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## Comparison of the Impact of Crime Prevention Courses to the Penalty after Crime Occurrence

Hamid Bagheri<sup>\*1</sup>, Mehdi Naghavi<sup>2</sup>, Mehdi Soltanian<sup>3</sup>, Somayeh Bagheri<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Law, College of Law, Islamic Azad University of International Kish Branch, Hormozgan, Iran

<sup>2</sup>Department of Law, College of Law, Khorasgan Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Esfahan, Iran

<sup>3</sup>Department of Law, College of Law, Neragh Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Arak, Iran

<sup>4</sup>Department of Social Science, Illam Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Illam, Iran

\*Corresponding Author E-mail: [Hamidbagheri13641@Yahoo.com](mailto:Hamidbagheri13641@Yahoo.com)

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### ABSTRACT

In the present world, training and culture-building practices are considered as much important, fundamental and key subjects which can be relied as a one the main prerequisites for planning. Prevention of crime and social deviations is not a task for which a specific organization to be responsible; but also, it is a multi-aspect issue which requires participation of all organizations and individuals. In this regard, a study was conducted to investigate the effect of culture-building practices on decreasing trend of crime among the people of Ilam city. With regard to exploratory nature of this study, it was carried out as theoretical analysis using literature review by documentary method and then, by questionnaire production and distribution and finally, results analysis. After the results analysis, it was concluded that, there is a significant relationship between crime occurrence and lack of knowledge and culture-building practices among the people. The factors affecting crime occurrence in order of priority are: religious values, scientific courses and information of the offender's futurity, identity giving, behavior control, individual and social values, fundamental values and motivational methods.

**Keywords:** Crime Prevention Culture-building, Penalty, Scientific Courses, Fundamental Values, Behavior Control.

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### Introduction

Crime as a society damage at a general concept, is generated by the society and is a function of social living. Currently, it has been proven for almost all people that,

these phenomena are being occurred in all communications despite serious monitoring and contemplations, while, making various policies of social

contemplation only affects reduction of crime intensity and amount and will not result in extinction of the offender's generation. The cause of this task includes specific structures of the societies and social contrasts which cause formation of crime occurrence provisions. Difference in social structures and issues also results in various crime commitment in different regions.

Crime prevention is a manifestation of internal policy having a close relationship to the political system of human societies and is an important and effective component to make a secure society. Understanding of social processes inconsistent with the existent values and its consequences and finally, prevention of these processes' growth through development and performance of crime prevention programs are necessary to access security in the society, as development of crime prevention program has become so important (Qasri *et al.* 2013).

Crime prevention includes: prediction, identification and assessment of crime occurrence risk and applying required strategies and measures to eliminate or reduce it (Nowroozi *et al.* 2011). Also, various types of crime prevention include: primary, secondary, tertiary, short-time, long-time, passive, penal, non-penal, legal, disciplinary, situational and social (Bayat *et al.*, 2008).

At global level, the concept of crime occurrence prevention has entered the criminal policy of Iran since 1970. Of course, before that, crime occurrence prevention had been considered as an important duty of judiciary organization according to Article 156 of constitution; but, although the existence of this legislative background, we are still at the beginning of way and we mostly have accomplished development of safety-

oriented criminal policy which has been based on new conservative thoughts of criminology (SeyedEsfahani, 2009). Penal dealing may be effective in short-time, but, the criminal's behavior is will be changed in long-time and will be occurred with new criminal forms. In terms of scientific, relying on penalty and aggregation of penal reactions regardless to the contexts, is a kind of fighting to the caused factor and cannot have a considerable effect (Omidi, 2009). In the complex of policies and programs of social factors (government, society, class), the cultural structure element in each society has a specific position in the culture' process; since, it affects determination of options which include powers in economic and social areas; as it affects application of power by the people and complexes or whole the society. Hence, forms and ages of culture and its power in providing solutions consistent with the issues generated by historical evolution, are highly tied to the society authority (Asghari & SarmadiValeh, 2012).

Clause 5 of Article 156 of the constitution has ordained the crime prevention as duty of judiciary organization. Despite prediction of this important principle in the constitution as well as approving the other common law and guidelines on prevention of crime occurrence, it is observed practically that, no accurate concept of prevention, theoretical foundations and management measures of crime is determined and it has no specific administrator in Iran although passing 32 years. The main cause of the mentioned task is that, the plans accomplished by the government mostly focus on punishment and penalty of the perpetrators rather than preventing the crime occurrence. In the present study, it has been attempted to investigate the effect of culture-building

practices as a preventive measure on crime occurrence.

### **Literature review**

Situational prevention includes the strategies and methods which consider a specific form of crime to reduce opportunity, and it needs direct environmental design and management (place of crime occurrence) or stable monitoring of the crime occurrence place so that, it enhances the difficulty and risk of crime commitment (Saffari, 2001).

Prevention of crime occurrence does not necessarily need penalty aggravation as well as diversity and increase of suppressive reactions. The roots of delinquency must be searched within the society or living structure and psyche of the people (Omidi, 2009). The need for cooperation and participation of all organizations and governmental and private systems and even all the society' members is felt for prevention of crime occurrence and application of preventive policies and considering extent dimensions and effects of crime on whole the society (Asghari, 2012).

The studies show that, a large part of crime' victims is formed by some ignorant people who were victimized due to lack of awareness on the provisions causing crime or lack of required cares. With regard to comprehensive coverage of media and its high impact on training and increase of the people' understanding, the mass media are considered as one of the most important tools affecting the crime prevention. Considering the importance of the issue, prevention of social crises and considering that, mass media are currently accessible for most of Iranian people and are managed exclusively by the political system, the elites of the country should identify occurrence provisions of such

crises through the media (Mansournezhad, 2008).

Gusen; the French criminologist has presented four criteria for crime prevention:

1. It is considered as a preventive action of which the main goal is to prevent delinquency or criminal deviations in the sense of an effective measure against the factors or processes that play a determinant and definitive role in delinquency and deviation occurrence.

2. Protective strategies and actions are so important since, the audiences include whole the population or a part of that.

3. When the goal is to avoid selection of criminal behaviors, it is called preventive actions or strategies which are applied before crime commitment and not after that.

4. If the prevention includes application of strategies or actions before any crime occurrence or selection of any criminal behavior, so, the strategies and actions cannot be coercive and repressive since the penal actions require a crime to be occurred previously.

Considering the mentioned criteria, he believes that, prevention includes total strategies of criminal policy except of penal system strategies which cause to limit occurrence probability of the total criminal actions through making those impossible, difficult and improbable.

### **Legislative background of crime prevention**

The law of Security and Order Actions approved by 1960, established crime prevention for the first time. This law was codified to comply with Tahaqoqi's doctrine and it dismissed the convicted persons in military courts from its inclusion. This law has not been abrogated and currently is performable. Subsequently, constitution of the Islamic

Republic of Iran approved by 1979, discussed about crime prevention in clause 5 of Article 156. The mentioned clause proposed “appropriate action for crime prevention and offenders’ modification” as one of the main missions of judiciary system. Article 5 considered crime prevention by specification of crime, prosecution, sentencing and punishment of offenders and enforcement of the provisions of the Islamic penal code (Hoseini, 2004).

**Methodology**

In this regard, a study was conducted to investigate the effect of culture-building practices on decreasing trend of crime among the people of Ilam city. With regard to exploratory nature of this study, it was carried out as theoretical analysis using literature review by documentary method and then, by questionnaire production and distribution and finally, results analysis. Then, normative and cultural samples were extracted from the questionnaires and then, the results were analyzed and drawn as graph.



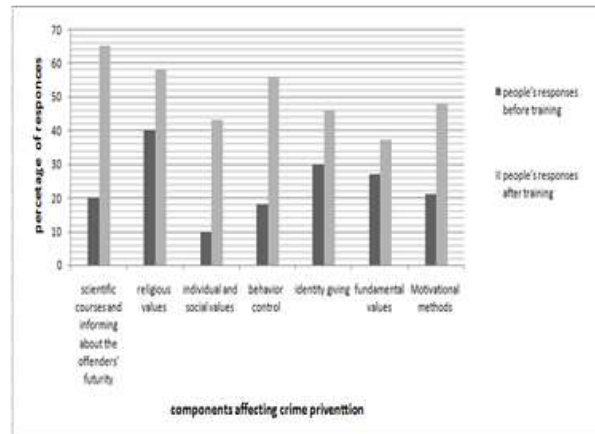
**Figure 1.** Present map of the study area (Ilam)

**Results**

After collecting the questionnaires and determination of the seven related components at two times including before and after training, it was found that, the people had a better viewpoint to remain

immune from crime, after becoming aware on crime and its consequences.

This seven related components are including Motivational methods - fundamental values - identity giving - behavior control –individual and social values – religious values – scientific courses and informing about the offenders’ futurity.



**Figure 2.** Comparison of the people’s responses before and after counseling and scientific and religious training

**Research findings**

The present research considers crime reduction as amplifying and improving the cultural factors including religious values, scientific courses and informing about the offender’s futurity, identity giving, behavior control, individual and social values, fundamental values and motivational methods. The findings show that, scientific courses and informing about the offenders’ futurity have a higher effectiveness level than the other factors for crime prevention, and other factors are same in terms of effectiveness amount. In the present study, training and its role in improvement of culture and reduction of crime was studied. In this case, about 70% of the respondents mentioned that, there is no sufficient training programs in the society in the field of crime and its

consequences; while, they believe that, the impact of these trainings and information is so high and can be considered as a proper preventive factor. The findings show that, enhancement of trainings in the society and caring it have a high impact on crime prevention. The conducted surveys in this research showed that, the religious norms as a component has its effect on crime prevention and our studies showed that, in addition to religious norms, development of moral frameworks for the society and setting proper moral principles meritocracy can be a more effective factor. Also, the results indicated that, increasing the penalties has a lower impact on crime prevention than the other factors.

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