable. For example, in the table, the change in the size of a unit in the index of media use collective mass of 37.6 hundredths of the change in the index of political participation is created.

Multiple regression analysis of political trust

To understand the influence of the variables on each other, this time, we placed the variable of political trust as an independent variable and examined its impact from the variables of political socialization, use of mass media and religious commitment.

Table of regression of correlation and determination of political trust in different steps

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.122 ^a	.015	.013	.30649
2	.154 ^b	.024	.020	.30539

Stepwise results of the above table show that the regression operations have been performed in two stages and the correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination in each step have significantly increased compared to the previous stage. Also, the standard error in the final stages has decreased significantly compared to the first stage. An examination of the independent variables shows that both of the studied variables (political socialization and religious commitment) have a decisive role in explaining the dependent variable (political trust). As it is seen, these two variables are correlated with the dependent variable $r = 0.154$. The coefficient of determination (R

square) also indicates that 24 hundredth of the change in political trust of young citizens of Kabul is a function of the independent variables.

Table of the result of examination of meaningfulness of the final model of multiple regression of political trust

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	.756	1	.756	8.045	.005 ^b
	Residual	49.786	530	.094		
	Total	50.542	531			
2	Regression	1.204	2	.602	6.456	.002 ^c
	Residual	49.338	529	.093		
	Total	50.542	531			

The table above shows the final political trust regression model in which two variables, political socialization, and religious commitment, are independent variables or predecessors and are present in the sample. This situation shows the significance of this problem (sig = 0.000). According to this calculation, this problem can be generalized in the statistical society.

Table of relative effects of variables of political socialization and religious commitment on political trust in different steps

		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	2.088	.135		15.519	.000
	Religious Commitment	.145	.051	.122	2.836	.005
2	(Constant)	1.947	.149		13.098	.000
	Religious Commitment	.152	.051	.128	2.971	.003
	Political Socialization	.087	.040	.094	2.193	.029

The results presented in the table above show the intensity and direction of the effect of independent variables on the dependent variables. All independent variables (political socialization and religious commitment) in the final stage (step 2) are introduced into the regression equation to predict the dependent variable based on non-standardized coefficients as follows:

$$Y = 0.087 \text{ (political socialization)} + 0.152 \text{ (religious commitment)} + 1.947 \text{ (constant value)}$$

As it is shown, two independent variables of the present study have entered the equation. Comparison of standard coefficients shows that the two independent variables (political socialization and religious commitment) both have a growing influence on the level of political trust among the youth of Kabul city and that the use of mass media variable does not affect the level of political trust. That is, with each unit, the change in the size of the independent variables is as large as the coefficient of influence (beta) of the change in the dependent variable (political trust); for example, in the table, the change in the size of a unit in the indicator of religious commitment is 12.8 pp., change in the index of political trust is created.

Comparison of mean and significant levels of indicators among ethnic, religious and gender categories

One of the ways to conclude this discussion is to compare the results and the statistics. Accordingly, in the present study, we sought to compare the indicator of

political participation and the factors affecting it among the ethnic, religious and gender categories.

The table below shows the results of the averages and significant levels of indicators among these categories.

Indicators		Political Participation		Political Trust		Religious Commitment		Use of Mass Media		Political Socialization	
		Mean	Sig	Mean	Sig	Mean	Sig	Mean	Sig	Mean	Sig
Gender	Male	2.02	0.008	2.44	0.018	2.61	0.450	2.38	0.000	1.41	0.708
	Female	1.94		2.50		2.62		2.22		1.42	
Religion	Hanafi	1.96	0.004	2.44	0.033	2.62	0.004	2.31	0.090	1.42	0.745
	Shiite	2.03		2.49		2.58		2.33		1.40	
Ethnicity	Pashtun	1.97	0.380	2.40	0.033	2.60	0.004	2.29	0.700	1.42	0.720
	Tajik	1.97		2.50		2.63		2.32		1.41	
	Hazara	2.04		2.49		2.53		2.36		1.42	
	Others	2.03		2.47		2.67		2.33		1.37	

An examination of comparison of Political Participation among Women and Men

The following table shows that the sample consisted of 336 men and 196 women. As is seen here, the average political participation among men is about 8%, which is higher than that among women (mean 2.02 versus 1.94). The standard deviation also indicates that the distribution of political participation varies within the two groups with a standard deviation (0.32 vs 0.35). And a comparison of the mean error indicates that the rate of this indicator is lower among men than women (0.017 versus 0.025). The above results described the quantitative variability at the sample level. However, to answer the question whether the differences between the two groups of men and women in terms of mean and standard deviation can be generalized to the statistical population, the meaningful test results should be considered and compared to the average of other tribes.

	Gender	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean Error
Political Participation	Male	336	2.0265	.32753	.01787
	Female	196	1.9464	.35781	.02556

The results of Leven's test indicate that the insignificant difference seen in the dispersion of political participation among men and women cannot be generalized to the statistical population (sig = 0.011, F = 2.45).

As it is seen, the results of the test of equality also indicate that the small difference between the average political participation of women and men at the sample level cannot be generalized to the statistical society (sig = 0.009, df = 530, and 2.62 = T). Therefore, it can be claimed that women and men in the statistical society have similar political partnerships.

Table of Comparison of the average quantitative indicator of political participation among women and men

	Levees Test for Equality of Variance		t-test for Equality of Means						
	F	Sig	T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
								Lower	Upper
Political participation	2.456	.118	2.628	530	.009	.08006	.03047	.02021	.13991
			2.567	379.44	.011	.08006	.03118	.01874	.14138

Testing and comparing political participation among religions

Univariate analysis of variance has been used to measure and compare the average political participation among the religions of the sample population. As shown in the table below, the sample is composed of six religions, which enter the equation, and shows their results: the average political participation is different among religions, with the highest average political participation

in Shiite religion (2.03), comprising 181 statistical samples. The second is Hanafi (1.96), which has a total of 315 people. The standard deviation index also shows that the political participation of Shiites is on average 0.34 times the mean distance. This gap is in the Hanafi religion (0.32). The minimum and maximum political participation of these religions reflect this result; we see the minimum participation among religions (1 maximum 3).

The percentage of the followers of other religions was less in the present research, and their result is not provided because the results seem not generalizable.

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Hanafi	315	1.9656	.32766	.01846	1.9293	2.0019	1.00	2.83
Shiite	181	2.0309	.34906	.02595	1.9797	2.0821	1.33	3.00
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of different religions are statistically significant (sig = 0.004 = 3.500). This means that these differences are observed among young people who follow different religions.

Table of Testing and compression of the mean of political participation among different religions

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.986	5	.397	3.500	.004
Within Groups	59.709	526	.114		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among illiterate, low literate and literate respondents

As shown in the table below, the sample is composed of seven categories included in the equation. Because of the extent of the scope here, we set the three categories illiterate, low literate, and literate. It is seen that the results of the average political participation vary among illiterate youth, low literate and literate. The highest average participation rate is for the illiterate group (2.22), of which 34 constitute the statistical sample; the second highest mean (2.11) is for the low literate (reading, ninth grade, and twelve classes), with a total of 160 people; the third highest average is for literate people, with a total of 338 people. The standard deviation index also shows that the illiterate political participation is on average 0.33 times the average, this gap is low in literate (0.36) and in literate (0.38). The minimum and maximum political participation of these circles are similarly confirmed. The result is that at least the participation among these groups (1 and maximum 3) is observed.

Table of explaining variable of political participation among illiterate, low literate and literate

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Illiterate	34	2.2294	.33961	.05824	2.1109	2.3479	1.33	2.67
Reading and writing	20	2.1167	.35909	.08030	1.9486	2.2847	1.50	2.67
9 th class	22	1.9091	.36270	.07733	1.7483	2.0699	1.17	2.33
12 th class	118	1.9831	.30381	.02797	1.9277	2.0384	1.33	2.83
14 th class	135	1.9519	.37093	.03192	1.8887	2.0150	1.00	3.00
Bachelor	175	2.0025	.31019	.02345	1.9562	2.0488	1.33	2.67
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of illiterate, low literate and literate respondents are statistically significant (sig = 0.001, = 3.983 = F). It can be said that these differences are among the young illiterate, low literate and literate. Unlike other countries, although Afghanistan has high levels of literacy, the level of political participation is low.

Table of testing and comparison of the mean of political participation among illiterate, low literate and literate

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2.686	6	.448	3.983	.001
Within Groups	59.009	525	.112		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among different ethnic groups

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the political participation among the ethnic groups of the statistical population. As it can be seen, the sample consisted of 533 people from the Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, and other ethnic groups.

From the statistics on this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among the Pashtun is 1.97. The standard deviation also indicates that the average distribution among the Pashtun is 0.34. The average political participation for the Tajik people indicates that the average participation rate is 1.97 and its standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.33. The Hazaras' average political participation is 2.04, and the standard deviation shows that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.30. The average statistic for other ethnic groups indicates that their average political participation is 2.03, and the standard deviation indicates that the average distribution of political participation among other ethnic groups is 0.38. This is with a 95% confidence level and the highest difference in the Afghan society. For example: Pashtuns have the highest difference of 2.67 and the lowest difference of 1, Tajiks have the highest difference of 2.83 and the lowest difference of 1.17, Hazaras have the highest difference of 2.67 and the lowest difference of 1.33, and other ethnic groups have the highest difference of 3 and the lowest difference of 1.33.

Table of explaining variable of political participation among different ethnic groups

Ethnic	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Pashtun	141	1.9740	.34115	.02873	1.9172	2.0308	1.00	2.67
Tajik	196	1.9752	.33013	.02358	1.9287	2.0217	1.17	2.83
Hazara	96	2.0417	.30493	.03112	1.9799	2.1035	1.33	2.67
Others	91	2.0341	.38768	.04064	1.9533	2.1148	1.33	3.00
Total	530	1.9976	.34136	.01483	1.9685	2.0267	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the level of political participation among different ethnic groups in Afghanistan cannot be generalized to the statistical community (sig = 0.380 = 1.052 = F).

Table of testing and comparing political participation among different ethnic groups

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.490	4	.123	1.052	.380
Within Groups	61.151	525	.116		
Total	61.641	529			

Testing and comparing political participation among birthplace of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the level of political participation among the birthplaces of the sample population. As it is shown, the sample consists of 533 people whose places of birth are provincial capitals, districts, villages, and towns.

From the statistics of this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among those who were born in the provincial capital is 1.96, and its standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion among these groups is 0.34. The relevant average statistics of those who were born in the center of the districts show that the average political participation is 1.96 and its standard deviation still indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.35. The statistics for those who were born in the village indicate that the average political participation among these categories is 2.04, and its standard deviation also shows that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.31. The average statistics for those whose place of birth is in the city shows that the average political participation is 2.01, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion of political participation among these groups is 0.34. This is seen with a 95% confidence level in Afghan society.

Table of explaining the variable of political participation among birthplace of youth

Birthplace	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Province	206	1.9691	.34753	.02421	1.9214	2.0168	1.00	2.83
Districts	73	1.9612	.35084	.04106	1.8793	2.0430	1.17	2.67
Village	114	2.0439	.31596	.02959	1.9852	2.1025	1.33	2.67
City	139	2.0187	.34286	.02908	1.9612	2.0762	1.33	3.00
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the rate of political participation among birthplaces in Afghanistan cannot be generalized to the statistical population (sig = 0.179, F = 1.641).

Table of testing and comparing political participation among birthplace of youth

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.570	3	.190	1.641	.179
Within Groups	61.125	528	.116		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among educational degree of the fathers of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the level of political participation related to the level of education of fathers of the respondents. The sample was composed of 532 respondents who either had a baccalaureate degree, a bachelor's degree, had completed the 14th grade or were illiterate.

From the statistics on this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among those whose fathers have a higher education degree is 1.83, and its standard deviation also shows that the average dispersion among this category is 0.28. The average statistics related to individuals whose fathers had a bachelor's degree shows that the average political participation is 1.97, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.34. The statistics of those whose fathers completed the 14th grade indicate that the average political participation in this category is 2.07, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.34. The average statistics for those whose fathers completed the 12th grade show that the average political participation among them is 1.93, and the standard deviation shows that the average distribution of political participation among these categories is 0.27. The average statistics for those whose fathers completed the 9th grade show that the average political participation among them is 2.11, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion of political participation in this category is 0.38. The average statistics for those whose fathers are just at the level of reading or are illiterate are close to each other (2.07 and 2.04), their standard deviation also shows that the average distribution of political participation among these two groups is the same (0.35), this is with a 95% degree of confidence in the Afghan society.

Table explaining the variation of political participation with the level of education of the fathers of the sample population

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Illiterate	87	2.0709	.35000	.03752	1.9963	2.1455	1.17	2.67
Reading and writing	68	2.0490	.35274	.04278	1.9636	2.1344	1.33	2.67
9 th class	40	2.1167	.38527	.06092	1.9935	2.2399	1.50	2.83
12 th class	103	1.9369	.27822	.02741	1.8825	1.9913	1.33	2.67
14 th class	56	2.0744	.34512	.04612	1.9820	2.1668	1.33	3.00
Bachelor	115	1.9754	.34921	.03256	1.9109	2.0399	1.00	2.67
Post graduate	63	1.8317	.28319	.03568	1.7604	1.9031	1.33	2.67
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the differences observed in the average political participation of people whose parents are less literate, those whose parents are illiterate, and those whose parents have a high literacy level are statistically significant (sig = 0.000 = 5.604 = F). It can be claimed that these

differences are seen among young people whose fathers are illiterate, poorly literate and literate.

Table of explanation of the testing and comparing mean of political participation among education degree of youth fathers

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	3.714	6	.619	5.604	.000
Within Groups	57.982	525	.110		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among educational degrees of the mothers of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the level of political participation among educational degrees of mothers of the sample population. It can be seen that the sample consists of 532 individuals whose mothers have different levels of education.

From the statistics of this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among people whose mothers are illiterate is 20.1, and its standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion among this group is 0.31. The average statistics related to those whose mothers are at the level of reading shows that the average political participation rate among them is 2.04, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.35. The statistics for those whose mothers are literate at the level of grade nine indicates that the average political participation among this category is 1.94, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.32. The average statistics for those whose mothers have 12th-grade literacy show that the average political participation among them is 1.95, and the standard deviation indicates that the average distribution of political participation in this category is 0.40. The average statistics for those whose mothers have a 14th-grade degree indicates that the average political participation among them is 1.95, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.38. The average statistics for those whose mothers have a high school degree indicate that their average political participation is 1.89, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.32. This is seen with a 95% confidence level in the Afghan society. Those whose mothers had postgraduate degrees were less than thirty and were entered in this equation because the results cannot be generalized to the statistical community.

Table of explanation of the variable of political participation among education degree of the mothers of the sample population

Level of education	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Illiterate	263	2.0114	.31040	.01914	1.9737	2.0491	1.00	2.67
Reading writing	89	2.0449	.35423	.03755	1.9703	2.1196	1.50	3.00
9 th class	41	1.9431	.32832	.05127	1.8395	2.0467	1.33	2.67

12 th class	71	1.9521	.40917	.04856	1.8553	2.0490	1.17	2.83
14 th class	28	1.9583	.38657	.07305	1.8084	2.1082	1.33	2.67
Bachelor	32	1.8906	.32409	.05729	1.7738	2.0075	1.33	2.67
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of people whose mothers are illiterate, poorly educated, and literate are not statistically significant (sig = 0.072, F = 1.944)

Table of explanation of testing and comparing mean of political participation among illiterate, low literate and literate

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.341	6	.224	1.944	.072
Within Groups	60.354	525	.115		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among field of study of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the degree of political participation among the field of study of the sample population. As it can be seen, the sample consisted of 532 individuals who studied the humanities, natural sciences, or military sciences.

From the statistics of this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among those whose field of study was humanities is 1.94, and its standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion among them is 0.35. The average statistics of individuals whose field of study was natural science shows that their average political participation is 2.00, and its standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.34. This is seen with 95% confidence in the Afghan society. Those whose fields of study was military science are excluded from the analysis because of their low percentage in the present study which is not generalizable to the statistical community.

Table explaining the variation of political participation among different fields of study

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Social sciences	210	1.9484	.35287	.02435	1.9004	1.9964	1.17	2.67
Natural sciences	160	2.0069	.34225	.02706	1.9534	2.0603	1.00	3.00
Total	390	1.9733	.34551	.01750	1.9389	2.0077	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of illiterate, low literate, and literate students are not statistically significant (sig = 0.272 = 1.306)

A table explaining the testing and comparing of the mean of political participation among fields of study of the youth

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.311	2	.156	1.306	.272
Within Groups	46.127	387	.119		
Total	46.438	389			

Testing and comparing political participation among occupation of the fathers of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the level of political participation among the occupation of the fathers of the sample population. As it's seen, the survey sample consisted of 532 individuals whose fathers were employed, unemployed, businessmen, and so on.

From the statistics on this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation varies among those whose fathers have different occupations. For example, the result is close among those whose fathers are farmers, shopkeepers, and workers, and the difference between them is 2.02 and 2.16. The standard deviation shows that the average dispersion among them is from 0.33 to 0.27. The average statistics for those whose fathers are in higher occupations is between 1.91 and 1.98, and their standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is between 0.25 and 0.33. This is seen with a 95% confidence level in the Afghan society.

Table explaining the variation of political participation among the career of the fathers of the sample population

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Manager	83	1.9570	.32988	.03621	1.8850	2.0291	1.00	2.67
Boss	45	1.9185	.44185	.06587	1.7858	2.0513	1.33	3.00
Farmer	49	2.0442	.25859	.03694	1.9699	2.1185	1.50	2.67
Shopkeeper	53	2.0503	.33586	.04613	1.9577	2.1429	1.50	2.67
Worker	98	2.0272	.33649	.03399	1.9597	2.0947	1.33	2.67
Unemployed	44	1.9917	.42706	.06438	1.8618	2.1215	1.17	2.67
Soldier	45	1.9889	.31059	.04630	1.8956	2.0822	1.50	2.83
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The tests presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of those whose fathers are in low social jobs and those whose fathers perform in high social jobs are not statistically significant (sig = 0.027 = 1.912 = F).

Explanation of the test of comparison of the mean of political participation among fathers career

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2.824	13	.217	1.912	.027
Within Groups	58.871	518	.114		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among the occupation of the mothers of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the extent of political participation among the occupation of mothers of the sample population. As it can be seen, the sample consisted of 532 individuals with mothers who were government employees, teachers, managers, housewives, and so on.

The average statistics of this table conclude that the average political participation varies among those whose mothers are employed in different occupations. For example, among those whose mothers were teachers, their average political participation is 1.93, and its standard deviation indicates that its average distribution is 0.39. The average statistics for those whose mothers are housewives is 1.99, and the standard deviation also indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.33. This is seen with 95% confidence in the Afghan society. Those occupations which had fewer respondents were not entered into the equation.

Explanation of variable of political participation among career of the mothers of the respondents

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
Teacher	42	1.9397	.39125	.06037	1.8178	2.0616	1.33	2.83
Housewife	445	1.9976	.33461	.01586	1.9664	2.0288	1.00	3.00
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of individuals whose mothers have different jobs are not statistically significant (sig = 0.040 = 2.044 = F).

Explanation of the testing and comparing of the mean of political participation among career of the mothers of the respondents

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.870	8	.234	2.044	.040
Within Groups	59.825	523	.114		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among the health and well-being of the place of residence of the sample population

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare the level of political participation among the health and well-being of place of residence of the sample population. As it can be seen, the survey sample consists of 532 people

including those who are very poor, bad, average, good and very good in terms of health and well-being in place of residence.

It can be concluded from the statistics of this table that the average political participation among people whose place of residence is very poor in terms of health and well-being is 1.92, and its standard deviation indicates that an average dispersion among these individuals is 0.40. The average statistics for those who live poor health and well-being condition in their place of residence show that the average political participation rate is 2.05 and the standard deviation indicate that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.34. Statistics for individuals whose health and well-being condition in their place of residence are modest indicate that their average political participation is 1.95, and its standard deviation also shows that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.31. The average statistics for those whose place of residence is good in terms of health and well-being indicate that the average political participation is 2.03, and its standard deviation indicates an average distribution of their political participation is 0.32. The statistics of those who are in good health and well-being condition in their place of residence show the average of their political participation as 2.01, and its standard deviation also indicates that the average distribution of their political participation is 0.32, and it can be seen as a 95% confidence in the Afghan society.

Explanation of the variation of the political participation among the level of the health and welfare of the respondents

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
V, bad	42	1.9286	.40849	.06303	1.8013	2.0559	1.17	2.67
Bad	67	2.0537	.34132	.04170	1.9705	2.1370	1.50	2.67
Middle	197	1.9594	.31414	.02238	1.9153	2.0035	1.00	2.83
Good	133	2.0323	.32678	.02834	1.9763	2.0884	1.33	2.67
V. good	93	2.0161	.37354	.03873	1.9392	2.0931	1.33	3.00
Total	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average of political participation of people whose place of residence varies in terms of health and well-being are not statistically significant (sig = 0.104, F = 1.931)

Explanation of the testing and comparing mean of political participation among the level of health and welfare of the respondents

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.891	4	.223	1.931	.104
Within Groups	60.804	527	.115		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing youth political participation among different ages

One-way testing of variance analysis has been used to measure and compare political participation among the ages of the sample population. As it can be seen, the sample consisted of 532 individuals aged between eighteen and thirty-five.

From the statistics on this table, it can be concluded that the average political participation among individuals under the age of twenty-three is 1.94, and its

standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion among these individuals is 0.35. The average statistics for people over the age of 23 years show that their average political participation is 2.05, and the standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.31. Youth aged between 29 and 35 years had an average political participation rate of 2.02, and its standard deviation indicates that the average dispersion in their political participation is 0.33. This is seen at a 95% confidence level in the Afghan society.

Explanation of the variation of the political participation among the ages of the respondents

	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Error	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower	Upper		
18-23 سال	252	1.9455	.35532	.02238	1.9014	1.9896	1.00	3.00
23-29 سال	159	2.0595	.31185	.02473	2.0107	2.1084	1.33	2.67
29-35 سال	121	2.0220	.33260	.03024	1.9622	2.0819	1.17	2.67
کل	532	1.9970	.34086	.01478	1.9680	2.0260	1.00	3.00

The results presented in the table below show that the observed differences in the average political participation of individuals with different ages are statistically significant ($\text{sig} = 0.003 = 5.989 = f$); the more age of the youth the more their participation.

Explanation of the testing and comparing of the mean political participation among different ages

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.366	2	.683	5.989	.003
Within Groups	60.329	529	.114		
Total	61.695	531			

Testing and comparing political participation among single and married youth

The table below shows that the sample consists of 332 single and 200 married people. As seen, the average political participation of single people is about 5%, which is lower than that of married people (mean 1.97 versus 2.03). The standard deviation indicates that the distribution of political participation varies between the two groups (0.35 versus 0.31). A comparison of the mean error indicates that the rate of the indicator in single people is less than that in married people (0.019 versus 0.022). The above results describe a quantitative variable at the sample level. However, to know if the differences between the single and married people were observed in terms of mean and standard deviation, the ability to generalize to the statistical population should be considered as a meaningful test result and compared.

Comparing the mean of quantitative indicator of political participation among single and married youth

	Marital Status	Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean Error
Political participation	Single	332	1.9766	.35476	.01947
	Married	200	2.0308	.31440	.02223

The results of Levene and s test indicate that the slight difference in the distribution of political participation among single and married people does not have the ability to generalize to the statistical population (sig = 0.034 = 4.523 = F). As it is seen, the results of the test of equality of means also indicate the fact that the small difference between the average political participation of single and married people at the sample level is also not possible to generalize to the statistical society (sig = 0.075, df = 530, and T = 1.781 = T). Therefore, it can be claimed that single and married people in the statistical society have similar political participation.

Explanation of the variation of the political participation among the single and married.

	Levenes Test for Equality of Variance		t-test for Equality of Means						
	F	Sig	T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
								Lower	Upper
Political participation	4.523	.034	-1.781	530	.075	-.05423	.03045	-.11404	.00559
			-1.835	458.991	.067	-.05423	.02955	-.11230	.00385

Summary of findings

The study sought to investigate political participation. By reviewing theories in this field, the most important related theories were gathered.

The concepts of political socialization, political trust, religious commitment, and the use of mass media as influential factors (independent variables) on political participation have been extracted from theories. Only one internal investigation was done regarding the political participation of women in Afghanistan, but many external researches that deal with the issue of political participation and its dimensions were done.

The subject of this research is to examine the political participation of young people of Kabul city in 1394. The main purpose of this study is to examine the extent of political participation of young people and the factors affecting it in Afghanistan through a case study of Kabul city. After examining the concepts of political participation, the following final definition was selected: political participation is a systematic and organized behavior of individuals to select leaders, participate in social, political, and civic activities, and influence the formulation of government policy.

This research was carried out with a sample population of 533 young people in Kabul city, and an easy sampling method was used. Based on this, the sample was selected randomly from different types of youth, and the mean age of respondents was 24, the lowest age was 18, and the highest age was 35 years. Those who participated in the research were young Kabul citizens. The present study also sought to explain theoretical and empirical political participation. Thus, attempting to provide a description of political participation and identification of the rate of political participation in different areas of Kabul was one of the most reliable means of research. According to the designed regression model, a questionnaire was used in this research and was repeated many times. In the first stage, the influence of the independent variables (use of mass media, political socialization, political trust, and religious commitment) on the dependent variable (political participation) was examined. In the second stage, the impact of political trust on the independent

variables (religious commitment, mass media, and political socialization) was measured. According to the results of the regression analysis and based on Beta data, the greatest impact was on religious commitment, with a beta of 0.8. It is generally more impressive, and its variable is based on political participation. The second variable that influences political participation is political trust, with a beta of 0.5, and the last variable that affects political participation is the use of mass media, with a beta of 0.3. As the study of independent variables shows, the three variables examined (political trust, religious commitment, and the use of mass media) play a decisive role in explaining the dependent variable (political participation); but political socialization, which is considered as one of the independent variables in this research, had little effect on the explanation of the dependent variable. As it can be seen, the dependence of these three variables (political trust, religious commitment, and the use of mass media) on the dependent variable (political participation) is 0.41 (r means that an increase or decrease in the independent variables increases or decreases the dependent variable). The resultant coefficient (R square) also showed that the independent variables introduced in equation (17) explained the percentage changes in the level of political participation of youth in Kabul city: that is, a 17% decrease or increase in the dependent variable. The function is the decrease or increase in independent variables.

Also, the findings of this study indicate that the average political participation as an independent variable in this study was 1.99. This is moderate and means that political participation among the statistical society (youth) is low. This is 12.4% according to the qualitative index of the young respondents in relation to the questions that made this indicator; very little option and 63.3 percent of the respondents chose the option to some extent, which is subject to a low level of political participation.

Another point is that the status of political trust with an average of 2.46 was moderate and according to the qualitative index of this indicator, 49.2% of the respondents in relation to the questions raised by this indicator selected the full option, which indicates low political confidence.

Similarly, the status of religious commitment with an average of 2.16 was high, which according to the qualitative index of 74.1% of respondents confirmed the answers to the questions related to this index, which also shows that religious commitment among young people is high.

Another point is that the status of political socialization with an average of 1.41 was moderate and 77.4% of the respondents according to the qualitative index of this issue had a very limited number of questions related to this index, which indicated low youth socialization.

Another point is that the use of mass media with an average of 2.32 is moderate and 55% of the youth according to the qualitative index of this issue had a very large selection of questions related to this index, which indicated a high youth use of mass media.

Similarly, the status of political participation among social classes shows that men (about 8%) participate more than women and the dispersion of political participation among men is slightly higher than that of women. A slight difference in the distribution of political participation among women and men cannot be generalized to the statistical society ($\text{sig} = 0.018 = 2.45$). The results of the test of equality of means also reflect the fact that the small difference between the average political participation of women and men at the sample level has been observed. It also cannot be generalized to the statistical community. So, it can be claimed that the level of political participation among men and women is similar in Kabul city.

One-way testing of variance analysis was used to measure and compare political participation among the ethnic groups of the sample population. Ethically, the samples were composed of ethnicities living in Kabul. Their average statistics indicated that the average political participation for the Pashtun ethnic group is 1.97, composed of 141 individuals surveyed. The level of political participation among the Pashtun ethnic minorities is downward. The Tajik average is 1.97, and there were 196 interviewees. This suggests that the Pashtun people and part of the Tajik people have a statistically significant population of 2.04 and 96 statistical samples with a greater political participation rate than the Pashtun and Tajik ethnic groups, which is based on the significance level of these differences (0.380 sig =) and cannot be generalized to the statistical community.

Similarly, the testing of one-way variance analysis of political participation among different religions has shown that Shiites have the highest political participation. Shiites have an average statistic of 2.03 and constitute 181 interviewees. In the second phase, followers of the Hanafi religion have an average statistic of 1.96 and constitute 315 interviewees. The results obtained above are based on the observed differences. The rate of political participation among different religions in Afghanistan can be generalized to the statistical community (sig = 0.004). Of course, it must be noted that because of the low percentage of followers of the Hanbali, Maliki, Ismaili and Shafi'i religions, they did not enter the equation.

In the same way, the rate of political participation among literates and illiterates was measured by a one-way variance test. According to the average statistics among the illiterate, the average political participation is 2.22, which consists of 34 interviewees. According to the results of the observed differences in the average political participation of uneducated people and those whose baccalaureate literacy is statistically significant (0.001 = sig), this statistic consists of 175 statistical samples. This means that young people became more literate in Afghanistan than their political participation of less literate.

Discussion about the findings

As the review of the research shows, none of the previous studies have addressed the issue of political participation. While most of the previous research only considered religion, economic issues, social issues, and political culture as factors influencing political participation, this study examines political participation with influential variables such as mass media usage, political trust, political socialization, and religious commitment.

Findings of the research suggest that the level of political participation among youth in Kabul city is low. Among the ethnic groups, Hazaras have a higher political participation rate than the other ethnic groups and are more concerned with solving national problems through political participation. This suggests that the Hazara people contributed to political issues, and it is inferred from the statistics of this study that keeping a nation in the political history of a country forms political issues. With the emergence of a relatively open political environment for ethnic groups, Hazaras have taken advantage of the opportunity.

On the other hand, the overall level of political participation seemed to be low. It can be argued that the low level of political trust, the lack of proper socialization of individuals and young people, the lack of instructive programs in the mass media, and inappropriate understanding of religions and religious categories have caused the rate of political participation to be below the average.

The level of political participation varies among different religions. It can be claimed that scholars of those religions whose followers have the highest political participation

have succeeded in properly integrating their followers because, in societies like Afghanistan, one of the duties of religious institutions is to teach individuals and their followers that religion is a type of socialization and that religions are brought about by confrontation with political issues. That this is not about religious categories against political categories, but rather about religion as an institution improving socio-political considerations (not as an anti-category of socio-political development). Finally, comparing the average political participation of Kabul women and men, we conclude that young women and men in Kabul have the same vision of political participation in terms of their participation.

It is worth to say that several hypotheses of this study were accepted. Except for political socialization which remained in the regression analysis outside of the equation. That is, even though individuals are sociable, they do not affect their political participation. This has not been confirmed in a research article in Iran. "Majidi, in a study on women's political participation in Afghanistan, has concluded that women should socialize to increase their political participation (Majidi & Ghala dar P. 206). But in the present study, this does not affect the level of political participation. Similarly, a number of other variables (such as a high level of education) have had a reversal effect on political participation in Afghanistan: for example, uneducated people have higher levels of participation than those who are undergoing their baccalaureate studies, which were not confirmed by the hypothesis. Otherwise, the hypothesis of the difference in participation is not seen among women and men in Afghanistan. So, the hypothesis is rejected by the equal participation of women and men. Similarly, several other hypotheses, such as parental jobs, assumed that the younger parents are busy with high social jobs, the youth participation rate is high, which is a picture of the hypothesis which means that although the parents of young people are busy with low social jobs, the political participation of their children is high. And the level of education of parents is also a reversal, that is, although parents are literate, their participation rates are lower than those of young people whose parents were illiterate or poorly educated.

Recommendations

Based on the results obtained from this research (political participation), it was believed to be fragile, which is more indicative of the youthful instability of issues related to political participation. The overall political participation seems to be lower than normal. To increase the rate of Political Participation of the Young Citizens of Kabul City, the following recommendations and strategies are presented:

- 1- Increasing political trust: Political trust is one of the factors influencing political participation that can be enhanced by reforming administrative, judicial and educational systems.
2. Socialization of youth: through short-term training and socio-political programs, the respect of youth for national values will be increased.
- 3- Arrangement of mass media: Developing youth programs in the country's visual and audiovisual media and controlling these mass media and social networks through the Ministry of Culture to publish youth programs.
4. Increasing the efficiency of political institutions and actors: To increase the level of political participation among young people, political institutions and political actors must be well placed in designing and implementing national and international programs (Sedighi et al., 1390)
5. Strengthening the sense of political effectiveness: Political effectiveness, in general, can be seen as a person's influence on politics, but in order to strengthen the sense of

political influence, the feeling of youth influence should be strengthened, that is, young people should consider themselves in the policies of the government. (Yousefi and Soleimani, 1390)

6. Strengthening political empathy: Political empathy is one of the categories in political sociology. To increase the level of political participation among the youth of Afghanistan, we must feel the political empathy among the parties and the people, the people and the government, the government and the parties and parties and parties (Yousefi and Soleimani)

Research constrains

A: less cooperation of the people in Interviewing

B: Less presence of women in the interview.

C: less presence of youth with low and/or lack of literacy

Q: The charge of closing the interviewer during the interviews on behalf of the community

C: The lack of scientific and technical colleagues.

D: Lack of funds to hire scientific and technical colleagues

D: Time limit for doing research

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