



# INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH

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**INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH** (MO'ASSESA-ye MOṬĀLE'ĀT WA TAḤQIQĀT-e EJTEMĀ'I), an academic body established in 1958 at the University of Tehran with the following main objectives: research, counseling, education, and publication. Research activities of the Institute were conducted in the following groups: urban studies, rural studies, tribal studies, demographic studies, socio-psychological studies, and other related areas. The Institute also offered a master's degree in social sciences. The Institute's history is divided into three distinct periods: (1) the period of formation and rapid growth, 1958-72, when the Institute was relatively independent and active in research, education, and publication; (2) 1972-79, when it was incorporated into the newly formed Faculty of Social Sciences and Cooperative Studies; and (3) the post-revolution period from 1979 to the present. This entry will primarily deal with the first period of Institute's activities, when it was a multifunctional academic body, instrumental in the introduction of anthropology, sociology, demography, social psychology, and applied statistics, and served as a pioneering institution in fieldwork and regional surveys in Iran. The latter two periods are not dealt with in this entry, as the Institute had by then lost its independent status and had become part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, which will be treated separately.

FOUNDATION OF THE INSTITUTE



The idea for a Social Science Institute was first conceived in 1956 by Moṣṭafā Meṣbāḥzādeh, law professor at the University and the founding publisher of the daily *Kayhān*, when he submitted a proposal to Manučehr Eqbāl (q.v.), the chancellor of the University, for the establishment of the institute at the Faculty of Law (q.v.) for offering social science courses. Meanwhile, on a visit to Paris, Eqbāl discussed the idea with Eḥsān Narāqi, a young, resourceful sociologist and demographer and a former political activist who had graduated from the universities of Geneva and Paris and served as an intern at the Insti-tut Nationale d'Etudes Demographiques. Following this meeting, Narāqi prepared a new proposal for the foundation of a multifunctional Institute of Social Studies and Research (with fieldwork as its main function) and presented it to the Faculty of Letters and Humanities (q.v.). He also secured the patronage of Ġolām-Ḥosayn Ṣadiqi, distinguished professor of sociology and former minister of interior and deputy prime minister in Moḥammad Moṣaddeq's cabinet (1951-53), and Yaḥyā Mahdawi, the prominent professor of philosophy and the author of the first Persian textbook in sociology, *Jāme'a-šenāsi yā 'elm al-ejtemā'* (Tehran, 1944, 1953, 1958). With Ṣadiqi and Mahdawi as patrons of the Institute, 'Ali-Akbar Siāsi, the powerful dean of the Faculty and former minister and chancellor of the University, supported the cause. The Institute was formed in 1958 at the former campus of the Faculty of Letters with Ṣadiqi as the head (*ra'is*) and Narāqi as the director (*modir*). Meanwhile, the foundation of the Institute also served as an impetus for the formation of the Department of Social Sciences (Goruh-e āmuzeši-e 'olum-e ejtemā'i) with Ṣadiqi as its chair. Ṣadiqi, who served as the head of the Institute 1958-72 was mainly concerned with the Institute's Master of Social Sciences program, a joint program of the Department and the Institute, and research activities of the Institute were the responsibility of its energetic, well connected director, who directed the Institute 1958-69.

Narāqi's own background and, more specifically, a survey he conducted prior to the establishment of the Institute for the National Iranian Oil Company on social and socio-psychological problems of the Iranian employees of the company in Ābādān (q.v.), and similar surveys conducted for other government agencies, helped draw the attention of the governing elite to the significant role of social surveys in the planning of public projects and their implementation. In addition, connections that Narāqi had established with influential members of various agencies in Iran as well as with French research institutes, UNESCO, and the UN were instrumental in attracting visiting scholars from the above institutions and in securing research funds



from national and international agencies (“Interview with Meṣbāḥzādeh,” in *Āyati*, pp. 202-3; *Behnām*, p. 177; *Narāqi* and *Āyati*, pp. 37-197; see also *Ašraf*, p. 536, n. 4). Firuz Tawfiq, a Swiss-educated sociologist, succeeded *Narāqi* in 1969 when he became Director of the Department of Youth at UNESCO. Tawfiq served as the director until 1972, when the Institute was incorporated into the newly founded School of Social Sciences and Cooperative Studies. The following faculty members served as director of the Institute 1972-80: *Nāder Afšār Nāderi* (1972-73), *Mehdi Amāni* (1973-75), *Mortazā Kotobi* (1975-77), ‘*Abd-al-Ḥosayn Nikgowhar* (1977-78), *Siāvoš Amini* (1978-79), and *Kāzem Izadi* (1979-80).

As stated in its charter (“*Ā’in-nāma*,” 1958, p. 100), the Institute was set up with the following objectives in mind: research, counseling, education, and publication.

#### RESEARCH AND COUNSELING

Research activities of the Institute were conducted in the following groups: urban studies, rural studies, tribal studies, demographic studies, socio-psychological studies, and other related areas.

*Urban studies (Baḵš-e taḥqiqāt-e šahri)*. This group began its activities in 1959 with *Šāpur Rāseḵ* as the director and Paul Vieille, a grantee of the French government, as technical manager, while the Iranian National Oil Company agreed to fund a social survey of the city of *Ābādān*. Vieille, who served as manager of this group for over seven years, played an important role in training a number of researchers in the course of their fieldwork. Meanwhile, this group organized seminars on the “Development of *Sistān* and *Baluchistan*” in April 1959 and on “Social Change and Development in Iran” in October 1959 in cooperation with UNESCO (*Šadiqi*, 1959, p. 93). A turning point in the activities of this group was the seminar on “Social Problems of the City of *Tehran*” (*Masā’el-e ejtemā’i-e šahr-e Tehrān*), held in April 1962. This seminar received considerable attention and served as an impetus for the government adopting a policy of preparing comprehensive master plans for major urban centers in the mid-1960s (*Āyati*, pp. 217-30). The main surveys conducted by this group 1959-79 included: a survey on the value of urban land and its social and economic consequences; a sample survey of merchants of the *Tehran bazaar* and the economic role of the bazaar; a sample survey of social and economic problems of *Tehran’s* industrial establishments; a survey of the *Ahvāz* industrial complex; a survey of socio-psychological problems of fertility



in Iran (a joint project with the demography group); participating in preparation of the social, demographic, and economic aspects of the comprehensive master plan of Tehran in cooperation with the Tehran Municipality; a survey of income and expenditure of the Tehran municipality; a social survey of the city of Rašt; a survey of functional literacy and anti-illiteracy campaigns in the cities of Isfahan and Dezful (a UNESCO project); a survey of the value of urban land in Tehran; a survey of social and demographic aspects of the city of Shiraz for the preparation of its master plan; the Atlas of Tehran; the status of women in Iran; the causes of discontent in the urban middle class. A valuable project conducted by this group was the regional survey of the carpet industry in Azarbaijan, Kermān, Kāšān, Hamadān, and Khorasan, under the supervision of Firuz Tawfiq, who succeeded Vieille as director of urban studies in 1966. Another noted project conducted under Tawfiq's supervision was a survey of the social and economic characteristics of urban marginal settlements (*Ḥašia nešinān-e šahri*) in Bandar 'Abbās and Bušehr (1972), and in Tehran, Ahvāz, and Kermānšāh (1973; Mo'assesa, 1979, pp. 1-14; Āyati, pp. 217-32; Narāqi with Āyati, pp. 246-49, 404-6).

Researchers of the urban studies group who contributed to its publications 1959-79 included Ḥosayn Adibi, Simin Afqahi, Abu'l-Ḥasan Banišadr, Ḥasan Ḥabibi, Manučehr Hezārḳāni, Kāzem Izadi, Meḥdi Haṛḳšenow, 'Abbās Kā-qāni, Mortazā Kotobi, Moṣṭafā Nirumand, Bāqer Parhām, and Ġolām-'Abbās Tawassoli.

*Rural studies (Baḳš-e taḥqiqāt-e rustā'i)*. The active involvement of this group began in 1962 when the government launched the land reform program, and the group was assigned by Plan Organization to conduct six survey projects in various rural areas in the 1960s. First, a survey of the social and economic characteristics of rural areas of 17 sub-provinces of Mašhad, Arāk, Sabzavār, Ḳalkāl, Nišābur, Bandar 'Abbās, Darragaz, Qučān, Bojnurd, Birjand, Ṭabas, Ferdows, Torbat-e Jām, Torbat-e Ḥaydariya, Gonābād, and Kāšmar. The basic sample survey of households as well as preparation of monographs of selected villages for a deeper understanding of rural problems were used in this project. Second, a survey of the social and economic characteristics of agricultural credits before and after land reform in six rural areas of Isfahan, Gorgān, Marivān, Fuman, Lāhijān, and Šahsavār (Tonokābon). Third, a survey of rural cooperative societies in cooperation with Social Research Institute of the United Nations in Garmsār, Sāri, Sanandaj, Hamadān, Golpāyagān, and



Qaşreşirin. Fourth, a survey of problems of the state-managed agricultural enterprises (*şerkathā-ye sahāmi-e zerā'i*) in Garmsār, Sāri, Sanandaj, Hamadān, Golpāya-gān, and Qaşreşirin (the survey of the latter two regions was conducted in the tribal group under Huşang Keşā-varz). Fifth, evaluation of the impact of land reform in the above mentioned regions. Six, a survey of the use of pasturelands in the provinces of Fārs, Kohkiluya, and Boyoraḥmad, published in 10 volumes. These surveys, basically descriptive and problem oriented, provided a collection of useful information for the Agriculture Ministry and Plan Organization in their dealings with rural areas.

During 1962-79 the following faculty members and researchers served as the head of this group: Kāżem Wadi'i (1962-63), Moştafā Moḥājerāni (1964-68), Nāder Afšār Nāderi (1968-71), and Qosrow Qosrovi (1972-79). Researchers of rural studies who contributed to its publications 1959-79 included Esmā'il 'Ajami, Sayyed Aḥmad 'Alawi, Moştafā Azkiā, 'Ali-Rezā Estifā, Moḥamamd-Rezā Kāzeruni, Dāwud Kiānimaneš, 'Ali-Akbar Nikḳolq, Mas'ud Şafiq, and Manşur Woţuqi (Institute, 1979, pp. 18-42; Narāqi with Āyati, pp. 253-56).

*Tribal studies (Baḳš-e taḥqiqāt-e 'aşāyeri)*. Tribal studies began in the Institute in 1959 when Pierre Bessaingnet, a French ethnologist, and C. Optland, a Dutch ethnologist, joined the Institute with an assignment from UNESCO, and the Ministry of Agriculture agreed to fund proposals for studying, among others, the Şāhsavan tribe and a project for the development of Sistān and Baluĉestān Province. With the arrival of Parviz Varjāvand in 1959, a small group was formed and conducted the first fieldwork in Baḳtiāri with Huşang Keşāvarz and 'Aziz Rakşò-e Qor-şid. The report of this work was published as *Bāmedi, ṭāyefa'i az Baktiāri*, Tehran, 1964. In 1965 with the late Nāder Afšār Nāderi, a French-educated anthropologist, joining the tribal studies, the group was formally established and expanded. In the period 1959-79, this group carried out a number of surveys on various aspects of tribal and nomadic communities, including their migration, settlement, traditional technologies, socio-economic characteristics, etc. These surveys were conducted in the tribal areas of Şāhsavan in East Azarbaijan, Kohkiluya and Boyoraḥmad Province, Baḳtiāri region, and tribes of central region of Iran. Well-received and remembered among the group's products, mostly unpublished monographs, were documentary films: *Golāb* (extracting rosewater in Qamşar), *Maşk*, *Baluţ* (The Oak), and one on the ruins of the ancient town of Dehdaşt, which were directed by Afšār Nāderi.

Researchers of the tribal studies group who contributed to its publications



1959-79 included 'Abbās Baḳšandeh Noşrat, Vidā Ḥājebi, Moḥammad Reżā Kāzeruni, Amir Huşang Keşāvarz, Ḥasan Pārsā, 'Ali-Akbar Qadimi, 'Aziz Raḳş-e Ḳorşid, 'Ali N. Rażawi, Elvia Restrepo Afşār Naderi, Jawād Şafineżād, Farḥād Varahrām, and Parviz Varjāvand (Mo'assesa, 1979, pp. 115-44).

*Population studies (Baḳş-e taḥqiqāt-e jam'iyat-šenāsi)*. Following the appointment in 1959 of Jamşid Behnām, a French-educated economist and demographer, who translated the first introduction to demography (Alfred Sauvy, *Moqaddema bar 'elm-e jam'iyat*, Tehran, 1961) and a book on general demography (*Jam'iyat-šenāsi-e 'omumi*, Tehran, 1962), the ground was prepared for population studies. Demographic surveys began in 1963, when Jean-Claude Chasteland, a French demographer, was commissioned by the United Nations to join the Institute. The first activity of Chasteland was a critical survey of the 1956 census of population with the assistance of Mehdi Amāni, a French-trained demographer, and Audil Puech, a French intern. Also helping the advancement of demographic surveys was the publication of a book on analytical methods of demography (*Raveşhā-ye taḥlili-e jam'iyat-šenāsi*, Tehran, 1964) and a handbook on sources of population statistics (*Manābe'-e āmārhā-ye jam'iyaṭi dar Irān*, Tehran, 1966) both by Mehdi Amāni. A variety of demographic issues were dealt with in surveys carried out by this group, as shown in the following projects. First, a re-examination of the first census taken in Tehran by 'Abd-al-Ġaffār Najm-al-Dawla in 1301/1884. Second, a historical survey of Iran's population and its changes during the period of 1891-1961 (a UNESCO project). Third, a sample survey of fertility in rural areas of Kāzerun, Torbat-e Ḥaydariya, Haştrud, and Şahsavār (Tonokābon). Fourth, a sample survey of fertility in Tehran and Isfahan (known as K. P. A. project). Fifth, projection of Tehran's population. Sixth, trends of urbanization in Iran. Seventh, a survey of age structure in 24 sub-provinces of Iran. Eighth, a series of analyses of various results of the censuses of population and housing in 1956, 1966, and 1976. The following demographers served as the head of this section: Behnām (1959-62), Amāni (1962-73), and Ḥabib-Allah Zanjāni (1973-79).

Researchers of this group who contributed to its publications 1959-79 included 'Aliqoli Kayarsalān, Şahlā Kāzemipur, Esmā'il Majdābādi Farāhāni, Moḥammad Mirzā'i, Asad-Allāh Mo'ezzi, Peymān, Ma-s'ud Sotudeh Zand, and Zanjāni (Institute, 1979, pp. 144-156; Āyati, "Az sarşemāri tā taḥqiqāt-e jam'iyat-šenāsi wa goftogu bā Jean-Claude Chasteland," in Narāqi with Āyati, pp. 322-54).



*Socio-psychological studies (Bakš-e taḥqīqāt-e ravān-šenāsi-e ejtemā'i).* Headed intermittently by the faculty, this group conducted a number of surveys covering such issues as the views of the participants in the nationwide college entrance examination, leisure time, the Iranians expelled from Iraq, youth welfare organizations, and women after divorce in Tehran. Researchers of this group who contributed to its publications 1959-79 included Aḥmad Āqāzādeh, Mortazā Kotobi, Ḥosayn Lājevārdi, Vida Nāšeḥi Behnām, 'Ali Purṭā'i, and Bāqer Sārukāni (Institute, 1979, pp. 157-61).

*Other studies.* One of the research groups that were active in the early years of the Institute was formed in 1960 by Šāpur Rāseḳ, professor of sociology, focusing on social stratification and social groups in Iran. A valuable survey that began under Rāseḳ's supervision was a survey of the social background of the deputies of the Majles (the parliament) and cabinet members since the Constitutional Revolution (q.v.) by Zahrā Šaji'i. The final results of these surveys were published in four volumes as *Noḳbegān-e siāsi-e Irān az mašruṭiyat tā enqelāb-e Eslāmi*, Tehran, 1993. Other surveys conducted in this group included A. Ašraf, *Qešrhā-ye darāmad dar Irān wa melāk-e darāmad dar ta'yin-e ṭabaqāt-e ejtemā'i* (Income strata in Iran and income criterion in social class formation), mimeograph, 1961; Afšān Ḥesām Waziri on relations between education and occupation in various groups, including university graduates and workers in Tehran and Pažum Šari'ati on social background of Western-educated elites.

Interest in political sociology was revived after the establishment of the Faculty of Social Sciences in 1972, when a short-lived group of political sociology was created with M. As'ad Nežāmi, a U.S.-trained sociologist, as its director. Its major project, besides the study of the National Developmental Corps (*Ordu-hā-ye 'omrān-e melli*), was the content analysis of the proceedings of the Majles over its entire history; that was interrupted by the 1979 revolutionary upheavals.

Finally, we should mention a series of surveys conducted by Jacqueline Rudolf Tuba, an American family sociologist who led a small survey group for comparative studies. With the assistance of Simin Afqahi, Qamar Pilevar, and Parvin Mošṭafā Abyāneh, Tuba's group produced 18 research reports, some in English, dealing with the problems of marriage and family in Iran, problems of women after divorce, problems of children and youth in Iranian family, leisure time of college-educated employees in four industrial centers of Iran, and the influence of women in Iran's economic system (Institute, 1979, pp.



162-66).

#### THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The master's degree in social sciences (*fawq-e lisāns-e 'olum-e ejtemā'i*) was a program launched jointly by the Institute and the Department of Social Sciences. The program consisted mainly of some 15 courses of varying number of credits, of which students had to acquire a total of 22 credits to satisfy the degree's requirements. Five of those courses, namely, sociology, economics, social psychology, methodology, and statistics, making a total of 17 credits, were required courses; and for the remaining 5 credits, the students were free to choose from among the 10 elective courses which were offered every year. Some of the required courses were offered for the first time at the University, including anthropology, demography, social psychology, history of sociology, sociological theory, research methods in social sciences, social problems of Iran, and specific topics in sociology.

The formation of the program brought a group of social scientists to the Institute and the Department. The faculty members, in addition to Şadiqi (history of sociology, sociological theory, and political sociology) and Narāqi (anthropology, and Iran's social problems), included Jamšid Behnām (economics and demography), Moḥammad Ḥasan Ganji (human geography), 'Abbāsqli K̄vājanuri (statistics), 'Ali-Moḥammad Kārdān (social research methods and education), Yaḥyā Mahdawi (theory and philosophy), Maḥmud Şanā'i (social psychology), Şāpur Rāseḳ (general sociology, research methods in sociology, urban sociology, industrial sociology), and Kāzem Wadi'i (human geography). The adjunct faculty included K̄o-dādād Farmān-Farmā'iān (economic development), Hosayn Kāzemzādeh (administration), 'Ali Madani and Abu'l-Qāsem Qandahāriān (statistics), Huşang Nahāvandi (economic analysis). Visiting professors included Andre Antonowsky (cultural anthropology) and Kurt Martin (social and economic planning), both from the United States, and Pierre Bessaingnet (ethnology) from France (Narāqi and Āyati, pp. 210-15).

The master's program aroused an unusual degree of public interest, as in the first year some 400 students were enrolled; 69 graduated in 1960 and among them were some of such subsequently well-known Iranian social scientists as Nāder Afşār Nāderi, Esmā'il 'Ajami, Mehdi Amāni, Aḥmad Aşraf, K̄osrow K̄osrovi, Maḥmud Ruḥ-al-Amini, and Zahrā Şaji'i. The heavy enrollment rate continued until 1961, when the requirement of passing a written and an oral



entrance examination was adopted; as a result, admission was reduced to a small number of selected students per year (Āyati, pp. 201, 233-35).

Besides its regular master's program, the Institute also offered ad hoc specialized non-degree training for various agencies and institutions which were willing to pay for the service ("Asās-nāma," 1972, p. 1). An example was the collaborative project with the UN Asian Institute for Development Planning in Bangkok, in which 10 to 15 holders of bachelor's degrees in social sciences were selected each year and trained as welfare specialists for various agencies (interview with Tawfiq, Summer 2002).

In 1972, the Department of Social Sciences plus the Institute and the hitherto less known Institute for Cooperative Studies and Rural Affairs (Mo'assesa-ye taḥqīqāt-e ta'āwoni wa omur-e rustā'i) were combined, and a new Faculty of Social Sciences and Cooperative Studies (Daneškada-ye 'olum-e ejtemā'i wa ta'āwon) was created with Jamšid Behnām as its dean. The new faculty consisted of four academic departments: sociology, anthropology, demography, and cooperative studies, and a single research organ made up of the former two institutes combined (Behnām, p. 178; Dāneškada, 1974, pp. 7-8).

#### PUBLICATION AND LIBRARY

Conscious of the scarcity of reference material for its core objectives, teaching and research, the Institute made an effort to fill the gap. This was done in two interrelated ways of publication and development of a specialized social sciences library.

*Publication.* By the time of its incorporation into the Faculty of Social Sciences in 1972, the Institute had published (in addition to some 400 monographs and research reports) more than 75 volumes of books on various subjects of the social sciences, many of which had gone into reprint several times. Of these, 15 titles were allocated to basic textbooks, prepared as teaching material for the new courses offered by the Institute and the Department; eight titles were monographs of a number of villages, and six volumes on the social history of Iran. Basic textbooks in various social science disciplines included five books on methodology: P. Bessaingnet, *Méthode de l'anthropologie* (the text of his lectures in the anthropology course, Tehran, 1961; tr. 'A.-M. Kārdān as *Raveš-e mardom-šenāsi*, Tehran, 1961), 'A. K̄vājanuri et al., *Ravešhā-ye moqaddamāti-e āmāri* (Basic statistical methods, Tehran, 1963), Emile Durkheim, *Qawā'ed-e raveš-e jāme'a-šenāsi* (*Des Regles de la methode sociologique*, tr. 'A.-M. Kārdān,



Tehran, 1964), Kosrow Mohandesi, ed. and tr., *Ravešhā-ye taḥqiq dar 'olum-e ejtemā'i* (Methods of social research, Tehran, 1965), Parviz Varjāvand, *Raveš-e barrasi-e ilāt o 'ašāyer* (Method of tribal studies, Tehran, 1965).

Other textbooks included three books prepared for courses in demography, as mentioned above; M. Halbwachs, *Ṭarḥ-e ravān-šenāsi-ye ṭabaqāt-e ejtemā'i* (*Esquisse d'une psychologie des classes sociales*, tr. 'A.-M. Kārdān, Tehran, 1961), 'Abd-al-Ḥosayn Jahānbeglu, ed. and tr., *Oṣul-e barnāmarizi-e rošd-e eqtešādi* (Principles of planning for economic development, Tehran, 1964), Reżā 'Olumi, tr., *Oṣul-e 'olum-e siāsi* (Principles of political science, Tehran, 1965), 'A.-M. Kārdān, *Masā'el-e ravān-šenāsi-e jam'i wa ravān-šenāsi-e ejtemā'i* (Problems of collective and social psychology, Tehran, 1966), A. Ašraf *Jāme'a-šenāsi-e ṭabaqāt-e ejtemā'i dar Āmrikā* (Social class in America, Tehran, 1967), Ehsān Narāqi, *'Olum-e ejtemā'i wa sayr-e takvini-e ān* (Development of social sciences, Tehran, 1967), Jean Kaznove, *Mardom-šenāsi* (Anthropology, tr. Torayyā Šaybāni, Tehran, 1970).

*Library.* Following the establishment of the Institute, Šadiqi donated to it a number of books and periodicals, and thus was laid the foundation of its specialized social sciences library, headed by Hušang Dādār. In the subsequent years the efforts continued, and in 2000 it had a total of over 54,000 books, of which 37,500 are in Persian and 16,500 in foreign languages; of 146 titles of periodicals 76 are local and 70 foreign. It has an archive of more than 2,700 dissertations of which 200 are for the doctorate, 700 for master's degree, and 1,800 for bachelor's level. The library in recent years has been computerized, and its circulation is handled electronically. The library also formed a small documentation center with Ḥasan Ḥabibi as its head in 1962. This center collected various documents and prepared subject and author indexes for social science journal articles and books, the results of which were published in 13 monographs (interview with Dādār, 2002, and interview with and notes of Šahlā Kāžemipur, currently assistant professor and head librarian, 2002, p. 4).

#### AN OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Although organizationally a part of the Faculty of Letters and Humanities, the Institute was far more than a simple adjunct to the Faculty during the period 1958-72. It was, relatively, an independent entity with its own charter, library, facilities, and budget as well as a separate campus (for an interesting history of the campus, see Dāneškada-ye 'olum-e ejtemā'i wa ta'āwon, 2002, p. 1). The



Institute along with the Department played a crucial role in the introduction of sociology, anthropology, demography, social psychology and, more specifically, national, regional, and local sample survey and fieldwork in Iran. Instrumental in introduction and development of fieldwork were Paul Vieille (social survey), Pierre Bessaingnet (anthropology), Jean-Claude Chasteland (demography), ‘Abbāsqli K̄vājanuri, along with his colleagues (statistics), and Firuz Tawfiq (research method). Also should be noted is that the Institute served as the pioneering agency in the formation of research centers in Iran’s universities. Its example was followed by other faculties of the University of Tehran as well as other universities in the 1960s-70s. The Institute continued to perform the above important functions until 1972 when it was merged with the newly formed Faculty of Social Sciences and Cooperative Studies (see above).

Organized in specialized groups, the Institute produced a large volume of information and literature, mostly in the form of unpublished reports and monographs, some in English and French, and some even in the form of documentary films. These reports contain useful and valuable information on the social, economic, and political conditions of Iran between two revolutions: from the 1963 White Revolution to the 1979 Islamic Revolution (see Mo’assesa, 1979).

Although the Institute was a part of the University, the official budget allocated to it was barely, if at all, enough for its day-to-day running and office work. Therefore, the research groups, as described above, were created *ipso facto* in the sense that they were formed and maintained with a view to the availability of qualified research staff on the one hand, and, more importantly, the externally funded research projects and consultations (local or foreign) on the other. In view of this fact, while the research groups were always directed by the full-time members of the faculty, their technical staff always fluctuated in number and varied in the duration and nature of their work, i.e., being full-time or part-time. Whatever the implications of this fact for the ‘scientific value’ of the research findings, it was for sure an added impetus or justification for their being utterly ‘applied’ rather than basic and theoretical.



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Interview with the following former officers of the Institute in the Summer of



2002: Jamšid Behnām, Hušang Dādār, Šahlā Kāzemipur, Eḥsān Narāqi, Bāqer Sārukāni, and Firuz Tawfiq.