

## The Comparative Survey of Cyberspace Role in Political Development from Student's Viewpoint of Islamic Azad and National University of Tehran

**Neda Mohammadpour Khabazi<sup>1</sup>**

*Ph.D. Student of Communications, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran*

**Mohammad Soltanifar<sup>2</sup>**

*Associate Professor of Communications, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran*

**Ali Akbar Farhangi<sup>3</sup>**

*Professor of Media Management, Faculty of Management, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran*

**Sara Mohammadpour<sup>4</sup>**

*Assistant Professor of Communications, West Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran*

*Received 18 March 2020*

*Revised 18 August 2020*

*Accepted 24 August 2020*

---

**Abstract:** *Novel communication technologies significantly influence proactive behaviours by expanding and developing information highways and using satellite and computer facilities in the world. These influences can be examined in political, social, economic, and cultural aspects and so on. The main purpose of current research is to study the cyberspace role in political development from the student's viewpoint of Azad and the National University of Tehran. The research method is surveyed, and it is made of the researcher's questionnaire. A sample does it consists of 384 students of Azad and the National University of Tehran. Cronbach's alpha of questionnaire is 84%, and questionnaire validity is confirmed by communication and political science experts. Mann-Whitney U test and the binomial test is used for data analysis. The results show that using cyberspace has a role in political development from student's viewpoint of Azad and the National University of Tehran and, besides, the impact of using cyberspace on political development from the student's viewpoint of Azad and National University of Tehran is different. The findings imply that using cyberspace has a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions, economic development and political legitimacy, political culture, the strengthen of structural differentiation, the application of functional necessity and pattern variables, modernized and mobility of the political system.*

**Keywords:** *cyberspace, political development, political culture.*

---

### Introduction

The spreading of the Internet, especially in the West, has influenced many variables such as communication, politics, contribution, and public opinion. The Internet position is an essential infrastructure of the information society since the Internet is helpful for the all-aspect strengthening of the information society. Internet leads to decentralization, a variety of numerous contents, virtual, reducing the importance of time and place, and creating a new identity. Internet and its application have a direct impact on political relations and ties and can create effective political interactions by establishing and increasing two-way communications. It provides facilities for increasing international obligations, trust, and partnerships among governments, and instead of just being a group-based society, the Internet results in creating a network-based society. Communication media increase the level of people adaptability with new situations, in addition, to increase of people flexibility and reduce the adherence of people to traditions against modern society and lead society tendency from customary

---

<sup>1</sup> Email: neda.pourkhabazi@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Email: msoltanifar@gmail.com (Corresponding Author)

<sup>3</sup> Email: aafarhangi@yahoo.com

<sup>4</sup> Email: s.mohamadpour@gmail.com

action to rational action and provide the means of expanding and developing democracy, public domain and civil society (Castells, 2001: 409).

In a level of review, it can be seen that the Internet became a part of the essential home appliances in the social and political culture of Western societies by strengthening communication and technological infrastructures. Different private companies provide advanced services to users in this field. However, activity in cyberspace is a novel phenomenon such as blogging, participating in virtual networks, and other facilities that the internet provides to users. It deeply influences society's social and political ties. Internet networks and spaces are in such a way that they provide the possibility of performing different activities in different social, cultural, and political areas for today's human as well as most governments. The function and performance of Internet networks and spaces are in such a way that influence human activities in the real world of society by information transmission and the simulation of some real activities of humans in cyberspace. Some advantages of using novel technologies in cyberspaces for activities of metropolis cities and countries are increasing the speed of dealing with problems and solving the issues of metropolis cities and resource-saving and their existing capacity (Madadpoor, 2004: 38). Today, economic considerations and activities are performed based on virtual. They go through a growing process and lead to business development among countries, continuous transactions, and exchanges with each other and increasing national product and economic resources. These spaces lead to the economic development of societies in national and international areas and provide the development of social and cultural interactions among citizens and different social groups within the country and abroad by influencing social and cultural characteristics. Furthermore, they are helpful to make peace and establish national and international stability in the world. Increasing economic interactions by cyberspaces result in establishing robust relations among different organizations and economic activists and their continuous cooperation in different areas. (Burgman, 2010: 59)

Cyberspace with any interpretation and definition has its vast, novel, and original territory, which brings novel facilities, freedoms, chances, worries, harms, and limitations for its residents. The importance of this territory is so much that today, some scientists talk about having two universes in current the world. With this point of view, the most important change in the current world is the real world, and the virtual world becomes competitive, creating the basis of future world changes. The emersion of the new world, i.e., the virtual world, influences many procedures, attitudes, and future world capacities. This world is parallel to the real world, and it is sometimes dominant in the real world and becomes objective. These two worlds have numerous exchanges with each other. The real world is distinct from the virtual world by having characteristics such as having geography and its political system, being imprisoned, naturalness, and so on. Unlike, the virtual world is relatively separated by characteristics such as out of place, being ultra-time, having multiplication, being available simultaneously. In terms of factor, the most important change that the two-world space, namely the emersion of the virtual world and the formation of the virtual world, in turn, has created is the change of human relationships. Replacing the face to face traditional relations by virtual relations via pc is likely to be the most important part of this change. (Wiener, 2014: 63). The realities of cyberspace's capabilities show that it can play a role in leading to a democratic society as well as political and social development of society. One of the most important immediate means of political development can be mentioned including the organization of social groups and forces, their freedom for contribution and political competition, the existing mechanism of solving institutional conflict within the political structure, eliminating the aggression from political life, eliminating religion from politic to strengthen the political stability, the legitimacy of intuitional and legal frameworks for political competition and compromise and so on. As a result, this aspect of developed and democratic countries means strengthening the democratic values of the capitalist system, the existence of the open class system, the high level of industrialization, the comprehensiveness of education, political legitimacy, converting democracy to a structured institution, public mobilization and the expansion of civil society, applying legal and institutional democratic rights in society, liberal press, parliament, developing and ensuring the political freedoms, endurance of political opponents and tolerance, the existence of peaceful culture in a lifetime and political competitions (Qavam, 2006: 26).

In this topic, political development refers to a process that is trying to realize a combination of government authority and the distribution of political power among citizens. In this way, government authority applies the least pressure on the distribution of power among citizens, but does not decompose it and making it meaningless. Furthermore, being present in the scene and political power of citizens have the least threat for government authority, but its disability and tiredness should be prevented. According to the definition that is proposed for political development, the developed society is a society having the most authority. Still, it does not lead to dictatorship, and on the other hand, it has the most distribution power that does not lead to being paralyzed. (harasani, 2013: 5) in this regard, for reaching political development, cyberspaces can be revealed as an opportunity for increasing contribution or threat for choosing peace in the formation of political behaviors in elections. Besides, they can also relate different elements of democratic discourse; they can also help create behaviors and democratic politics (Sajadi, 2003:68).

Today, by implementing and flourishing social networks in Iran, people can make intellectual links and communication exchange with other members in cyberspace. In these conditions, the internalization of parties as being unique in people view is not done fully, the social networks acquire the role of political and social parties and apply the functions of parties among people in cyberspace, and this subject increases the power of networking and influence of social networks in the country (Naderan, 2003: 68).

Since cyberspace has augmented importance in the country and other social virtual networks become more expansive and vast. It is better to estimate and examine the significance of these virtual social networks' impact on political development from the student's viewpoint of Azad and the National University of Tehran. Therefore, it is tried to examine this impact in this research.

## **Research Objectives**

### **Main objective**

- Study the role of cyberspace in political development from the student's viewpoint of Azad and the National University of Tehran.

### **Secondary Objectives**

- 1) Studying the cyberspace role in strengthening democratic values and traditions from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 2) Studying the cyberspace role in economic development political legitimacy from student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 3) Studying the cyberspace role in political culture from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 4) Studying the cyberspace role in strengthening structural differentiation from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 5) Studying the cyberspace role in applying functional necessity and pattern variables from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 6) Studying the cyberspace role in modernized or mobility of political system from student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.

## **Research Background**

- Sharifi, Farzaneh (2014) has written research named "the impact of cyberspace on evolutions of political communication." Findings and results of this research have shown that: in today's world, which is called the age of information and communication, no field can go through mobility and development paths in the competitive global and local economy without taking advantage of potential social media and aligning its evolutions. Political communications are not exceptional from this rule. Huge evolutions in novel communicative technologies and information industry result in special political consequences. Novel communicative technologies have a great impact on proactive political behaviors by developing and expanding information highways and using satellite and pc facilities in the world. These impacts can be studied in social, economic, cultural fields, and so on. Since cyberspace is the result and

production of a worldwide Internet network, by itself has attractive and important features, the most important is the evolution of political age and communication among governments and nations.

- Rahbar Qazi, Mahmoodreza (2016) has written research named "the role of the virtual network in the tendency for election contribution and political orientation." Findings and results have shown that virtual networks can be considered one of the important and effective factors on citizens' tendency to participate in elections and orientation to legitimate political groups. According to this, while increasing the activity in social networks leads to more election contributions, considering the contents of social networks and increasing the daily use of these networks hurt people's tendency to participate in elections. Finally, rear arch findings imply that social networks even influence people's political orientation, so that most of the time, people who use social networks tend toward reformist political groups.
- Adlipoor et al. (2014) have written research named "the impact of social networks on level of political contribution" findings. Results have shown that by entering the Internet to the social life of people, some significant changes are observed in the way of democracy function. Thus, online capacities have this capacity to encourage people to be active and participating in politics.
- Toner and Duilio (2011) have written research named " Internet impact on strengthening political activity." Findings and results of this research showed that: Internet increases the expansion and strengthen of political activities. Therefore, Internet and cyberspace users and are looking for spaces that lead them to the common idea in contribution and, eventually, political development.
- Norris (2001) has written research named "the impact of the Internet and social networks on political development." In this study, Norris goes beyond Bloomer and Gruvitch's theory. He has concluded that the Internet can help inform, organize, mobilize, and civil contribute to people, marginalized groups, younger people, and political minorities. Norris believes that Internet can be influential in civil contribution and mobilization of citizens by creating political chances such as information acquisition related to political parties and groups, the availability of political and virtual groups, conference room, strengthening the civil society, two-way political communication with governmental authorities and political activists and so on.
- The results of Kushin and Yamato (2010) imply that information sources on Internet help citizens are more aware of the political process, and therefore, their passivity and isolation are reduced.
- Osteen and Pinkelton (1999) argue that citizens' hesitancy due to a variety of information resources results in trying to gain more useful and complete information in cyberspace or the real world, which can significantly increase citizens' tendency toward political issues and contributions.

## **Theoretical Framework**

### **A theoretical approach to political development**

Political development is one of the concepts proposed after World War II in literature, and it forms an essential discussion in political science and sociology. Regarding the public environment, this word has a different point of views. Based on some people's opinions, political development is an essential and necessary political condition for economic and industrial development. Hence, political development is to create the political and governmental conditions for achieving economic efficiency. The other concept of political development emphasizes on government's efficiency. As a result, the development of increasing functional efficiency and more capacity for public politics have happened. This concept of development has the most accompaniment with the administration of government colonialism, and it pays attention to reasonable and bureaucrat development. The third definition of political development is mentioned according to great social scientists. It relates to the degree of development based on the level that novel behavioral patterns go beyond traditional patterns. Hence, the development is achieved when acquired considerations replace the conventional standards, functional centralization replaces the functional disturbance in social relations, and general norms occupies the position of special norms. The fourth concept of political development accompanies with general efficiency test of the whole regime and the capacity for administration of government and society as a whole. In the fifth viewpoint, political

development is defined as creating a government-nation with effective efficiency in the novel world. The intellectual attempt and contribution of Lucian Pye, Martin Lipset, Gabriel Almond, Sidney Verba, Daniel Lerner, Neil Smelser, Talcott Parson, and Edward Shils led to some theories in the field of political development in related literature (Ezkiya, 2009: 49).

Lucian Pye is not emphasized on a special criterion and variable about political development, and he considers different concepts for political development, which these concepts can be described as follows: Economic development is a prerequisite of political development; political development is in fixed and regular changes; the necessity of political development is administrative development. Political development is based on strengthening democratic values and traditions. Political development is the synonym of political modernization. Equipping the population and contribution is the necessity of political development. Political development should be considered based on the politics of traditional western societies, and finally, political development is equipping the power. In general, the increase of regime capacity for responding to the needs and demands of people, structural variety, specialized structures, and political contribution, Pye considers these as the necessity of political development. Pye has this opinion that we must overcome some series of crises to realize the ideal development. He does not consider any priority and non-priority for overcoming the mentioned crisis since various social and political conditions of societies are different in terms of exposure in any crisis path. Generally, Lucian Pye considers economic development and political legitimacy to be essential for the realization of political development. He thinks that the realization of these conditions is due to the existence of an open class system, the high level of industrialization, the comprehensiveness of public education.

In Lucian Pye's opinion, political development is applied at least in ten different concepts and meanings as follows: Political obligations of economic development, the politic sample of traditional societies, political novelty, nation-country function, economic-administrative development, public mobilization and contribution, democracy deployment, evolution and transformation in a regular and stable manner, mobilization and power. Lucian Pye also mentions political development as strengthening the democratic values of the Western capitalist system, and he considers mass contribution, the existence of multiple systems, election competitions, political stability, and avoiding tension in the political structure as necessary conditions for the demonstrating conditions and the realization of political development. (Pye, 1999: 52)

Some philosophers consider any revealing of political development as a result and consequence of economic development. In this regard, Martin Lipset considers economic development and political legitimacy as necessary conditions for the realization of political development, and he thinks that the realization of these conditions is because of the open class system, the high level of industrialization, and the comprehensiveness of public education. In research, Lipset is trying to understand what the relationship between political democracy and economic development is. He points out the literature of this subject claims that from the period of Aristotle, when a country is more affluent, it is a better chance to achieve democracy. About the concept of economic development, which Lipset considers it as a prerequisite for political development, Lipset thinks that the following persons are necessary for political development: wealth, industrial development, the development of urbanization, and graduation (Ezkiya, 2009: 51).

In their study of five countries named England, Germany, the United States, Italy, and Mexico, Gabriel Almond and Sidney Verba conclude that the main reason for political underdevelopment in third world countries is related to mental, historical, and cultural issues. This means that throughout history, some kind of culture has appeared that prevent the progress of political development in these systems. They believe that the negative mental and historical effects can be vanished using mechanisms such as enhancing the level of literacy and redistribution of wealth so that people can be prepared for accepting responsibilities and playing new political roles, as well as participating in decision-making the process. Therefore, Almond tries somehow to relate orthodox systems and cultural theories to political development.

In this regard, political culture consists of some series of attitudes, beliefs, and elements that make the political system meaningful and leads to special political behaviors. Of course, in the study of different attitudes, different systems have different situations in such a way that in Mexico, for example, despite people having experienced self-alienation from government policies, they are still loyal to the political system because of stimulant symbols of the revolution.

According to the mentioned criteria, Almond and Verba face three types of political cultures, which are as follows: limited, consequential, and participatory cultures. A person rarely relates himself to political affairs in a limited culture, and he is unaware that it exists. In the consequential culture, people have a passive and submissive relationship. Whereas, in a participatory culture, people are positively guided to most aspects of the political system, political parties, participating in elections, and voting. Almond and Verba also examine a combination of various types of political cultures in this way: limited-submissive, participatory-limited, and participatory-submissive. It is obvious that for determining political culture and a culture that can be helpful in some ways, many factors interfere such as historical, geographical conditions, economic structure, social structure, political traditions, conventions and political sociability that the effectiveness of these mentioned factors in different societies is not the same (Qavam, 2009: 18). Daniel Lerner's thought is classified in the cultural diffusion framework. It relies on this idea that renovation and modernization happen through expanding and publishing cultural elements of western countries. He thinks that entering elements and mechanisms, which are the results of renovation, effectively accepts new elements in the mental preparation and subjective mobility of humans. The basis of Lerner's attempt is reflected in defining and explaining political development in its book, transition from traditional society. Lerner's concept of political development is in line with Karl Deutsch and Robert A. Dahl's concept of political development. In this regard, Lerner believes that referring to western society is the only way of social and political development. Based on his opinion, the reason for existing ambiguities is not the west racism, but because eastern societies want to maintain some part of their traditional and special aspects at any expense. According to Lerner's view, renovation is exactly performed through removing tradition and blasting a mobilization, which first, it is spread in rational and provable opinions and people awareness is led to a comprehensive behavior and without any group belonging motivation and vice versa, it should be guided to public interests and collective identity. Such a mobilization is the infrastructure for development, and if it is done in goodness, it results in real public-voting democracy and a high level of contribution in voting. Daniel Lerner, with Karl Deutsch, reminds us that western evolutions are because of developing social communications. Therefore, communications are, in turn, prepared the way for mobilization, and in this way, it organizes all political systems. Based on this, the renovation study needs to consider the level of urbanization, education, and information publishing, which is the characteristic of that society in the political aspect (Su, 2001: 40).

Neil Smelser is a sociologist who expands Parsons' opinion, especially in the field of increasing social differentiation. The basis of its thought is the concept of structural differentiation. In Smelser's opinion, political development consists of structural differentiation. Because in this process, the complex structure responsible for multiple functions is divided into various professional structures, and each of them is responsible for only one special task. In Smelser's point of view, signs of political development are public voting, political parties, and representative system. In Smelser's opinion, structural differentiation is the main condition for political development. All societies must realize two evolutions in the path of going from underdevelopment steps to the development step. First, structural differentiation must be realized on them, and second, some kind of functional harmony is unified through differentiation structures, and it will be experienced (Su, 2001, 41). Talcott Parsons is one of the most empowered sociology in functional-structural school. He has proposed his thoughts by exploiting classic heritage such as Count, Durkheim, Veber, and Pareto in sociology, Marshal in economic, Freud in psychology in written form. In Parson Opinion, the basis of political development is the functional necessity and pattern variables in the political system. According to Parson, a political system has four main special features: adaptability with the environment, goal achievement, integrity, and maintaining the value patterns from one generation to another. In pattern variables as a basis for political development, Parsons believes that non-personal relations instead of personal relations,

particular relations instead of universal relations, individual relations instead of mass relations, and finally, acquisition instead of the assignment are the basis of political development (Su, 2001: 43).

In 1960, Shiels published a book named, “political development of new governments, "proposed as developmentalism prism. In this book, Shiels pointed out that all developing governments have a common goal: modernization or mobility, democracy, and egalitarianism, and for this reason, the distance from academic rules dominating international economic life. However, Shiels especially confirm that a set of such demands guides the new governments to a modernity pattern, which is nothing more than western democracy; just some minor modifications are applied to it to be compatible by unique geographical environments. From this perspective, each political system is moving toward regime creation. Its features are the excellence of civil laws, the performance of representative intuitions, and applying political freedoms without limitation. The bud of this principle exists in any society that their realization is the purpose of all political development processes (Naqibzade, 1997: 43).

According to the mentioned theories in current research, political development components are as follows: strengthening democratic values and traditions, political legitimacy, political culture, the strengthening of structural differentiation, the application of functional necessity and pattern variables, modernized and mobility of the political system.

### Main Hypothesis

- Using cyberspace has a role in political development from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.

### Secondary Hypotheses

- 1) Using cyberspace has a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 2) Using cyberspace has a role in political legitimacy from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and National University of Tehran
- 3) Using cyberspace has a role in political culture from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 4) Using cyberspace has a role in strengthening structural differentiation from student’s viewpoint of Islamic Azad and National University of Tehran
- 5) Using cyberspace has a role in applying functional necessity and pattern variables from the student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.
- 6) Using cyberspace has a role in modernized and mobility of political systems from student's viewpoint of Islamic Azad and the National University of Tehran.

### Research Methodology

The research method is survey. The statistical population of this study was students of Azad and national universities in Tehran who were selected due to the availability of the students of Islamic Azad University (Science and Research Branch, Central Tehran Branch and West Tehran Unit) and national universities of Tehran (University of Tehran, Shahid Beheshti University and Amirkabir University), numbering 192071 male and female students.

The main sampling method in this study was a stratified sampling method with proportional volume based on the Cochran formula, more than 384 persons were selected as samples consisting of Azad University (n=210) and National University (n=174) based on cochran formula.

Sample volume	Community volume	Sample
210	105000	Sample consisting of Islamic Azad University
174	87071	Sample consisting of national university

Sample volume due to sample	Sample	Sample volume	Sample
75	40000	Science and Research Branch	Sample consisting of Islamic Azad University
87	50000	Central Tehran Branch	
48	15000	West Tehran Branch	
210	Total		
107	53488	Tehran University	Sample consisting of national university
39	19153	Shahid Beheshti University	
28	14430	Amirkabir University	
174	Total		
384	Total sample volume		

A researcher-made questionnaire was used for data collection. The questionnaire's components include social development indicators whose validity has been confirmed by political science, communication, and media professionals. The reliability of the questionnaire was confirmed by Cronbach's alpha of 0.843.

### Research Findings

53% of the samples were female, and 47% were male. The following table shows the statistical sample separation based on gender, which indicates that female students have more frequency than male students.

*Table (1): Frequency distribution of sample individuals based on university type*

Cumulative Frequency Percentage	Frequency Percentage	Frequency	Type of University		
54.7%	54.7%	210	75	Science and Research	Islamic Azad University
			87	Central	
			48	West	
100	45.3%	174	107	Tehran	National University
			39	Shahid Beheshti	
			28	Amirkabir	
	100	384	Total		

54.7% of the subjects were students of Islamic Azad University, and 45.3% were students of the National University.

### Descriptive Indicators of Research Variables

Descriptive data related to the variables of the study are shown in table 2. The score range of questionnaire questions is from 1 (very low) to 5 (very high). The data of this table were from the right, the number of statistical samples, the lowest score obtained from each variable, the highest score obtained from each variable, the mean scores and standard deviation of each variable as the statistical sample members responded.

*Table (2): Descriptive indicators related to research variables*

Standard Deviation	Mean	Min	Max	Variables	
0.98667	3.8462	1	5	Strengthening democratic values and traditions	Political Development
1.24639	3.6896	1	5	Economic Development and Political Legitimacy	
1.13285	3.6401	1	5	Political Culture	
1.21331	3.6126	1	5	Strengthening structural differentiation	
1.15210	3.4066	1	5	The necessity of Functional and Modeling Variables	
1.30791	3.4890	1	5	The Re-development and dynamics of the political system	



**Table (3): Kolmogorov-Smirnov test results**

Conclusion	Significance level	Z Statistics	Variables	Political Development
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	6.581	Strengthening democratic values and traditions	
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	4.707	Economic Development and Political Legitimacy	
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	6.152	Political Culture	
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	5.639	Strengthening structural differentiation	
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	6.427	The necessity of Functional and Modeling Variables	
H0 is rejected (Data distribution is not normal)	0.000	7.891	The Re-development and dynamics of the political system	

As can be observed in the above table, the significant level of research variables is smaller than 0.05, so this variable has non-normal distribution. Since the research variables have non-normal distribution, nonparametric test of the mean of binomial distribution can be used for data analysis.

**Main Hypothesis Test**

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in political development.

**Table (4): Results of Binomial test (ratio test) of the second main hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.2	98	$3 \geq$	1	Political Development
		0.8	286	$3 <$	2	
		1	384			Total

In the above table, the significant research variable was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Azad University and universities around Tehran city has a role in political development.

**Test the first sub-hypothesis**

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions.

**Table (6): Binomial Test Results (Ratio Test) First Sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.2	99	$3 \geq$	1	Strengthening democratic values and traditions
		0.8	285	$3 <$	2	
		1	384			Total

In the above table, the significant research variable was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions.

### Testing the second sub-hypothesis

The use of cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in economic development and political legitimacy.

**Table (7): Binomial Test Results (Ratio Test) Second Sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.4	148	$3 \geq$	1	Economic Development and Political Legitimacy
		0.6	236	$3 <$	2	
		1	384	Total		

In the above table, the significance level of the research factor was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in economic development and political legitimacy.

### Testing the third sub-hypothesis

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran has a role in political culture.

**Table (8): Binomial Test Results (Ratio Test) Third Sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.3	130	$3 \geq$	1	Political Culture
		0.7	254	$3 <$	2	
		1	384	Total		

In the above table, the significance level of the research factor was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran has a role in political culture.

### Testing the fourth sub-hypothesis

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in strengthening structural differentiation.

**Table (9): Binomial Test Results (Ratio Test) of Fourth Sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.3	126	$3 \geq$	1	Strengthening structural differentiation
		0.7	258	$3 <$	2	
		1	384	Total		

In the above table, the significance level of the research factor was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in strengthening structural differentiation.

### Testing the fifth sub-hypothesis

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran has a role in applying the necessity of functional and model variables.

**Table (10): Results of the Binomial Test (Ratio Test) of the fifth sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.4	151	$3 \geq$	1	Applying the Necessity of Functionality and Modeling Variables
		0.6	233	$3 <$	2	
		\	384	Total		

In the above table, the significance level of the research factor was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran has a role in applying the necessity of functional and model variables.

**Testing the sixth sub-hypothesis**

Using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in the reuniting and dynamics of the political system.

**Table (11): Binomial Test Results (Ratio Test) of the Sixth Sub-hypothesis**

Significance Level	Test ratio	Observation ratio	number	interval	Group	Variable
0.000	0.6	0.4	164	$3 \geq$	1	The Re-development and dynamics of the political system
		0.6	220	$3 <$	2	
		\	384	Total		

In table 13-4, the significance level of the research factor was less than 0.05, and the test ratio for the second group was higher than 0.6. According to the definition of hypothesis in this factor, the assumption of H0 (indicates no variable effect) is confirmed and H1 hypothesis (indicates variable effect). In response to this hypothesis, it can be said that using cyberspace from the viewpoint of students of Islamic Azad University and the National University of Tehran plays a role in the resuscitating and dynamics of the political systems.

**Discussion & Conclusion**

Castles network community is being more and more efficient with the help of cyberspace and its facilities. The findings indicate that cyberspace plays a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions. The public domain where internal discourse is formed is created by the internet, cyberspace, media, and social networks. One of the necessities of strengthening democratic traditions is partnership-based dialogue and the impact of interpersonal communication. In fact, social networks in the cyberspace platform are a modern form of cafes and coffee houses and open tools to produce and revitalize the public domain. In short, the transformation of political discourse in the new context helps strengthen democratic values and traditions. On the other hand, the results show that it plays a role in political legitimacy from the viewpoint of cyberspace students. In the search for free access to information from government and government agencies, governments come out of the iron fence and enter a relative glass chamber.

The result of this transparency is to create legitimacy for the government. In fact, it is important how governments use their power, and because of this space, it is made clear. Data analysis shows that from students' viewpoint, using cyberspace affects political culture. The most appropriate political culture is Robert Dal believes that the rational political culture is due to the diversity of press, pluralism, multi-parties, making democracy, and so on. The results are obtained in the cyberspace platform of information networks, sites, blogs, networks, social media, etc. They all understand pluralism. Of course, due to the extent of this space and the existence of false information and sometimes the insanity alongside the correct information, it is necessary to equip the audience, especially young academics, to have media literacy and cyber literacy more than before.

On the other hand, Gabriel Almond and Werba believe that the most desirable political culture is participatory political culture. Participatory political culture requires understanding the audience. When a person has knowledge and knowledge of the ruling political system, he or he or he or he or he can evaluate issues based on his/her knowledge and in such a situation, the participatory political culture is realized. Cyberspace is a platform for political information, in fact, cyberspace and its tools, along with other pillars of socialization, help people's political socialization. From the respondents' viewpoint, using cyberspace plays a role in strengthening structural differentiation. According to Smelser, renewal generally consists of structural differentiation. During the structural differentiation process, complex structures with multiple functions are divided into several specialized structures, and each performs a specific task.

It seems that using cyberspace increases public willingness to convert wide organizations to specialized organizations by increasing knowledge and awareness, and political innovation instead of power centralization, decentralization process by strengthening democracy and multiple political parties and differentiating political issues is followed. From the respondents' viewpoint, using cyberspace plays a role in the necessity of functional and model variables. Cyberspace applications are in addition to transmitting and publishing information, storing and accumulating it. When combined with publication in an optimistic view, saving information can preserve and transfer value patterns from generation to generation. In such situations, we will see the non-personal relationship model, specific relationships, individual relationships model, and acquisition pattern instead of assignment. Parsons believes that by making changes in making social norms, especially traditional values that prevent participation, individuals' orientations can be directed towards community behaviors. (Fathi & Mokhtarpour expressed by Gee Rosheh 1997). In fact, cyberspace's information platform can cause changes in social norms and strengthen variables that expand political and social participation and lead to social-political development.

### **Research Recommendation based on Hypotheses**

- According to this hypothesis, cyberspace has a role in strengthening democratic values and traditions from the student's viewpoint. It is recommended that political parties as a symbol of democracy, as well as academics, especially professors and graduates of political science, develop and teach democratic concepts and values using the chances made by cyberspace and its tools for strengthening democratic values. They can also provide the path for moving toward political development by creating the field of political discourse.
- According to this hypothesis, using cyberspace has a role in political legitimacy from student's viewpoint and based on publication legislation and free access to information and its implementation, it is suggested that the guidance ministry as an administrator of publication site and free access to information has more surveillance role in the performance of organizations toward law article to clarify governments and to create political legitimacy for them. Since reviewing the site shows that there is still a lot more to come for applying it.
- According to confirmation of this hypothesis, using cyberspace has a role in political culture from a student's viewpoint. It is suggested that the administrator's institutions of democracy use cyberspace platforms for training the general public and provide conditions for improving cognition. People attempt for evaluation and, finally, participatory-political culture. In this regard, the role of education and broadcasting is so emphasized, since they are the important pillars of political sociability. In addition, the media knowledge from elementary to university becomes so sensitive based on the confusion of correct and incorrect information. This important topic is related to education and higher education and is realized by the help of communication and media professors.
- According to the confirmation of this hypothesis, using cyberspace has a role in strengthening the structural differentiation of students' professors. It is recommended that political parties and activists and academics provide going through the decentralization of power and the creation of professional organizations.

- According to confirmation of this hypothesis, using cyberspace has a role in creating pattern variables from students' point of view. It is suggested that in cyberspace platform and using sites, social media, and networks. In the form of news, training, and entertainment, it helps deploy transcendental concepts and move from individual interests to social interests. This is the responsibility of philosophers of political science, sociology, and communication. In fact, political development can be provided using this space and its applications.
- According to the confirmation of this hypothesis, cyberspace has a role in developing social communication from the students' point of view. It is recommended that administrators of the non-governmental organization, parties, and academics (such as LinkedIn, which works professionally in the business field) create professional networks in social and political fields and bring about the development of social communication as well as growing the concepts of social and political concepts.
- According to confirmation of this hypothesis, using cyberspace has a role in social development from students' point of view. It is recommended that organizations, which are a subsystem of government or the subsystem of non-governmental organizations provide the conditions for enhancing the knowledge level and people awareness about personal freedoms, social health, social capital, and social training to achieve welfare facilities for better people living in society, creating ideal and optimal conditions in social status and creating necessary opportunities for excluded people to achieve their portion of national resources by creating training and entertainment in cyberspace and Internet platform. In addition, there will be conditions for creating interactions among people and governors; the result of this can be social development as well as clarity realization.

#### **Recommendations for Future Researchers**

- It is recommended that the topic of cyberspace role in political and social development is performed with other methods such as Delphi methods or focus group methods in experts' society, i.e. professors of communication sciences, sociology and political science and the components of political development, social development and cyberspace is recorded by pundits' point of view.
- It is suggested that the topic of using cyberspace is performed in other development components, including economic development, cultural development, and stable development.
- It is recommended the role of cyberspace in social, political, cultural, economic, and stable development (regarding the expansion of each topic in separated research) on citizens, adolescents and students in Tehran and other cities using the questionnaire that pundits' point of view records its components.
- It is suggested that the role of social media in development dimensions is examined according to the expansion of cyberspace and the importance of social media and networks.

#### **References**

1. Azkia, Mostafa and Qafari, Qolamreza (2009) the development sociology, Tehran, Etaalat publication
2. Todaro, Michael (1987) economic development in third world, translated by Qolamali Farjadi, First volume, Planning and Budget Organization Publications.
3. Roshe, Gi (1989) social changes, translated by Mansoor Vosooqi, Tehran, Ney publication
4. Su, Alvin (2001) social changes and development, translated by Mahmood Habibi Mazaheri, Tehran, Strategic studies research center publications.
5. Azimi, Hossein (1992) developed and underdeveloped circuits in Iran economy, Tehran, Ney publication.

6. Qavam, Abdolali (2009) challenges of political development, Tehran, Qamoos publication.
7. Werner, Surin; Tancard, James, (2002) communication sociology (theories and opinions) Tehran, Tehran University publication.
8. Wiener, Norbert (2014) Cybernetics and Society, translated by Mana Sarai, Tehran, Markaz Publication.
9. Pye, Lucian (1991) political culture and development, translated by Majid Mohammadi, Nameh Farhang, No. 5 and 6
10. Pye, Lucian (1991) political culture and development, translated by Majid Mohammadi, Nameh Farhang, No. 5 and 6
11. Wiener, Norbert (2014) the meaning of cyberspace and its features, Roshd Encyclopedia.