

# Geopolitics of Communications in New Media and Its Role in National Security of Islamic Republic of Iran

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## Abstract

Social networks space makes wide arena of information and different semantic views. National and religious identity crisis is one of all effects that social networks virtual space have in communities, especially in transition societies like Iran. In this study seeks to answer the question that is, what are the consequences of the development of social networks on the Islamic Republic of Iran's geopolitical issues? To answer the above question two hypotheses is considered. Hypothesis ۱: The development of social networks can transform Iran's national security parameters. Hypothesis ۲: The development of social networks can transform the components of the national identity of Islamic Republic of Iran. The purposes of this study are (۱) analysis of the impact of social networks development on the of Iran's geopolitics issues (۲) explaining the security components of the Islamic Republic of Iran and (۳) explaining the components of national identity of Islamic Republic of Iran and because of the growth of social networks in Iran and the decisive impact that it can have on the security of Islamic Republic of Iran has fundamental importance.

The findings of this research that has been done by descriptive-analytical method, shows that the third generation has most users of cyberspace in Iran and more than other generations are exposed to the impact of virtual social networks. Cyberspace creates a sort of identity and heterogeneity crisis among the wide range of young people and somehow has affected the social balance. The virtual social networks also have led to fundamental changes in identity-making institutions and have changed identity meaning making factors.

## Keywords

Geopolitics, Social networks, Cyberspace and Iran.

## ۱- Introduction

Today's world has become a global village where geographical boundaries only, to be placed in the context of diplomatic equations and media tools, has provided the context of limiting of intellectual boundaries. The public and the mass media and in other word mass communication devices, are a set of devices that are considered by many and have been created by new civilizations. In other words, the media means any device that transmits culture and thoughts of some people. Now, the items such as newspapers, magazines, radio, TV, satellite, internet, CDs, social networks and so on are included in this definition. Thus, although mass media created for awareness purposes, but along with it, political advertising and cultural influencing enter the arena of the media [۱].

New media provides new possibilities for interaction between social and political forces and unlike the third wave media that mass of them were in the hands of the owners of power and wealth as a tool, who send their message as one strain and had shaped the mentality of the masses, the digital media because of the cheapness and availability provides two-way dialogue possibility. Achieved transformation in communications and the development of new media and increase the power of information exchange at the community level led to the emergence of new actors in the contemporary world.

From one side, this is caused that communication tools function, which is simple tool for meaning and message transportation in the past, becomes more complicated and this is affected all human life and from the other side, it has intense effect on other important aspects of social life as so as we can see the modern systems of communication and modern media become source of great transformations in the political, economic and military powers arena in the world. Of course, with the emergence of some negative consequences, these also have created problems for the security and independence of human societies. For example, the information that is produced and sent through social networks (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, etc.) besides satellite networks and facilities such as mobile phones and other new media forms can be less controlled by governments. Also, citizens who have access to these options, they can easily get updated information from every corner of the world and at the same time generate new information and share it with their audience. New mediabreak boundries such that and governments also often can't do anything against it. On the other side, informing with new method leads to breaking the monopoly on domestic media and enables people or contacts to determine their information source. From this perspective, we can see the time has been changed in favor of new communication technologies and to the detriment of traditional and patented notification practices [۲].

Services which provided by social networks, informing systems and internet- as top of them- have destroyed the concept of state sovereignty so as to government can not be indifferent to it.

In this space, geopolitical borders gradually lose their importance and sensitivity [۳]. In fact, the new facilities which created under supporting of new virtual communication technologies for today's human make many challenges for internal security of countries (Especially Iran). From this view, present article seek to investigating and responding to this question that what is the growth of virtual networks impact on the national security of Iran?

#### ۱-۱- Literature

Russell Newman (۱۳۸۹) in an article entitled "The impact of new media" that has been published in politic book namely "Communication in Future of Democracy" and translated by Masoud Aryan and published in the Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, address this topic that however different hypotheses on the impact of the media are suggested but what is clear is that reducing the cost of political information depends on the rate of participation and greater attentions of citizens.

In the article [۴], the impact explanation of communication technologies on the political and economic flows which is published in the journal of culture-communications study, argue that today's communication technology have been affected huge volume of our lives, so that without this new technology, today man can not continue his life. In [۵] Dennis Mac coil, one of the foremost theorists of communication and media studies field, writes "an Introduction to Mass Communication Theory" book which has been translated by Parvez Ejlali and published by Studies and Development Centre. He states that the relationship between the media and government, society and culture, organizational conditions of production and distribution, changes in content, manner of audience, the connection between audience and communication and the media use position defined in the context of social circumstances. In [۶], Manuel Castells published the "Power of Communications" book by Media Studies and Planning Office which is translated by Mohammad Azarian Najaf Abadi. In this new book, he studies and provides theories about the role of communications networks and emphasize on the importance of these networks during the formation flow of political power in society.

### ۲-The concept of geopolitics system

Since geopolitics term is created from conceptual points as well as social and academic situations experiencing the ups and downs and have floating state in applied topics.

This word always is a common term among geographers, professional politicians, military and political scientists and international relations. Geopolitics concept indicating areas of geographical studies which are undlying on

space factor as an important key in understanding the formation of international relations. Current use of this term should not get wrong with Germany geopolitics term, which is a special form of environmental determinism and was used to justify the government's actions. Sweden geographer, Rudolph Killen (۱۸۶۴-۱۹۲۲) presented geopolitics term and argued 'government has five pillars with ordering as follows:

Kratoplitic (study of the governance status of a country), Demoplitic (study of population of a country), Ecoplitic (study of the economic resources of the country), Socioplitic (the study of social conditions of the country) and, most important of them is geopolitics (the study of the geography of the country). At the end of the nineteenth century (۱۸۹۷), Friedrich Ratzel, German scientist, stablished political geography and university studies of geopolitics (based on research of Rudolph Killen) and for the first time he studied the "government" from geography perspective, in his Political Geography book [۷]. But the concept of geopolitics and political geography is different because the geopolitics in the historical process with respect to different human change according to the circumstances of time and place, hasn't have stability and durability and its concepts were credibility and with time and geographical environment requirements are formed, can be changed and confirmed and sometimes are destroyed.

On the contrary, political geography concepts such as borders, migration, etc are basic and sustainable concepts which not be changed ant not be lost during the historical process. In [۸], the both concepts of political geography and geopolitics is defined as follows: " political geography studies the effect of human political decision making on the geographical face and forms of the human environment, such as government, border, immigration, communications, distribution, transportation, etc., while geopolitics studies the effect of geographical factors on universal transformable politics. But it is more accurate to say that the political geography has dealt with the mutual relationship between geography and politics and this means that the concept of geopolitics which believes the mass role of space factor in the formation of the international relations is part of the knowledge and science of political geography [۹].

#### ۲-۱- Geopolitical approaches

The geopolitics world at the beginning of the twenty-first century, no doubt, entered a new era with new geopolitical characteristics which perhaps promising the era of "post-modern". The beginning of changes in the global system of twentieth century coupled with signs of the end of the modern era. Processes of globalization, regionalism and geopolitical analysis have emerged as modern challenges for geopolitics. The superiority of the national government (in conjunction with the international system) has been challenged and the role and function of governments as institutions and state patterns has changed due to series of developments.

Developing of organizations, agencies and multinational corporations, has been challenged the government's ability to regulate and legislation. The state experts and economic managers have been forced to run programs which should to be consistent with the needs of the international money markets, international obligations and the flow of capital [٧].

Therefore, in the new era, geopolitical issues in the light of three main challenges are reshaped: the first is "economic globalization", the second is "notification revolution" and the third is "security threats of universal community". Impacting of these factors on the human political acts in the universal environment- which is formed in the context of advanced modernity- has created conditions that studying of it could be called as "postmodern geopolitics". These conditions take the group role of humans in the political environment beyond the domain of being "nation" and conduct the main focus to political formations in the transnational environment, although "nation" and "nation state", as significant political units and actors in geopolitics will be effective [٨].

In the new geopolitics, according to the new structure of power and its hierarchy that has been created the changes in the structure of global power tools has changed to detriment of military tool and force and to profit economic factors and technical knowledge.

It should be noted that in the new geopolitics, the military power is an important component in the hierarchy of power constituent but the role of it in the economic power has secondary degree importance. A simple contrast that exists between old and new geopolitics and in other terms between contemporary and traditional is that there is an inadequate tool for understanding the heterogeneity of past and present geopolitics talks.

### ٧-The definition of national security

National security is a Western and particularly American concept that was populated in the years after ١٩٤٥. Various definitions have been provided on national security. This concept, like other human science concepts, doesn't have uniq and accepted definition among all or at least most experts. The root of this returns to the efforts of individuals, groups and countries in their different understanding from this term.

Barry Buzan also says that "national security can not be defined generally, but only in certain cases it can be defined". He says elsewhere "National security defined conceptually weak and ambiguous, but politically remained powerful concept because undefined concept of national security open a way to plan the development strategies of power by the military and political elites [١٠]."

United National Institute during the research in this field namely as "security concepts", defined it as

conditions "where countries don't have any sense of military danger, political or economic pressures and freely pursue their expansion and development" [١١].

According to Political Science dictionary also we can find: "The national security consist of the country's freedom sense in pursuing of the fundamental purposes and with no feeling of fear and serious danger from out to political interests, which are basic and essential" [١٢]. In the glossary of terms of international relations, this concept has been defined as "When a nation free from the threat of losing all or part of the population, property or territory held" [١٠].

Walter Lippmann, an American researcher and writer who was the first person that clearly defines the concept of national security as: "A nation is safe when if it avoids from the war, it can preserve its fundamental values and if it proceeded to war can continue it." [١٢].

This word has becomed commonplace in the twentieth century, especially after World War II. In the simplest of definitions, national security is defined as: "The ability of a nation to protect internal critical values against external threats and that states how countries applied policies and essential decisions that necessary for the protection of domestic values against external threats, adopt they do. Mohammad Ayoub believes that the traditional concept of national security has lost its applicability. He especially has emphasized on internal factors of security and various perception of security among north and south contries and believed that northen interpretation of security is as so as that loss od security of southern people is derived from that and vise versa [٨].

Unlike the national power that brings to mind some national opportunities and achieve safety threats and vulnerabilities issues in the national, emphasized on the lack of security and insecurity in the national security considerations of a country. Separation of national impacts from national threat or vulnerabilites is difficult and even impossible job. In fact, the combination of these two issues, determines the national level of security and and unsafety. Vulnerabilities are the internal aspect of unsafety and threats are the external aspect of it. Therefore, with considering many internal effective factors whatever the government is weaker, thus is more vulnerable. This has quite direct impact in increasing threats against that nation. In fact the internal continuous vulnerability as a result of internal weaknesses, also leads to increase the quality and quantity of external threats.

Too interaction of internal vulnerabilities with external threats in weak states reached at some points that actually one can not consider very accurate boundary between two areas of vulnerabilities and threat. Although this intraction is caused that many of vulnerabilities converted to national threats but national empowerment and having a strong government causes many vulnerabilities are given little opportunity to appear and the other hand external threats are captured and digested to a large extent, with respect to internal power.

## ۳-۱- Globalization and National Security

In light of the economic views, Stanley Hoffman defines the national security as supporting a nation from physical attacks and securing its economic activities from external destructive flows. With beginning of economic mutual dependence waves and opening of national boundaries of the international zone actors and changing nature of international connections that some refer to them as the waves of globalization emerged a tremendous change in the perception of national security. Economic development that was in a time only release strategy from the difficulty of achieving the ahead security of ۲۰th century human, itself was terminated to the emergence of countless unsafeties in fields of environmental- social-behavioral- political and economic that today, try to dominate them is considered as global mission to protect the security [۱۳].

The link between security and globalization can not be seen clearly either by cause of being new and freshness of the phenomenon of globalization or by cause of the complexity and darkness that is still in the perception of security. Globalization with its various procedures and a wide consequences that it had in human tradings up to now, covers a special meaning of security that some researches in this field recognize it as unsafe for many political actors in the international political equilibrium. Such insecurities are due to structural deficiencies in the economic, social and political system of Third World countries that emerge for this category of countries more than others. So global insecurity is not a process of globalization really but is a particular perception of the nature of globalization [۱۴].

The first presentation of globalization in linkage between nations and behavior of countries is avoiding from war. Globalization, as generally has not provided the satisfactory security in the social life.

At the same time, it has increased the ability of technology for devastating war. Global access of has caused the military reachness of the Nordic countries in southern become easy. Global weapons markets have created a lot of destroying facilities that one of its consequences has strengthened violent in the revival of ethnic and religious context. Technologies of globalization have provided better facilities for environmental inspections. In the context of capitalist, globalization has played a role in increasing the comfort of newly industrialized countries. Only a few of countries have achieved the position of newly industrialized countries. Economic recovery in the face of globalization more has increased poverty. The southern countries debts threat the attempts to reduce poverty and global business practices that have detrimental consequences for poor countries.

The government's response to global social changes is not the same, around the world. In some areas, governments consider more important for the role of traditional national security than the other areas. Despite the increasing developments in areas such as Latin America, the role of security of nation in regions such as

East and South Asia, Africa and the Middle East did not decline. In fact, in some of these areas, even among governments which have free economies (such as India) and states that have regional security applications (such as Indonesia), have increased security role especially in the area of internal security. This indicates that the government which has the global economy can not be protected from competition. At this point it is necessary to distinguish between economic behavior and security. Governments that have troubled neighboring states that are worried about their relative power position, they pay more attention to traditional military security [۱۱].

## ۴. The concept of national identity

"Identity", in terms is what which is mentioned as the response of nature and recognition of the object and the person or things and people. As a result, such as it is not dedicated to objects or human, using of it is not limited to public and group and it can be used for an object and person. Identity recognizes the main features which are distinguishing of the object or person from others except itself, this problem is suggesting the importance of the "other" in an explanation of identity. Although, every existent has the characteristics and features without comparing it with others but when expressing of characteristics, it is compared with others, unconsciously. Thus, "national identity" can be interpreted as "a set of specifications and characteristics of a nation, that in a way, is considered as communication link between local identities and transnational identities and it is distinguishing and recognising it from the other nations." In other words, features that exist in most people of each nation such as Iran which people of other nations lack them, forms part of their identity that interpreted as national identity of the people of that nation and for example it is said, "Iranians national identity."

### ۴.۱. Virtual identity

In the past, people identity and their relations with others depend on the material environment in which they lived and the place was the decisive element. But now, due to the emergence of new information and communication technologies, the limitations of time and space was disappeared and the person is not dependent on local and native place, but also he could pass the geographical borders and be associated with the larger world [۱۵]. In most of the scientific literature it has talked about the concept of "anonymous" in cyber space that is exactly synonymous with the concept of virtual identity. Here, to clarify the concept of virtual identity, we address he anonymous semantics and its differences with other close terms such as: anonymity, being anonymous and isolation. The concept of anonymous contains the clear and rational social relations as background and default. Anonymous needs the social context. Unnamed agent that has the capacity to do something affects on other community members and is affected from others. It is possible the one refers to isolated and cloister person with unmarked and unknown and unsung phrase, but the exact meaning of anonymous and virtual identity, based on

what is suggested in internet network and cyberspace, this concept does not apply to him and had not been told him anonymous because isolated and cloister person has'nt relation with community and is isolated and separated from society and social relations and his life, behavior and works is not affected by life and behavior of others in social environment. The term of anonymous that is the opposite of fame and eminent could not be the synonymous with the term of unknown. Anonymous person is not looking for fame and tries to not being known in the community and the public don't recognize him. Anonymous person is far from society buta also does not attempt to get fame and does not do the work that makes him famous but the virtual identities who are eminent aren't a few. Thus, a person may anonymously under a pseudonym tries to and become famous. It is very difficult for a person to be completely socially isolated so that his works and identity be hidden, but it is possible. But in all cases, cloister and detachment from society is not necessarily the same and similar to anonymous, although it may has the meaning of anonymity achievement. Of course, the cloister and detachment from society is a mechanism that could be lead to anonymous and we can ensure that we reach to the unknowing, but not necessarily anonymity.

Anonymous is different from being known and unknown. Being unnamed not only needs to the social context and occurs in social relation but also needs to agent that do something which effects on or affect by others while the identity of him is not recognized. If a person is not known to others and is an unknown person and yet no practice is attributable to him, then he is not unnamed.

Anonymous or untraceable features mean that the identity of a person or persons is unknowable, and the identity of them is not recognized while we know someone(s) exist, but we do not know who they are; we know the actions and characteristics of the person(s) but they are not traceable and knowable from their features and characteristics.

Anonymous means as being unknown, virtual identity and not having any identity and others could not know the person with his known features and descriptions and person could not be recognized with them. In fact, anonymous is a sort of being unknown and not having identity through the feature and adjective of untraceable characteristics. The general definition of anonymous covers all the different types of anonymous [۱۶].

#### **۵. Methodology**

The method used in this research is descriptive-analysis and it addresses to hypothesis proven manner. We attempt to describe the collecting date then confirmed our hypothesis with analytical method. The way to collect date is library, and it is attempted to profit from internet and profational sites as complementing as well as the analysis method of information is qualitative. It should be noted that no population is in the subject of research.

۵-۱- The study variables

Independent variable: the virtual network.

The dependent variable: the gap between people and religion, secularise of social space, promoting Western values which are in contrary to Islamic values, modeling of valueness, promoting of individualism.

#### **۵.۲ Scope of research**

Field of current study is divided into three parts as follows:

۱. The realm of time: the realm of time has range of time from the time after the Islamic Revolution in ۱۳۵۷ up to now.

۲. The spatial realm: spatial realm of this study containg of Islamic Republic of Iran which means the geographic area and socio-political space of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Because we can not simultaneously have access to all geographic regions of the Islamic Republic, we have some limitations in this study.

۳. The realm of issue: geopolitics and social networks development.

#### **۶. Results**

The new communication and information technologies like social networks in Iran cause the formation of new communities and identities. In a society that relays on the printing, television and phone-based communications, the mode of production is such that brings identities as wise, useful, and self-contained. But in the information society, a society in which electronic communications is dominated, unstable subjectivities and identities emerge. Because of the changes effect in human perception, the new communication and information facilities, place the identities in a quiet new state which differents from and even despts the past. Identity in virtual communities of information society moves in the direction of Transnational. In fact, the commiunication that forms based on the new commiunication and information facilities reveals the new perspectives of understanding from subjectives that are survived in the framework of talks and functions which are sensed from historical aspect. Beside that, one can't be ignored the identity crisis that caused by the transition of Iranian population in studying on area of identity crisis caused by virtual social networks space. The today community of Iran, although carry identity crises from one historical period but also has been exposed to historical period crises of Postindustrial for three decades, without has come to it naturally. With respect to the properties and functions of modern communication technologies, especially social networks, uncontrollable and crisis-causing effects of this course have been entered easily by the governments and the consequences of it has entered today's society [۱۵].

So two questions arise in this section [۱۶]:

۱. The role of social networks development in the national security component of Iran: the development of social networks could transform Iran's national security parameters. The growth of virtual networks, exposes the nation security of Iran to challenges such as the gap between people and religion, customaring of social space,

promoting Western values which contrary to Islamic values, valueness modeling, spreading of individualism and so on.

According to information which we obtained from investigating of our hypothesis in the sections of article, the hypothesis of this research is proved because information technology improvements have been changed the method of human in recording and registered the history which this change also has been effective on person interactions with others. One of the important events at the end of the second millennium is the advent of communication technologies which the most prominent of them are internet and social networks. Internet and social networks are known as the main constituent elements of cyberspace. Using the capabilities and facilities of social networks as one of the most important of these tools has deep effects on social aspects of users in various communities. Iranian young people's use of virtual social networks is growing and inevitably, the young generation is the most populous and numerous group in Iran who is exposed to the internet and affected from cyberspace. The interdependence between virtual and the real world has caused to individual and social interactions in many areas. As we told, identity in any of societies is one of fixness and correlation factors and identity with different aspects of personal, social, national and religious, that each of them has many effects on durability and survival and continuity of community. In addition to this, cyberspace of online social networks has created sort of identity crisis among a wide range of youth. Heterogeneity in individual fields led to an identity crisis and somehow is affected on social equilibrium.

Social changes with the resulting fields of structural and demographic developments besides changes derived from meaning making works which is presented in the virtual space of social networks is created the pondered status of the crisis of social identity. One of the other personal and social crises has been the self-concept that caused by user interaction with social networks and "Ampty" In such circumstances provokes to identity crises as a social syndrome, and this will underly many political conflicts [۱۴].

It can be said that technology improvements and emerging of computer networks, internet and communications satellites caused to that globalization affected on human communities with more speed and in various examples and through passing the national and geographical boundries provide fast communication possibility between people of community and system[۹].

The main features of globalization was reduced distances and compression in the sense of time and place and social networks as one of the main media in the age of new media tools helped to make this concept become more institutionalized. Also in the era of globalization, the world shift to side in which the concept of state, sovereignty and geographical boundaries lost its traditional meaning and is tried to induce the concept that all people are in a small village called as "Jahanzist".

Social networks were and are very useful in the realization of this dream. Social networks also casued the wheels of globalization to orbit faster and the world taste the flavor of de-monopolization of state by disconcentration of power through conscious intraction of citizens with themselves or with governmental or NGO institutions. Thus in the present era and with expansion of new media possibilities, politicians are forced to be more honest [۷].

Also, the new and diverse social movements that shaped in the world which the aim of all of them is a concerted and coordinated effort to achieve a common goal or goals, somehow are affected by social networks. These new movements are considered as a form of civic and political activities which are expanding or growing in largely rational approach. Therefore, it is plausible that emergence of social networks is in the process of globalization and is twin with it and both of them may be two sides of one coin that each of them is extently incomplete without the other and the purposes of its form and content are incomplete. Media that initially were suggested as a simple tool to convey meanings, in the present era, reached to the position in which it has changed the whole of human life with the establishment of the information superhighway and created new meanings of life. This development of communication and information technology development becomes the source of enormous changes in the political, economic and military fields in the world and Iran. The synchronization of this event with the emergence of negative consequences of capital system and entering new actors as power owners of modern communication facilities have created new problems for security and independency of human which it can be named as serious security challenge of Iran community processing. So the growth of virtual networks, exposes the nation security of Iran to challenges such as the gap between people and religion, customaring of social space, promoting Western values which contrary to Islamic values, valueness modeling, spreading of individualism and so on. So the hypothesis is established [۱۱].

The new facilities that have been created for today's human in the shadow of the new virtual communication technologies have changed internal and national security of Iran and imposed many and intensive challenges on it including the ability to create and spread the gap between people and religion, customaring of social and political spaces, the promotion of some of Western values and concepts which are in contrary to Islamic values, an uncontrollable informing, weakening of language, promoting individualism and isolationism.

۲. The role of social networks development in the components of Iran's national identity: the development of social networks can transform the national identity components of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It seems that with respect to process of globalization and confronting young generation with social networks, it is essential to investigate the consequences of this exposure in creating of identity crises. Social networks have major differences

with previous social networks, such as individuals in these networks have been presented, apart from the norms that exist in the society. People can and also more prefer to interact with other network members with a new and passive identity according to their similar interests and away from their real identity, weaknesses and abilities and sometimes it seems so pleasant that people prefer to spend more time in social networks by reducing their social interactions in real world and this has consequences such as Sometimes causing the person's isolation and depression [17]. Among other flaws of virtual networks can be refer to change the actual values in a real society, the crisis of identity among adolescents and young people, addiction to permanent presence in these networks in other words a waste of time, replacing family connections by communication with other members of network (which in the long run leads to undermine the foundation of the family and fade the family and social values) and so on.

As mentioned above, society of Iran in terms of being in a particular historical period, today from the aspects of "transition", in addition to identity crisis of historical-industrial period, it also experiences the identity crises of the post-industrial era and the virtual space. Although the issues of ethnic identities are not tangible but they have had their own special changes in cyberspace. Now with regard to increased growth of social networks, it is essential to plan for new sources of identity-making with regard to cyberspace and social networks in social, cultural and political planning.

With geopolitical attitudes to world and Iran, different ways of formation, increase strength and its main clubs can be explained. One of the geopolitical views is reviewing information and the role of communications technologies and social networks in the formation of power [18].

Cultural imperialism and the media and communication big powers and clubs employ different methods to achieve their goals that examples of these can be about the Iran Islamic Revolution, how was the collapse of the Soviet Union, dealing with the liberation movements in the worldwide and utilizing the power of media in the color revolutions and the soft overthrows. In 2000, we saw unimaginable and confusing integration of media and the formation of media's multifaceted great powers. The media becomes a global universal phenomenon by its unlimited financial power and has a serious and direct role in shaping public opinions. So, our Iranian and Islamic identity, because of its valuable and cultural property had been attacked by Western cultural attacks with western products and/or cultural industries, although with occurring of internet and social oriented fever in cyberspace, this concern have been increased. Therefore, the hypothesis to be placed stabilize and in this regard from the impact of social networks on the components of Islamic Republic of Iran's national identity can be referred to anti-religious propaganda, violation of privacy,

seclusion and staying away from the real social environments and behavioral deviations.

## 6. Conclusion

Thus, beside the disadvantages that enumerated, we should not neglect the advantage of such networks such as ease of communications, information access and exchange in various fields, synergies and the formation of collective wisdom and so on. So, since without we have a choice, saw that a significant part of society's persons have been exposed to these types of networks and the published statistics in this context also show increased growth of these networks between Iranian's population.

So, it is worthy to do a serious pathology in this field and apply the appropriate policy-making and positioning and do correct and rational planning.

We also should not forget that according to many sociologists, when there is no opportunity in the real community to express comments and criticisms about anything in any way, or at least there would be less and also on the other hand, the opportunities which are essential for drain the excitement have great limitations, the local social networks become places for idea expansion for persons specially youth and adolescents and cause to bring these ideas which are sometimes criminal to real-world. Also, in our country, the membership in many online social networks faces with limitation and is treated as a crime which does not seem a suitable solution but also to create a wider participation of community members and more powerful presence seems more reasonable way to promote the values and norms accepted by the majority of society and in accordance with the culture and civilization of society [19].

Suggested strategies on social networks and their impacts on Iran include:

- Cultural officials and planners have tried to offer coherent programs for the introduction of national culture on social networks to be introduced Iranian culture as one of the influential cultures to external users in the world.
- Officials and theorists think about arrangements in order to make culture of using of virtual social network users, especially young users so that can be strengthened Iran national culture among the Iranian users of social networks to accept world cultures that are in line with our native culture.
- It seems essential to be thought about programs to strengthen citizens' social identity to be avoided the immediate effect of global cultures which may have problems due to non-compliance with the local culture.
- Vast change of culture, cultural identity and new methods of construction of identity are the new methods of identity making that today with the help of knowledge and technology development and by taking advantage of advanced principles of social psychology, being followed in a quiet and hegemonic.

- The most important way to avoid the damages of social networks is promoting media literacy of families about this technology. In fact, media literacy makes conscious audience, then he with respect to acquired knowledge, understanding and skills and taking into account the existing norms and values of the media decides how much and for what purpose use this media. Actions like supporting of native social networks developments on the condition that these networks aren't created by the government as "custom", they can be considered as a solution to this problem.
- According to this basic principle that online interactions should never take the place of physical ones, maybe it is one recommendation and a solution that at first person specifies his range of relations in the physical environment based on social and individual needs and knows the personality of other person well and then continues his relations in online space and social networks. The process of providing the new facilities in most of social networks go towards obtaining more information about users, so one of advantage of this principle is that with having enough confidence and recognition to other person in our physical relation before the online relations, the children and teenagers will never be suffered from abusing (annoy) of cyberspace.
- It is recommended that the Ministry of Education with changing their education policies, moves from memory-based to research-based training at various levels and appropriate to the training courses and in the using of update technologies, engages students in practical use of the internet in every way that this kind of use institutionalized in their human being and to be taken the thinking opportunity about the Undesirable usage from them.
- It is recommended that the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance instead of investing and planning to block and restrict access rates to social networks, should plan to generating appropriate content with rich Islamic and culture values and with the participation and involvement of the users in producing of such content while promoting the religious and national values have a plan in cyberspace and World Wide Web.
- It is suggested that the government also considers the planning and research unit in the field of new media, especially virtual social networks, in its other sub-devices to recognize public opinion and positive impact on it.

The media are trying to create the sense of need and desire in communities at first through the crawling, soft and insensible process, and then with the help of media technologies and advanced methods of persuasion, change the attitude of persons. In this new situation of the

world, also a universal and uniform culture and global identity is gradually forming that leads to emerging "global monocultural".

Under circumstances where the most countries of world, including Iran in the inequality conditions, mostly are the consumers of offerings in this space, the socio-cultural developments influenced by social networks in communities of the third world and the Islamic world will flow to the realization of the liberal-democratic cognitive foundations and undermine Islamic and national values if they are not be managed.

It is obvious, this unfair and unequal process (if no serious efforts be made to produce local knowledge), in the medium and long term, caused to producing of contradictions and conflicts of values, attitudes and identity and making polarization between Islamic, Iranian and Western elements and finally weaken the forces, elements, symbols, rituals, rites, ceremonies, which are the presentation of Islamic, beliefs and religion values and this will be manifested in social and behavioral actions and life style of citizens.

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