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## Sociologically Investigation of the Political Participation Level of Teachers and Social Factors Affecting It (Case Study: Ardabil Province)

Sarhad Madani<sup>1</sup>, Rosa Karampour<sup>2\*</sup>, Zahra Ghasemi<sup>3</sup>

1. PhD student, Department of Sociology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.
2. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran. (Corresponding Author)
3. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

❖ **Corresponding Author Email:** rosakarampour@yahoo.com

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### Abstract

**Purpose:** Today in compared to the past, people's attitudes and tendencies towards political issues have changed, and political participation is one of the most important topics among global societies. As a result, the current research was conducted with the aim of sociologically investigating of the political participation level of teachers and social factors Affecting it.

**Methodology:** The current research in terms of purpose was applied and in terms of implementation, method was descriptive. The statistical population of this study was all working teachers of Ardabil province in the 2020-2021 academic years with number of 16300 people, which the sample size according to Cochran's formula was determined 380 people and this number were selected by stratified random sampling method. The tool of the current research was the 85-item researcher-made questionnaire of teachers' political participation with an emphasis on social factors Affecting it, which its face validity was confirmed by the opinion of experts familiar with the research field, and its total reliability was obtained using the Cronbach's alpha method 0.87. In order to answer the research hypotheses were used from frequency, frequency percentage, Pearson correlation coefficients and multiple regression methods in SPSS software.

**Findings:** The findings showed that in most teachers of Ardabil province the level of political participation, political motivation, and political situation of environment, satisfaction from political elites, political activity and political influence had on a low level, political skill had on an average level and political awareness, use of mass media and political extroversion had on a high level. Also, the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of environment, satisfaction from political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a positive and significant relationship with the political participation of teachers ( $P < 0.001$ ). In addition, each of the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of environment, satisfaction from political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a significant role in predicting the political participation of teachers ( $P < 0.001$ ).

**Conclusion:** According to the results of this study, in order to increase the political participation of teachers, it is possible to provide the ground for improvement and promotion the political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, and political situation of environment, satisfaction from political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion.



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## Detailed abstract

**Purpose:** Participation is one of the common concepts in the field of politics, and when discussing development in different fields, the discussion of political participation is one of the most widely used concepts in this field. Political participation has effects and consequences for every political system, and the stability, efficiency and effectiveness of every political system always needs to be approved by the people of that system. Because in all political systems, people play the first role in stability, efficiency and effectiveness. Today, political participation is one of the things that are highly regarded by intellectual circles and it is mentioned as one of the most important indicators of the development and progress of societies, and on the other hand, the lack of political participation is considered one of the signs of backwardness of countries. This type of participation is one of the important examples of the dynamism and development of societies, and the active participation of people in political life has a great impact on the political, social, economic and cultural decision-making process of society. Political participation means opportunities for a large number of citizens to deal with political affairs as the intersection of cultural and political structure in any society, which refers to the involvement of masses of people in political activity and self-determination. In another definition, political participation means any type of activity that is directly aimed at influencing government institutions and policy-making processes, or indirectly to influence civil society, or any effort that is aimed at creating changes in the systematic patterns of social behavior. Political participation is a global phenomenon and a set of actions and activities by which citizens seek to influence or support a certain political government. Therefore, political participation as a right is a voluntary activity through which members of the society participate directly or indirectly in choosing rulers and shaping public policy. Therefore, the current research was conducted with the aim of sociologically investigating the level of political participation of educators and social factors affecting it.

**Methodology:** The current research was applied in terms of its purpose and descriptive in terms of implementation method. The statistical population of this study was all the educators working in Ardabil province in the academic year of 2019-2019 in the number of 16300 people, the sample size was determined according to Cochran's formula of 380 people and this number was selected by stratified random sampling method. In this sampling method, first, the size of the community was prepared by gender, and then according to the sample size of 380 people, sampling was done in the same proportion from the community of cultural men and women.

The process of conducting the research was as follows: first, after coordination with the education department of Ardabil province, a list of working cultural workers was prepared by gender, and boys were sampled from the estimated sample size in the same proportion from the community of cultural men and women. For the samples, the importance and necessity of the research was explained and they were asked to respond to the research tool. It should be noted that it was explained that there is no right or wrong answer and the best answer is the answer that reflects their real situation. Also, ethical considerations were explained for the samples and they were reassured about their compliance. At the end, after completing the research tool, male and female educators were thanked for their participation in the research. The tool of the current research was a researcher-made 85-item questionnaire on the political participation of educators with an emphasis on social factors affecting it.

**Findings:** The findings showed that the level of political participation, political motivation, political situation of the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity and political influence at a low level, political skill at an average level and political awareness, use of mass media and Political extroversion was at a high level. Also, the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a positive and significant relationship with the political participation of educators ( $P < 0.001$ ). In addition, each of the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of

the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a significant role in predicting the political participation of educators (001/001).  $0P<$ ).

**Conclusion:** According to the results of this study, in order to increase political participation of educators, it is possible to improve and promote political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity, political influence and provided political extroversion. The findings of this study showed that the level of political participation, political motivation, political situation of the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity and political influence at a low level, political skill at an average level and political awareness in most of the educated people of Ardabil province. The use of mass media and political extroversion were at a high level. Also, the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a positive and significant relationship with the political participation of educators. In addition, each of the variables of political skill, political awareness, use of mass media, political motivation, political situation of the environment, satisfaction with political elites, political activity, political influence and political extroversion had a significant role in predicting the political participation of educators.