

## **The Role Of Border Markets In Regional Security** **Case study: Bashmagh Border Market in Marivan, Iran**

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### **Abstract**

International boundaries have their own specific characteristics among which underdevelopment, privation, economic and cultural inequality are of the main features of border regions of Iran, leading to insecurity in these areas. Iran has land and water frontiers with 15 countries of which some are penetrable with respect to illegal transportation of individuals and commodities and etc., menacing their economic, political, military and social aspects.

The frontier between Iran and Iraq is confronted with a great deal of problems because of no peace no war circumstances in which illegal transportation of individuals from illegal pathways, committing illegal crimes such as addictive drug trafficking, selling and purchasing alcoholic drinks and weapons threaten the security of border regions.

This study aims fundamentally to investigate whether developing border market can affect the security of the region or not. According to the results of analytical descriptive approach, library studies and survey method (questionnaire, observation) in Marivan, Bashmagh and conducting some interviews with officials of the region, it is concluded that the effect of developing Bashmagh market on the security of the region is significant.

**Keywords:** Border Market, Development, Security, Bashmagh Border Market, Marivan.

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## **1. Introduction**

In joint political borders of west of the country of which many parts have been placed in the territorial frontiers between Kurdistan province and Iraq, insecurity necessitates providing security through development-based approach that one of its indications is the creation of border markets so as to take advantage of relative capabilities of both sides to offer employment opportunities and sustainable security.

However, It should be noticed that the importance of border markets arises basically from economic and social aspects, employment, economic development and prosperity, and regarding the philosophy of the existence and formation of border markets in our country as well as other countries. Perhaps it is of secondary priority to reduce the dependency on oil revenues (Deputy of planning, Kurdistan, Spring 16, 2009).

The length of joint border between Kurdistan province and Iraq stretches for about 230 kilometres situated in border line of Baneh, Saghez and Marivan districts. Because the boundary has been placed in Kurdistan province, it has always been faced with serious problems, including illegal transportation, goods smuggling and etc. Illegal transportation of by different people, spies and counter-revolutionary parties and etc. can adversely affect the security of our country. Due to geographical conditions of Kurdistan province, the lack of sufficient facilities like fixed police stations in most spots of the border, seasonal attendance of border forces who retreat during the cold seasons of the year and in some cases inconsistency between border forces pose some problems in controlling and closing the border. Since 1994, 19 border stations have been built and filled with border forces (the same reference, p. 58).

With regard to the role and the position of non-oil exports in the economy, attempts to develop non-oil exports and decreasing the dependency on oil revenues have taken the priority of governmental development plans. Border market is regarded as a small but important part of foreign trade. Although the scale of these markets are not so large that they can undertake a pivotal role in lowering the size of the dependency to

the revenues of oil exports, yet they could be influential from different facets, including regional growth and development, security enhancement and etc (Kashefy, 1999, P. 16-17).

Owing to being in the vicinity of various internal and external environments, border regions have especial features. Transactions and spatial linkages across both sides of the border of neighbouring countries in addition to different threats in these regions have made development, security and tranquillity planning of great importance for border regions. According to recent documents, studies and researches, due to the nature and particular sensitivity of border regions, a great attention has been paid to conduct research on the study of peacefulness in these areas which could be sifted through from practical and scientific dimensions (Ahmadipur and et al., 2008, P. 2).

## **2. Theoretical framework**

Primary goals of establishing border regions at regional and national levels could be divided as follows:

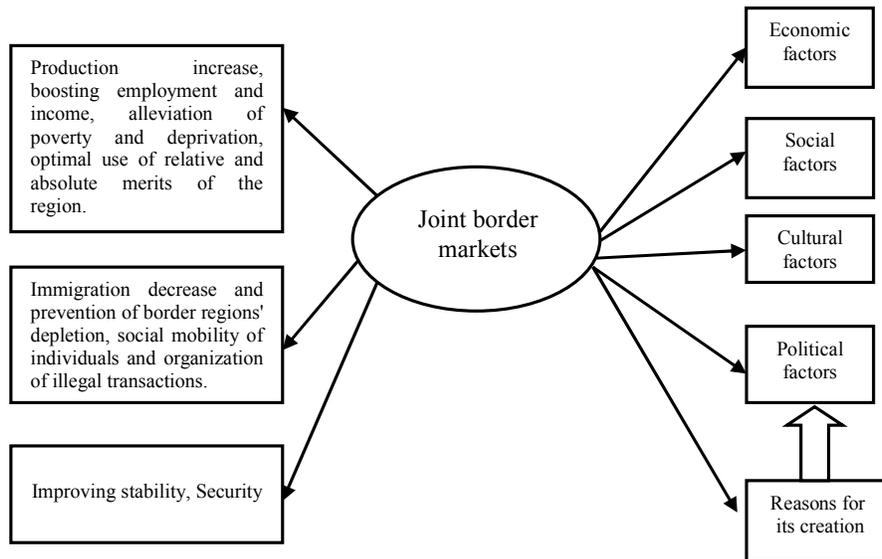
### **1- Regional objectives:**

- 1.1. Alleviate latent and observable unemployment crisis by providing wholesome and decent employment through commodity transaction in different forms of wholesale, retail and lateral services needed in the market.
- 1.2. To improve and stabilise the control and supervision of the government on commodity transaction process through practicable mainstreams and policies.
- 1.3. Organizing the informal transactions prevailing in the region, weakening the moral of breaching the law and presenting an appropriate and legal way for those earning their livelihood by this way.

**2- National targets:**

- 2.1. Creating a peaceful environment by active cooperation in foreign trade process.
- 2.2. Diminishing socio-economic tensions so as to reduce security costs in the region.
- 2.3. Relinquishing a part of government's ownership and functionality in affording the needs of residents to active market mechanism and cutting down distribution, transportation and storage costs(Dehmorde Ghaleno, June 1999, P. 52).

Nearby the legal customs where formalities for importation and exportation of goods are done, border market is an enclosed place in which the residents of each side of the border can supply their goods and products subject to importation and exportation regulations (The Islamic Republic of Iran Customs, 1998, P.2). The minimum effect of border market is to escalate the percentage of keeping frontier residents in border regions and augmenting the security coefficient in countries. Furthermore, from an economic point of view, this market is beneficial because of boosting employment opportunities and enhancing the quality of productions in border regions. In other words, border residents can exchange their commodities and products under regulations of article 32 of executive law as well as importation and exportation regulations and by prioritizing the goals of this transaction rule in these markets and according to paragraph 8 of this article, all the actual residents of border regions and those legal personalities acting in these areas have been permitted to operate in these markets (The Centre of economic studies, 2002, P. 4-11).



**The goals of border market formation**  
Reference: Pirbodaghi, 2000.

**A region** is a geographical space consisting physically and from human environment viewpoint of a hierarchy of similar events and factors that link its components. In terms of geography, a region has an integrated discernible and distinctive entity from other regions if its integral linking components either could be well recognized or could bear striking resemblance to each other (Mojtahedzadeh, 2000, P. 42). From geographic sciences point of view, regions are regarded 1) a solution for economic structures 2) determining the nature and identity and 3) a place for social interactions that jointly defines macro- and micro-scale structures, processes and decisions. In this notion, three fundamental structures are of concern: dependency space, working space and the domain of cooperation networks. Dependency space is limited to nature and identity spaces that depend on key interaction or spatial interactions to reproduce substantial infrastructures in a place. In this regard, local players are dependent to each other and either omitting or losing them and their associated investments can be of

importance for both internal identity and all local structural dependencies as well (Abdy,2009, P. 21). Space is not attributed only to an anatomical space which is tangible and visible as a synonym for place but to a space changing and transforming constantly due to human intervention which makes senses in relation with man and society. This is the human power of recognition inspiring a certain sense and value to the space. Constantly changing and transforming, space is therefore, the joint product of human and nature. Such a space as a set of individuals, activities and natural and human-made environments is the aim of regional planning (Saraffi, 1998, P. 92).

**Security** is a complex word and has a broad sense in its application, ranging from the most internal human emotions and thoughts to the most important conflicts between governments. Oxford dictionary gives this definition for security that is getting rid of worries and the safety of a particular country or a thing that is valuable.

Each of the international borders has its own features. Iran's frontiers possess various characteristics of which some are deprivation, vast and imbalanced underdevelopment, economic-cultural inequality to central regions and lower level of income than the average of country. These apart, the existing insecurity in our neighbouring countries, instability or great weakness in realizing complete political, administrative and economic stability in almost all of our neighbours accompanied by the complete lack of boundaries are of typical problems squandering resources posing serious troubles in border regions (Gholizade, 2004, P.17).

Development-based theory is one of the theories proposed against internal threats and towards mobilizing the capabilities to curb security vulnerabilities. Put forward in the sixties, this approach has been based on economic and non-strategic (military) concepts and was accompanied by the name of "Mcnamara", the American minister of foreign affairs under the presidency of Kennedy.

By the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, owing to nomadic lifestyle of some Kurdish ethnics, many of seasonal migrants resided in neighbouring countries which has been accompanied by transmission from current trade and political

borders even in their traditional forms. The most outstanding example of these relationships is the relation between Iran and Iraq. Since around 1951, the governments of Iran and Iraq have imposed some limitations on illegal transportation across their borders especially in group forms, and following this policy, migration between two countries was almost controlled resulting in the residence of some nomadic migrants. However, by the implementation of this policy, (executive or security) governmental organizations encountered some problems in the control of their borders as it could not prevent individual transportations, illicit transactions and commodity smuggling. At this time, economic and communication conditions of Iran and Iraq, particularly the conditions of transportation roads between two countries made exporting to and importing from each neighbour more economical and cheaper than domestic transactions in each country. Sardasht, Piranshahr, Eshnuie, Marivan, Baneh and Paveh had the greatest amount of dealings with Kurdistan in Iraq. After revolution and when the war started, this procedure changed to the new form of massive imports of cheap goods from Southeast Asia and the growth of illegal commodity smuggling such as alcoholic drinks and etc. During the war many of Iraqi Kurds entered Iran and settled in west cities of Iran such as Marivan. Political and economic benefits of sovereign government of Iraq were limited by passing and implementing the plans of flight orbit ban, economic embargo, oil for food as well as losing the power of central government to control north of Iraq. As pointed to, the exports of northern Iraq, mostly in form of smuggling, had been confined to just second-hand machines and accessories, house devices, industrial equipment, cloth, banana, tea, rice, cigarette and glasses of which most have not been national production of Iraq whereas our exports to that region in Iraq (even in form of smuggling) have been indicative of production activities' chains and domestic employment. At that time, by perceiving the benefits of opportunities and situations the government was intended to regulate existing transactions and create some places called border markets. These markets were founded under importation and exportation regulation of 1993

in thirteen cities of Iran (Kurdistan, 2010).

Having a comprehensive approach with respect to security, defence and particularly the relation among the security of border regions and national security could be effective against border threats (Cheraghy, 2006, P. 2). In this regard, three views have been proposed:

**Security has priority over development:** In this viewpoint, it is believed that security must be given priority to provide the necessary grounds for development at the second stage. In other words, according to the advocates of this view, security is the essential condition for realizing development.

**The priority of development over Security:** in this view security is realized through development on which economic pivot has been based. Hence, development is of more priority than security. Security will be achieved as long as development is realized. Underdevelopment is, Indeed, the key determinant of insecurity in this view.

**Reciprocal perception of Security and development:** the dominant belief in this view is that neither security nor development is of more priority but their lateral relationship is of importance (Mosala, 2003).

### **3 .Research method**

In this study analytical-descriptive approach has been used for the evaluation of hypotheses by means of obtained data from survey and library methods. Library method applies administrative documents, notes and letters and survey method is made up of questionnaire, interview, observation and taking photographs.

Questionnaires were distributed in Bashmagh market and some of them were filled in by customs officials and local people in the market. Moreover, he manager of Bashmagh market, political deputy of Kurdistan governor and market experts of Kurdistan governor.

### **4. Research results**

Brief investigation of border regions, border villages in particular, in comparison to central parts of Iran gives a set of major indices like geography isolation of border regions, being away from industrial and

economic poles and underdevelopment in different social, economic, political and cultural aspects. These regions possess certain types of features since they have been in contact with external environments. Mutual transactions and spatial linkages taking place across the borders and the vulnerability and several threats in these regions make their planning and logistics of great importance. In case of any negligence to these regions, we will experience major challenges such as population instability in border regions. Rural regions, their development and position in development planning and its contribution to regional and national development are of prominent concern for our country which can minimize the differences in the level of welfare benefits between city and village and discourages rural population and border residents from mass migration. Today, these problems across the borders have led the neighbouring countries towards a fundamental change in production, employment creation, stabilizing border population, increasing income and finally reaching sustainable development and mutual regional cooperation through expanding border markets known as the best way of economic development of border villages (Fakhr Fatemi, 2004, P.1).

Nowadays, population explosion in spite of lax security and attempts to stabilize population in border regions has brought about a sophisticated horizon for border regions. A country will be successful in the future as long as it is able to minimize its population problems and encourage the population to stay in border regions where they have been born through taking economic social and security plans. Being far from centre, geographically isolated and underdeveloped and etc., border regions enjoy much less welfare and development rather than major population centres. These differences will cause to the separation of these two regions and bring about exploitative relations in favour of centre, while the creation of joint or one-sided border markets at zero-border spots which enhances business and cultural relationships among border residents of two countries will spawn a conditions with which the central authority will be required to amend its relationship with its surroundings (Rezai, 2001, P.17). This new relationship

between centre and its surroundings is totally different from its previous one and results in convergence among them that if successful, border residents pay more attention to the convergence and their region resulting in spatial development of these regions (Andalib, 2001, P.35).

If spatial development of border regions is regarded as a wise effort made to improve living quality and standards of border residents, it would be obvious that Iran is in dire need of rural development because of the diversity of soil and water resources and their residential areas as well. What is more, regarding the number of those living alongside the borders and their interactions with border inhabitants of the other country, particular economic cultural and security impacts on the region will be expected. On the one hand, organizing these interactions and on the other hand, population instability of border regions and apparent lack of regional and spatial balances among border villages and centre have impeded the spatial progress of border regions to the extent that they have economically and socially been placed isolated from other parts of the country (Mahmoodi, 2003, P. 16).

Today, these inequalities along with informal business network or goods smuggling have convinced the governments of both countries to take some new reciprocal cooperative actions so as to make positive impact on border regions (the same reference, P. 15).

Such cooperation in form of joint border markets is the most well-known methods of economic development to reach a substantial change in production, employment, stability of border population, income increase and aims finally to achieve regional sustainable development.

Mass exodus of males, singles, and educated immigrants from rural areas to cities has produced many problems particularly in border regions such as gender and age disturbance of border population as well as the depletion of these regions from educated individuals that menace these regions from various aspects (Fakhr Fatemi, 2004, P.11).

Most border regions in which border markets have been inaugurated have certain features, like being listed among deprived regions, being far from

centre dominance of traditional culture, lack of security and etc. Border market establishment and development will have undeniable effects on promoting the conditions of the region (the same reference, P. 14). In order to develop these poor regions, exporting commodities through border markets at zero border spots (impoverished regions) has been recently of great concern by economic politicians to which a part of governmental economic development plans have been allocated so as to built up the regional mobility and provide more security for deprived regions of our country. (The guide for exports and imports through markets, Kurdistan governor).

The creation of border markets could be accompanied by creating relative merits in production and business across the borders, providing the requisites of selling and exporting products (marketing and seeking new markets), playing an influential role in strengthening individuals' relationship across the borders, motivating Iran neighbours to expand their transactions and a more solidified trade relationship with Iran and developing non-oil exports of neighbouring provinces.

In addition, offering desirable level of employment opportunities in regions in which border markets have been situated, gathering and driving idle and unused capitals into trade and business activities, providing more security for the region, diminishing goods smuggling, the growth and development of border regions and meeting essential needs of border residents are of other advantages of these border markets (Ebtekar Newspaper, Vol. 924).

Goods smuggling or underground trade is attributed to transportation of commodities without paying customs duties. Developing countries including Iran deal with this phenomenon, which brings with it many detrimental and adverse effects on the economy of a country. Due to its Natural conditions and economically being underdeveloped, border regions of Kurdistan province especially border villages of Marivan could not provide enough employment potentials and are deemed among isolated regions.

Economic features, social and ethnic characteristics and political

necessities of these regions make the problem of human force and employment of great nature and importance for local policy makings. Border regions present ample opportunities to smuggle commodities which has been the most commonplace way of conventional employment in these regions for a long time (Cheraghi, 2007, P.1).

Most border residents think of smuggling as a relative merit and a geopolitical opportunity for their territory. The results of a survey research has shown that in most border regions throughout the world carrying out border transactions legally (through creating border market and free-trade regions) has been a good measure of commodity exportation and competitive privilege of border regions. This not only has alleviated the problem of unemployment and raised earnings but also has provided an impetus to the growth of production market and investment whereby long-term path of employment has been designed (the same reference, P .2).

National governments have always been trying to establish internal security to protect and advance their entity. Beyond any doubt, no programme could be implemented without security. Economic prosperity, investment, development designing, welfare designs' planning and any activity which needs a calm and secure environment in different levels of society take hostage to security. Security, in fact, is regarded the same as goals, benefits and sustainable and principal values of society (Mosala, 2003, P. 15).

The concept of border security refers to preventing illegal activities throughout the borders of a country and legalizing human, home animal and commodity transportation through legal border gateways under regulations(Zarghani, 2008, P. 131).

Border market creation generally aims to help economic activities thrive, to create employment opportunities, to provide security and enough motivation to persuade border residents to live there. Economic development and relative welfare of these regions mitigate some problems of these borders such as commodity smuggling, theft etc. and prevent from mass population depletion from these regions (the same reference, P. 134).

Mass exodus from border regions can often be the grounds for eradication of peace and security. Thus, it is important to maintain population composition of border regions. Migration from border regions, however, cannot be controlled unless appropriate grounds for active population are provided. With no doubt, desperate financial situation and high rate of unemployment in border regions strongly influences illegal human transportation, goods smuggling and other factors disturbing security (deputy of Border Protection Naja).

One reason for creating border markets is to increase security and trust coefficient by developing business. In some frontier regions there is a limited feasibility for production activities, hence expanding business activities gives border residents the incentive to stay there. Creation of these markets indeed, not only provides enough motivation for border residents to stay there but also results in a higher security coefficient obtained by means of their attendance. It has been reported that black trade activities (drug and alcoholic drinking trafficking) have risen in some regions that markets have been closed down. Therefore, though there has not been done scientific and detailed researches on the relation between security and the creation of border market thus far, yet some experimental findings indicate there is a close linkage between security and the existence of market in these regions (Razini and Bastani, 2002, P.22).

Most of intellectuals are of the opinion that the most important role of frontiers is to put obstacle in the way of commodities, individuals and thoughts to move and countries try to make their borders impenetrable except at some agreed pathways so that their governance is maintained and the security in different political economic and cultural facets is not placed in jeopardy. However, since effectual control of borders is in need of high costs, controlling systems adjustable to the type of border, special organized border forces, bilateral efficacious agreements among neighbouring countries and international supports of formal organizations, only a few number of governments like Soviet Union, Israel, Yugoslavia, Cuba, and some governments from Europe and north America have been able to

establish an efficient management system to control their boundaries and most of other countries such as Iran have not been able to successfully exercise their control over their borders (Zarghani, 2008, P.132).

Iran and China have the most number of neighbours after USSR. Iran has joint land and water border with 15 neighbours taking long for 8731 kilometres of which 6031 kilometres consist of rivers, forests, steppe areas, swamps, ponds, deserts, hills and mountains deemed as land borders and the remaining 2700 kilometres are water borders stretched on three coasts of Persian gulf, Oman sea and Caspian sea. Furthermore, Iran borders encompasses ten primary physiographic zones including hills, mountains, deserts, ponds, swamps, rivers, forests, steppe areas, lakes, the sea; thus controlling the strategy and security of these long borders with diverse natural and human characteristics is obviously difficult. This is the reason for which some parts of border regions of Iran have long been of the most dangerous regions of which some are supposed to remain still unsafe in the near future. It is believed by experts that three substantial security challenges for Iran in the next decades are, first, long-term security at national and country level particularly in border regions with regard to religious-ethnic conflicts, secondly, territorial space of our neighbours with respect to the relation between the security of the region and country and addictive drug trafficking and thirdly, interaction of sustainable insecurity regulations of Iran with its neighbours (the same reference, P.33).

Overall, permanent political-military threats by some neighbours against Iran's territorial integrity, illegal transportation of migratory subjects, hostile groups, smugglers and hoodlums, border underdevelopment and some other factors have exposed the border regions of Iran to vulnerability and crisis. Hence, because of the penetrability of Iran's frontiers, desired security referred to having no illegal transportation of individuals, goods smuggling and drug trafficking does not exist in border regions, and consequently different political economic military social and cultural aspects within the country have been threatened (the same reference, P. 134).

### **5-Experimental Analysis**

Regarding the role of different people and regions of a country in realizing balanced development and enhancing their abilities to afford their substantial needs, each region must be separately and particularly planned. This will not be achieved without taking account of the privileges and individuals' cooperation of that region. Therefore, taking a cooperative solution towards regional development internalizes development process and brings justice and compatibility with the ecology.

At higher levels, by means of pursuing local development and the cooperation of different communities with each other, regional development will be sustained. Today, regional planning for the development of impoverished regions, in particular, is of absolute necessity. These policies should encourage the industries to establish their activities, find the suitable place for market centres, distribute credit facilities or expand road networks in the regions far from centre and metropolises to accelerate the development of deprived regions.

If spatial development of border regions is regarded as a wise effort made to improve living quality and standards of border residents, it would be obvious that regions that are far from centre are to be developed because of the diversity of their soil and water resources and their residential areas as well. What is more, regarding the number of those living in the borders and their interactions with border inhabitants of the other country, particular economic cultural and security impacts for the region will be expected. On the one hand, organizing these interactions and population instability of border regions and on the other hand, apparent lack of regional and spatial balances among border villages and centre have impeded the spatial progress of border regions as they have economically and socially been placed isolated from other parts of the country (Mahmoodi, 2002, P.16).

In other words, organising border transactions, however informal and local they are, has a pivotal role in the economy of border regions, improving the life of border residents resulting in mutual economic cooperation, the expansion of local market and creating peace and stability

in these border regions. In this regard, research finding could be presented in theoretical and analytical facets as follows:

Nowadays, population explosion in spite of lax security and attempts to stabilize population in border regions has brought about a sophisticated horizon for border regions. A country will be successful in the future as long as it can minimize its population problems and encourage the population to stay in border regions where they have been born through taking economic social and security plans. Due to being far from centre, geographically isolated and underdeveloped and etc., border regions enjoy much less welfare and development than major population centres. These differences will cause to the separation of these two regions and will bring about exploitative relations in favour of centre whereas the creation of joint or one-sided border markets at zero-border spots which enhances business and cultural relationships among border residents of two countries will spawn new conditions with which the central authority will be required to amend its relationship with its surroundings. The new relationship between centre and its surroundings is totally different from that in the past and results in convergence among them that if successful, border residents pay more attention to the convergence which in turn will lead to regional and national more security.

Therefor, economic development of border regions and promoting the welfare and financial situation of border residents through wholesome economic activities as well as supporting the investment in border regions have positive effect on the functionality of the security in frontier areas. In addition, wholesome economic activities, governmental investments in border regions providing that there is not a considerable difference between the borders of two countries could have a positive impact on the communication aspect of boundaries.

In this study we have endeavoured to analyse the role of border market of Bashsmagh in Marivan in the security of the region. The results show that developing border transactions under legal rules and regulations can act as a stimulus to formal commodity transaction and also can lead the business

towards: the application of relative merits of the region, the expansion of multifaceted cooperation between regions, earning business profits, reduction in good prices and increasing employment. In fact after the border market is established, smuggling is drastically curbed and security is reached in the region. Border residents can satisfy their consumptive needs and supply and meet the needs of 53164 people living there by taking part in six cooperatives and Bashmagh market. When individuals' activities of this region is shaped under the formal and legal direction for exports, in addition to preventing border residents from migration to other cities, the prevalence of smuggling in this region is restricted as the number of smuggling cases with the value of 12 million dollars in judicial centres of customs in 1388 experienced a sharp fall of 38.3 percent compared with the corresponding figure of 1387. (The interview with Mr. Hassan Zade, Summer 2010).

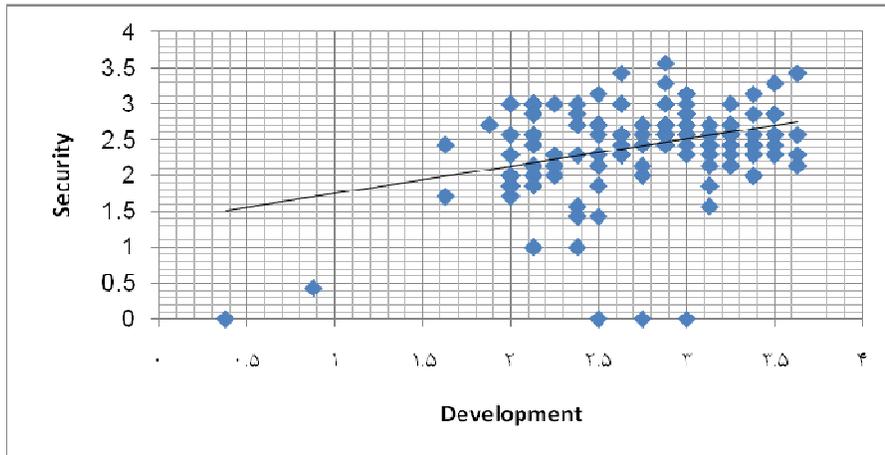
Economic prosperity and relative welfare of border regions, indeed, can help tackle some problems of these regions such as commodity smuggling, drug trafficking, theft and etc. With regard to employment, along with working in border cooperatives, many engage in careers in services like driving, storekeeping, transporting goods or travelling services. This will dissuade border residents from going to other regions.

To investigate the effect of developing border market on the security of the region, Pearson correlation coefficient test has been used.

$H_0$ : There is not any relationship between developing the region and its security.

$H_1$ : There is a significant relationship between developing the region and its security.

To carry out this test, scatter chart between two variables has been plotted out. As is shown in the chart, it is likely to have a linear relationship between them.



The results of the test have been summarized at the table below:

**Correlations**

		tosee	amniyati
tosee	Pearson Correlation	1	.387
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.008
	N	200	200
amniyati	Pearson Correlation	.387	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.008	
	N	200	200

Since test statistic of Pearson correlation equals to 0.387 at the significance level of 0.008 and the probability value is less than 0.05,  $H_0$  hypothesis is rejected at 5% significance level meaning that there is a significant relationship between security of the region and its development.

### 6. Conclusion

Border provinces encounter to a great extent with discrimination and inequality in income and job opportunities resulting in ensuing poverty, immigration and smuggling. The negligence of the centre to its surroundings has aggravated these problems. Hence, border residents have tended to diversify their jobs and take advantage of the benefits of living in border regions and take new ways to cope with formal strains and pressures. On the contrary, governments are seeking solutions whereby they offset and

alleviate the negative economic social cultural effects of such a situation. One way is to formalize commodity transactions in the form of border market in frontier regions.

A simple solution is not fruitful enough to combat the complexity and multi-faceted problems of border regions; but various approaches and resolutions should be taken to tackle these problems and one-factor insight should be broadened to a systematic and comprehensive view. In this regard, satisfying natural needs and social and human rights of border residents according to the principle of social, economic and territorial justice and equality and avoiding unfair discriminations can undoubtedly contribute to lowering the vulnerabilities of these regions. The considered objectives of current law to control free-trade regions of Iran are excessively diverse and illogical while selecting some definite and consistent goals which are adaptable to the structure of these markets could be effective in the formation of logical expectation of them. Thus, like free-trade regions , it is recommended commodity exportation and importation be freed in these markets so as to shed light on the importance of goods exports in these markets to attend more actively in the regional and international markets.

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