



Global Developments in the Corona and Post-Corona Eras

06 March 2022

English Abstracts

Faculty of World Studies, University of Tehran

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Global Developments in the Corona and Post-Corona Eras

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به طور مجازی و حضوری

06 March 2022
Hybrid conference (in-person and online participants)

موضوعات همایش:

- کووید ۱۹: تحولات اقتصادی و تجاری در ایران و جهان
- کووید ۱۹: تحولات روابط بین الملل و علوم سیاسی در ایران و جهان
- کووید ۱۹: تحولات اجتماعی، فرهنگی و جمعیتی در ایران و جهان

Themes & Topics:

- COVID-19: Economic and trade evolutions in Iran and the world
- COVID-19: International relations and political thinking evolutions in Iran and the world
- COVID-19: Cultural, social and demographic evolutions in Iran and the world

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- ۱۶ بهمن ۱۴۰۰: اعلام نتایج داوری چکیده ها
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- ۱۵ اسفند ۱۴۰۰: روز برگزاری همایش

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Economic policies to make small and medium-sized enterprises survive in the wake of Covid-19 and beyond

Subject:
Economy

Farhad Taghizadeh-Hesary

Abstract

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have exhibited a continuous growth in recent decades in different regions, including Asia-Pacific, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Latin America. This growth has contributed to the alleviation of poverty and thereby increased the number of middle-income countries. However, SMEs are among the sectors that have suffered drastically during the Covid-19 pandemic, lockdowns, and economic recessions. This has resulted in the loss of small businesses, such as restaurants and retail shops, or a substantial reduction in their sales. In particular, service-based SMEs have been adversely affected. Moreover, SMEs in the manufacturing sectors experienced a sudden drop in demand. Although many businesses have suffered considerably due to the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns, some have thrived and expanded during this time of turmoil. There are several examples of SMEs that changed their business models and focused on initialization. The governments of many developed countries have acted swiftly and supported SMEs by providing credit guarantees to aid their financial condition. However, in many developing and less developed countries, the governments' budget constraints limited their public support measures for SMEs. SMEs faced various challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic, including increased competition; the ability to adapt to rapidly changing market demands; technological change; and capacity constraints relating to knowledge, innovation, and creativity. Many SMEs often cannot realize their full potential owing to factors related to their small scale: i) lack of resources in finance, technology, skilled labor, market access, and market information; ii) lack of economies of scale and scope; iii) higher transaction costs relative to large enterprises; iv) a lack of networks that can contribute to the lack of information, know-how, and experience of domestic and international markets; v) increased market competition and concentration from large multinational enterprises caused by globalization and economic integration; vi) the inability to compete against larger firms in terms of R&D expenditure and innovation in line with the product, process, and organization; vii) being subject to "churning" and instability; and viii. lack of entrepreneurial zeal, capacity, and know-how (Harvie and Charoenrat 2015; Yoshino and Taghizadeh-Hesary, 2015; 2016). In response to the global economic slowdown, SMEs need to adopt new growth models with strengthened dynamics to boost national productivity. Under this background, this paper aims to highlight the role of government policies including the credit guarantee scheme in supporting SMEs in the wake of the Covid-19 and beyond.

Keywords: credit guarantee, credit risks, loan guarantee, small and medium-sized Enterprises.



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Economy

Impact of Covid-19 on Iranian Oil vis-à-vis OPEC: Looking for its Consequences on Global Economy

Sima Baidya

Abstract

The paper aims to examine transcendental impact of Covid-19 on the oil industry of Iran as well as on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. The paper examines postulates that the pandemic had impacted oil and at one point of time world has witnessed sharp decline of the demand of oil. As world was under lockdown for months with varied intensity in different countries, demand for oil was sharply declined due to less economic activities. Being as important oil producer, Covid-19 has also impacted Iranian economy. The paper intends to examine pandemic's deep impact on its economy. Economic fallout of Covid-19 equally is significant and visible in other oil producing countries i.e. OPEC. As oil price in the global market has been decided by the interplay between demand and supply of oil, therefore, it is necessary to understand its impact on the global economy as well. The paper outlines the trajectory of Covid-induced fall and rise of oil price(s) at the global level and its consequences at the international level. The paper makes an attempt to capture and understand Iranian economic measures to cope with Covid-19 economically. It has been witnessed that Iran has been facing wave after wave of corona and struggling to keep its economy in shape. It is the strong pillar of Resistance Economy started way back in 2013 has given strength to Iran to mitigate the destruction posed by Covid-19. As the graph of the ups and downs of the price of oil has a spiraling effect on other commodities as well as on the whole economy, its impact is immense. Last but not the least the paper would trace out its long term and transformative consequences, if any in long dureé.

Keywords:



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Does policy responses to Covid-19 impede cereal trade in West Africa?

M. Pilo*, K.O. Gbignon

Abstract

Supply and distribution of production for agriculture has experienced serious disruption due to travel restrictions both internationally and nationally during the period of covid-19. We include here in particular seeds and fertilizers for commercial farms as well as raw ones for processors of agricultural products. Travel restrictions and the risks posed by the virus have also severely limited the availability of labor. The policy makers and the private sector to develop strategies, policies and programs for intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and the development of agricultural value chains that enable actors comprised of farmers, small and medium agribusinesses, women and youth for people to take advantage of the (ZLECAf) single market. The increase in the level of trade represents a paradigm shift that breaks with the current state of affairs and promises to be an important element of the collaborative work that must lead to strengthening the food security and nutrition of all Africans. African countries have pledged to remove 90% tariffs and liberalize services on more than 5,000 types of products. It is estimated that the removal of tariffs in the transition phase could generate gains of up to \$16.1 billion and raise its share of total intra-African merchandise trade to 33% from just 15% today. This paper investigates the effect of policy responses to covid-19 on cereal trade flows in West Africa region using a gravity model of trade. Using the monthly trade data of 18 countries of West Africa covering the period from January 2019 and December 2021. The results showed that cereal trade in West Africa induced by covid-19 depends on government policy responses. In fact, the study showed that stringency had greater negative impact on the cereal trade. Thus, the governmental actions are negative and significant on West African economies. Household income would plummet as labour force participation falls. The poor would be disproportionately affected, as many are employed in agriculture and low-end services, where output would fall sharply.

Keywords: cereal trade flows, Covid-19, gravity model, West Africa.



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The determinants of sustainable FDI in Vietnam in the context of Covid-19

Phung Thanh Quang*, Tran Thi Thu Hoai

Abstract

It is a common belief that investment by foreign investors is a major driver of job creation, economic integration and improvement of infrastructures. Neto and Viega (2013) argued that foreign direct investment (FDI) is a factor accelerating globalization of a target country of investment. This role of FDI is even more important in the current challenge of the coronavirus outbreak due to the negative consequences of COVID-19 on inter-countries investment mobility and the recession of world economies. According to UNCTAD (2020), the global FDI under the COVID-19 has diminished by nearly 5% to 15% in 2019–2020 due to the lockdowns, global risk and reduction in profitability of projects as well as supply chain disruptions. Nevertheless, the interesting point is that Asia was the only region that experienced growth in FDI under the circumstances of the pandemic. Based on UNCTAD's World Investment Report (2021), the FDI flows to developing economies in Asia rose by nearly 4% in 2020, demonstrating resilience and rapid recovery in trade and economic activities. Among Asian regions, South-East Asia with leaders of Singapore, Indonesia and Vietnam is considered as the engine of FDI growth with the amount of US\$ 91, US\$19 and US\$16bn in 2020, respectively. The main purpose of this paper is to analyze the sustainable inward FDI pattern of Vietnam. This paper intends to analyze the sustainable FDI pattern of Vietnam using the gravity theory and panel data approach for the annual data over the period of 2007–2020. The results of the regression models show that Vietnamese FDI volume is positively affected by political and social factors, globalization and green energy consumption, while geographical distance is a major obstacle to the increase of FDI inflows of the country. Based on the results, we suggest some main practical policy implications namely issuing policies for sustainable economic growth, launching the novel strategy of green FDI neighborhood policy and regionalism through free trade agreements.

Keywords: Covid-19, green energy consumption, sustainable FDI, Vietnam.



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در ایران و جهان
کووید ۱۹: تحولات اجتماعی، فرهنگی و جمعیتی
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Covid-19 and Energy Trade Integration in GCC

Ehsan Rasoulinezhad*, Inna Kirilkina, Jinsok Sung

Abstract

Since late 2019, the outbreak of Coronavirus has disrupted, transformed and changed many aspects of the global economy. Especially, energy market experienced radical changes in the past two years. In 2020, global oil and gas market experienced oversupply to unprecedented level. 2021, many countries went through supply crunch of energy commodity and sharp rise of energy demand. One of the most important and influential aspects of the global economy is the energy (especially oil and gas) trade which has experienced challenges in the last two years due to the effects of Covid-19. The countries of the member states of the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Countries) - as the core of the world's oil and gas supply- have not been spared from these challenges. Along with the changes in international trade the internal energy demand is strongly influenced by Covid-19 and the way the GCC adopt its own energy basket for more sustainable development makes particular interest. The purpose of this study is to investigate the changes in oil and gas trade of the GCC countries with their major energy trade partners. Considering the integration of energy trade, meaning any significant continuous increase in energy trade, the findings of this study show that this concept is in the form of U-shaped in the energy trade relations of the GCC - energy importers. This means that due to the initial sharp decline in global energy demand (due to disruptions in production and declining consumer demand), disintegration of energy trade happened and then with the adaptation of countries to the Covid-19 conditions and increasing global energy demand, integration of energy trade has been formed, which in the near future (post Covid-era) will form more intensely.

Keywords: Covid-19, economic recovery, energy intensity, energy trade integration, fossil fuels, GCC.



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Subject:
Economy

Russia and Iran in the processes of regional and bilateral liberalization of trade

Vladimir Sherov-Ignatev

Abstract

Regional and bilateral trade liberalization continues despite the Covid-19 pandemic and the calmer attitude of the US to this issue since Donald Trump's presidency. The number of regional trade agreements (RTA) grows, and the scope of sectors, covered by agreements, broadens. Russia and Iran take part in this process, though not very active. For both countries political side of bilateral cooperation with foreign partners matters no less, than purely economic side. Both countries are under international sanctions, which affects the geography of their trade and partnership. Russia is a member of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which is a customs union with a common trade policy. Thus, free trade agreements (FTA) with the third countries are concluded on behalf the EAEU. By 2022, the EAEU has concluded bilateral FTAs with Vietnam (2015), Iran (2018), Singapore and Serbia (2019). Negotiations or preliminary discussions are underway with some other countries. Iran is more cautious in its trade policy. Its FTA with the EAEU is not the full-scale FTA: it is an interim agreement, signed for a three-year period (in 2021, Russia agreed to prolongate it for three more years – till 2025). By the scale of tariff concessions, it looks rather a preferential trade agreement: Iran's import tariff remain high even after their liberalization. Meanwhile, Iran seems to become more active in this sphere: in 2021 it announced the relaunch of FTA with Syria, FTA negotiations with Pakistan and discussed the possibility of trade liberalization with Turkey. Our purpose is to explore and compare the motives behind Russia's and Iran's policy in the RTAs sphere and to assess the probable results of trade liberalization with the help of partial equilibrium model. We find, that both countries pay attention to the political issues first in their RTA-related decisions.

Keywords: Iran, partial equilibrium, Russia, trade liberalization.



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The impact of Covid-19 on social innovation

Babak Ziyae, Hadi Jarghooiyan*

Abstract

Social innovation, defined as “innovative activities and services that are motivated by the goal of meeting a social need”, is one of the significant factor effects on business development in a society. During the pandemic of Corona virus, this virus has influenced the society. In this article, we aim to analyze the impact of Corona virus on social innovation and business development in four different countries as the cases to figure out the pros and cons of its affection. We are providing a key reviewing literature about the topic for researchers and scholars to face new findings and data information on the period of Covid-19 pandemic. According to it, in this paper, we look forward to seeking the state of the question of how social innovation have been influenced by corona virus with a specific focus on significant variables and the role of social innovation in post-corona eras.

Keywords: business development, Covid-19, social innovation.



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Subject:
Economy

Faculty of World Studies holds the International Conference on

Global Developments in the Corona and Post-Corona Eras

یکشنبه ۱۵ اسفند ۱۴۰۰

به طور مجازی و حضوری

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- ▶ COVID-19: Economic and trade evolutions in Iran and the world
- ▶ COVID-19: International relations and political thinking evolutions in Iran and the world
- ▶ COVID-19: Cultural, social and demographic evolutions in Iran and the world

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Indonesia-Iran bilateral relations: Strengthening cooperation in pursuing international peace and stability

Hendra Manurung*, Teuku Rezasyah, Arry Bainus, Rusadi Kantaprawira

Abstract

This research aims to analyze the strengthening of relations between Indonesia and Iran in the efforts and commitments of the two countries to achieve peace and stability. Bilateral relations began in 1950, and raises to the higher level diplomatic upgrading. The political interactions between the two influential Islamic countries have been going well, marked by mutual visits by the heads of state or government leaders. Both countries provide mutual support in the nominating for positions or membership of international organizations. Total trade between the two countries increased 52 percent from USD 141.60 million in 2019 to USD 215.97 million in 2020, amid the pandemic and global economic downturn. National interest is one of the determining factors in international relations that aiming to encourage countries to carry out intense and continuous interactions. Two countries' leadership has succeeded in bringing close economic, political, socio-cultural, and religious relations. For Indonesia, Iran has always been a good partner in bilateral relations, regional and international fora. Since February 2006, the two countries also have had a bilateral agreement that exempts visas for diplomatic and service passport holders. Jakarta and Tehran have ratified the policy of granting Visas on arrival for holders of ordinary passports for both countries that make short visits to Indonesia and Iran. The end of the Arab Spring increasingly marks the peaceful progress between Iran and Saudi Arabia and influences the stability of world security. Indonesia pays special attention to this regional effort and has a commitment to mediate peace between the two countries and encourage the Middle East peace path. Regional stability is meaningful for the world. Our study revealed that closer political-economic cooperation still needs to be continued further and mutually benefit each other. This study provides novel baseline results on bilateral patterns of simultaneous cooperation and prioritizing extensive collaboration.

Keywords: bilateral relations, economic cooperation, Indonesia, Iran, peace and stability.



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Impact of Covid-19 on contractual relationships in the area of international trade

Subject:
Economy

Mohammad Taqi Rafiei

Abstract

One of the essential themes in the realm of international trade is contractual relationships which is a crucial requirement in the social life. Thus, analyzing worldwide alterations caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in economic and commercial spheres, in particular, contract law is a must. During the Covid-19 pandemic; change of circumstances, which includes applying restrictions and interdictions in internal trade of countries as well international trade, has been impactful on exports and imports, international payment, international finance and insurance, also transport in contractual relationships. This impact has been in such a way that determines performance of contractual obligations. Here, the basic question is that in spite of the universal accepted legal principles as fundamental principle of sanctity of contracts (“pacta sunt servanda”) and the doctrine of contract maintenance, the promisor during the corona virus pandemic are exempt from performance of contractual obligations in international trade? In other words, the Covid-19 is considered utterly as a case of force majeure? Or, in some conditions and circumstances does it bring merely hardship? It seems, those contracts which their performances do not face governmental preventions and limitations and just their performances are caused hardship and onerous expenses, cannot be considered as a case of force majeure; so it does not cause exemption of contracting parties from performance of contractual obligations. As in February 2020 Supreme Court of Zhejiang province of China issued a directive about not being accepted dissolution of a contract provided its performance during the Covid-19 is possible. Also, in Iranian judicial system the case is the same. But based on judicial system of some countries, if the corona virus pandemic just renders hardship situations in a contract, the contracting parties are allowed to modify their contract obligations. Yet, in some countries, such as France, China and India, the consequences emerged by the Covid-19 pandemic are considered as force majeure instances. However, based on Iranian judicial system force majeure is recognized under triple conditions of external event, inevitable event, and unforeseeable event; then, consequences emerged by the corona virus pandemic can be regarded as contractual excuses and as force majeure cases. It is suggested that the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to its effectiveness on international trade during the Covid-19 pandemic, no doubt its consequences in the world post-Covid-19 are expectable.

Keywords: contractual relationships, COVID-19 pandemic, force majeure, hardship, international trade.



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Subject:
Economy

Japan's policies against the Corona pandemic with the emphasis on demographic indicators

Nahid Pourrostami*, Mojan Lorkalantari, Roghaye Rahbarifard

Abstract

Japan accounts for about 0.33% of corona deaths and 0.8% of those infected with the virus, while its world share population is 1.6%. Despite high aging population, high urban density, and its proximity to China (the site of the outbreak), it has an acceptable epidemic control status compared to OECD countries due to some social and cultural characteristics. Although the Japanese government is constitutionally unable to declare provincial or national lockdown, it appears to have put appropriate measures and programs to control the disease. Border control measures, clustering approach, expert committee scenario planning, and overcoming challenges have all been cited by analysts such as Tashiro and Shaw (2020) and Wiki (2020). Despite the Japanese government's success in controlling the coronavirus, the long-term trend of some of Japan's demographic and economic indicators appears to have been affected by the corona pandemic. The 93 percent share of people aged 60 and over in total corona deaths, rising female suicide rates, declining marriages, and decreasing number of births are indicators that change the population pyramid in the country and could affect the Japanese economy in the future. In this study, while examining the policies adopted by the Japanese government, we intend to analyze the impact of the corona pandemic on the country's population pyramid.

Keywords: Covid-19, female suicide rate, Japan, labor force market, population pyramid.



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Not like US: The Covid-19 and racialization of the pandemic politics

Subject: Politi

Zeinab Ghasemi Tari

Abstract

Since December 2019, and discovery of coronavirus in Wuhan, China, the world is facing an unprecedented global crisis which has caused serious social, political and economic disruptions. Historically, pandemics are linked with “othering”, the public tends to view and link newly emerged diseases as originating from out-groups or “others”. While individuals' fear and panic can be considered irrational reactions to an unknown disease, systemic use of racist terminology and policy can be viewed as a deliberate social construct. The Covid-19 pandemic has led to a new form of politicized racism aimed specifically at non-western races, cultures, and ethnicities. With circulation of misinformation through mass media and social media platforms, racial and geographical discrimination increased in different ways: a growing culture of Sinophobic racism directed at people of Asian descent in Euro-American societies. With the progression of the outbreak to other hotspot countries, the pandemic was further racialized through establishing the Western/Eastern dichotomy. The present paper is concerned with geographical and racial framing of “modern West vs. the Rest” in Euro-American mainstream news outlets during three major phases of the Corona Pandemic: 1. who is to blame for the spread of the virus? 2. lockdown strategies and “brutal” measures; 3. Covid-19 science, vaccines and vaccinations. To this aim, the paper selects depictions of three hotspot countries of the non-West (i.e. China, Iran and South Africa), as framed in Euro-American media content. A qualitative thematic analysis, conducted through the lens of Entman's framing theory, reveals three major themes: (a) racialized language linking the virus to a certain race and their exotic eating habits; (b) criticizing the “their barbaric draconian” curbing measures to question the state's legitimacy; (c) Lack of transparency, widespread mistrust and incapability of the non-West in finding effective vaccines.

Keywords: Covid, framing, othering, racialization, social media.



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Violence against doctors during Covid-19 in Bangladesh: Alarming experiences and call grows for law for protection

Sanchoy Kumar Chanda*, Musaraf Hossain Molla, Shamik Chanda

Abstract

Background: Doctors are at the frontline of Covid-19 are exposed to hazards that put their lives at risk. They experience an unusual fear and anxiety on physical and mental health and concerns about transmitting the disease to family members. Also experience a constant sense of intense fear, stigma, harassment and violence when treating patients in facilities, fighting against unsafe working conditions and act of violence since the beginning of this pandemic. Covid-19 caused highest death rate of doctors in Bangladesh, as published in different local media and international media, nearly 200 doctors sacrificed their lives so far. However frightful incidences like violence, assaults and stigmatization and legal protection remains unaddressed. **Objective:** The study explores the scope of the problem, to respond and to prevent the occurrences, particularly addressing the legal protection issue. **Methodology:** A total of 93 doctors working in three major public hospitals and one private Covid-dedicated hospitals in Dhaka city for at least six months were interviewed through a semi-structured questionnaire during March to June 2021. Information was collected on incidences and types of assaults in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, action taken against attacker or protection was given to doctors by law. **Key findings:** Almost all doctors faced some kind of harassment, discrimination and physical assault, mostly in the work-place. More than 64% percent faced verbal assaults or threats, 37% were incidents of fear-based discrimination, 09% involved physical assaults. In some sceneries, fear, panic, misinformation about how Covid can spread, and exploded misplaced anger towards doctors. 80% of victims filed complaints to higher authority, and to law-enforcing agencies, hardly any action was taken. Authority was found reluctant to any effective responses or taking action against assailants, as there is no particular law or act against protection of doctors, rather consider it as emotional outburst from patient's side. **Discussion and recommendation:** Information on violence during Covid-19 period is still inadequate, figure reflects only the known cases, the actual figure is likely much higher. Media published a good number of incidents of attacks on doctors, beaten up while on duty, even brutally killed by the patient's family member or. Unfortunately, there no particular law for the protection of doctors in Bangladesh, police may not even sure under which section to file such a case. Some Asian countries have taken significant steps by amending acts for the safety of health professionals against act of violence. There is an urgent need for a law in Bangladesh to protect doctors and to care for their wellbeing to prevent serious consequences for patients and a possible collapse in our health system as the country fights Covid-19. A new law providing them safety against acts of violence can be the first step towards that goal.

Keywords: Covid-19, doctors, law, protection, violence.



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Impact of the outbreak of Covid-19 on democratization process in Latin America

Subject: Politics

Elaheh Nourigholamizadeh

Abstract

Outbreak of the Coronavirus caused various economic, political and social problems in almost all regions of the world, including Latin America. The region is historically characterized by hyper-presidentialism and militarism so most Latin American countries are deprived of efficient check and balance mechanism to control the executive branch. Kaldor and Vejvoda argue that the absence of political culture is the main hindrance in the search for democratic institutions, rules and procedures. To overcome this obstacle, Mansfield and Snyder put more emphasis on sequencing or pace of reform where the state becomes so crucial in terms of exercising sovereignty with some degree of legitimacy and effectiveness. The movement toward democratization in Latin America dates back to the 1980s. At that time in many countries of the region, presidents and prime ministers were elected through elections and representative processes. In spite of these initial efforts and substantial democratic advances during four decades, contemporary Latin American democratization suffers from a democratic deficit in the political body of states which has been mainly affected by the outbreak of Coronavirus. A qualitative content analysis of democratization process of the region during the pandemic demonstrates that in Venezuela, El Salvador and Peru, the challenge of population mobility was controlled by the armed forces and judiciary measures. While in countries such as Argentina and Colombia, presidents made appropriate political decisions and increased their popularity, in Brazil and Mexico presidential decisions made Coronavirus as a serious threat to the public health and governance of their countries. In Chile, fundamental political rights, such as freedom of association and expression were limited by restriction measures. Overall, the outbreak of Covid-19 has revealed the significance of the power of political body, mainly the executive branch in Latin America, in management of critical situations and has made more vulnerable the fragile process of democratization in the region.

Keywords: Covid-19, democratic deficit, democratization process, executive branch, Latin America.



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Concurrence of Covid-19 & Brexit on Britain's economy under the light of neo-functional constructivism

Abdol Ali Ghavam*, Talieh Sakhamanesh

Abstract

In the threshold of 2021, the British economy was adversely affected by the obligatory lockdown for national quarantine during the post-Brexit pandemic. Nonetheless, this trend seems to be more optimistic for the next quarter and the volume of employment and trade will increase. It is apparent that the supply of vaccines and restrictions reduction program expected to be effective, and eventually activities in the consumer-related services sector will be enhanced as well. In the current research, the privileges of a Job Retention Scheme and a set of business support measures regarded to ensure the structure of the economy; under the banner of deconstruction and the elimination of restrictions, economic activity could be boosted as much as before. Nevertheless, Office for Budget Responsibility anticipates that unemployment will be higher by 2024 than before the Pandemic. Therefore, the gradual elimination of the extensive job retention plan could be essential in creating an opportunity for economic recovery. While the goal of the Extensive Job Protection Plan and other supportive policies is to maintain the structure of the economy, there will be inevitable changes in economic activity in industries, jobs and regions. Policies should support employees and companies in transitioning from these conditions to changing economic conditions, especially in cases where potential productivity gains are achieved while minimizing the damage caused by unemployment and bankruptcy for companies. In addition to the pandemic, Brexit has increasingly altered the economic conditions of British companies. UK trade has plummeted in 2021, with the present study providing evidence that Brexit has played a role, and a significant proportion of companies trading with the EU encounter predicaments such as border delays and heavy administrative expenditures. The UK government must advocate businesses in the transition to new business relationships and ensure that cross-border costs are minimized. On the basis of neo-functional constructivism as its building stone theory, the current research aims at brainstorming the idea that politics with a problem-solving strategy as an exit- way out of this chaos can flourish profitable jobs by diminishing some economic pressures at this time, such as the severe economic crisis caused by the pandemic. The key issue is to ensure that employees can benefit from economic growth and productivity gains, and that companies have access to the necessary skills. Evidence from previous economic shocks suggests that individuals who stay in jobs or industries affected by the shock suffer the most, while those who can relocate on other industries can lessen some of the negative effects. Moreover, training programs and adjustment assistance could help facilitate such transitions.

Keywords: Brexit, British economy, Covid-19, European Union, job retention scheme, neo-functional constructivism.



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Human Rights violations following the escalation of security-oriented criminal policy under the pretext of preventing the Covid-19 pandemic

Subject: Politics

Mahdi Khaghani Esfahani

Abstract

Criminal policy, as a strategic knowledge of using the achievements of criminal sciences to control crime and social unrest, is of great importance in managing the risks of changing crime commitment models following a change in lifestyle after the Covid-19 pandemic. This universal disease can be explained and evaluated in relation to distortion as one of the aspects studied by criminologists. Some claim to be infected with the virus, harass others, or engage in challenges such as licking objects under the pretext of joking and having fun. However, the increase in these cases has caused the police and judicial authorities of some countries to issue warnings about judicial action in this regard, and not only the perpetrators of these jokes and patients who hide their illness, but also other people by implementing control measures that deprive people of their social rights. Securityism has violated the human rights in many countries, even the liberal western countries, under the pretext of protecting the health and lives of the people. Security-oriented legal policymaking has violated human rights by restricting public rights and freedoms under the pretext of a state of public health emergency, and by prioritizing security and government authority over citizens' rights in the wake of Covid-19. Increasing social fear, growing fear of victimization and other types of social harm, growing domestic violence and theft from commercial premises, and increasing international trafficking in human beings and prohibited goods due to reduced presence and activity of law enforcement and surveillance systems; Security and justice in most countries, rising psychological consequences of quarantine tolerance, unemployment and worries about the future, and dozens of other phenomena and consequences in the recent pandemic - and, albeit at a slower pace, before the Kuwaiti pandemic- all led to many Governments and political regimes have intensified medical authoritarianism. In a descriptive-analytical and comparative way between some countries, the article analyzes the negative factors, effects and consequences of the crisis of mutual abuse of medical authoritarianism and legal securityism.

Keywords: Covid-19, crisis criminology, human rights, legal policymaking, struggle for freedom and security.



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COVID-19: international relations and political thinking evolutions in Iran and the world
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Subject: Politics

Covid-19 impact on racial equality in the United States of America: An Asian American case study

Mohammad Reza Nasirpour Golkhorani

Abstract

With the start of Covid-19, dubbed the "China Virus" by a former US president, a wave of racially motivated violence against Asian Americans emerged. This article will examine the underlying cause and issue of who may be utilized as a weapon for ideological ends by racial profiling a particular group of people. We will explore this instance via the lens of an institutional framework. According to institutional theory, society is built on socialization and cultural norms, and our interactions provide a window into the world. Chinese immigrant's weredemonized in the 1850s as immoral, slothful, cheap, and dangerous. However, the bulk of people who moved to the United States was self-sufficient individuals presented issues for the majority of Americans who work as farmers and manual workers. Chinese immigrants constituted a considerable danger, and as a result, a page act was passed in 1875 prohibiting their entry. In 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act was enacted, including harassment and discriminatory slurs. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, US General DeWitt, who led the Western Defense Command, issued Public Proclamation No. 4, which relocated 100,000 Japanese to camps comparable to those used by European Jews. When the civil rights movement in the United States began, Asian Americans were labeled as hardworking peepholes and elevated to the status of a model minority; when the myth of the model minority took hold, other minority groups began to act like Asians; and when the US auto industry was hit by Japanese in the 1980s, it was a case of economic issues morphing into cultural ones. During the 1992 Los Angeles Riots, an altercation between Afro-Americans and Koreans occurred, exposing racial tensions and demonstrating why other minority groups in the United States favored Afro-Americans. During Donald J. Trump's presidency, hostility against the People's Republic of China became more robust, and the previous US president's way of speaking incited hostility toward Asian Americans. We noted an increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans after Covid-19, dubbed the "China Virus." The increase was so significant that Andrew Yang, the Democratic candidate for President in 2020, spoke outspoken about Asian Americans' unequal treatment. To conclude, the issue is not whether Covid-19 is a "China Virus," but rather fear of the Asian minority in America, as shown currently via hate crime. In reality, segregation has been used to bring people together for causes, pit minorities against one another in the 1950s, and attain political goals via viewpoints today.

Keywords: Asian American, China Virus, Covid-19, institutional theory, United States of America.



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Covid-19, scientific specialty and political leadership: The impacts of Coronavirus disease on the paradigms of decision-making of world-powers

Sajjad Ahmadian*, Mohsen Ahmadpour

Abstract

Impacting all spheres of human life in all countries of the world, Covid-19 pandemic raised new matters and evoked new as well as old questions. As far as political leadership is concerned, Covid-19 reintroduced one of the most persistent questions of human's intellectual history: What is the proper place of knowledge and experts in making political decisions? and who must have the last say with respect to setting priorities and adopting policies? The question of supreme authority was specifically aroused because the pandemic has as urgent nature demanding prompt and unified response. But, as general the agreement about the urgency of Covid-19 and the need of last say has been, the responses to it have shown a great diversity; different countries have given different answers to "who must decide and based on what" with respect to Corona virus policies. The variety of responses the question received around the world reflects a variety in the paradigms of decision-making. But, Corona virus didn't simply bring the preexisting paradigms of decision-making to the light, it influenced them and transformed them as well. In current study we first differentiate between the various ideal typical paradigms of decision-making. The criterion based on which this distinction is made is comparative weight of politicians and scientists in shaping and determining public policies. Then, we present an account of paradigms of decision-making in the United States and China in the pre-Covid-19 era. The reason why these two nations has been chosen for deeper study is that they are two major world-powers of twenty first century, and future of the world orders depends on their completions and the decisions they make. Finally, we discuss about the impacts Corona virus had on the way public policies are made in the United States and China. Our hypothesis is that Corona virus left opposite impacts on the models of decision-making of 21st century's two world-powers; In the United States bureaucratization of politics triumphed and an increase in the political role of scientists happened, while in China the pandemic strengthened the charismatic leadership and tightened the control of politicians over scientific centers.

Keywords: Covid-19, paradigm of decision-making, politicians, question of last say, scientists, world-powers.

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کویید ۱۹: تحولات اقتصادی و تجاری در ایران و جهان

کویید ۱۹: تحولات روابط بین الملل و علوم سیاسی در ایران و جهان

کویید ۱۹: تحولات اجتماعی، فرهنگی و جمعیتی در ایران و جهان

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Subject: Politics

Liberalism and the Covid-19 pandemic in international relations: In praise of a fear

Mohammad Reza Saeid Abadi, Sam Mohammadpour*

Abstract

Fear has been a long-standing preoccupation with liberal thinking in international relations. The fear of 'others' has led liberalism to provide plans in reducing fear among human beings and, therefore, a reduction in wars among them. In this sense, the threats to international peace frighten one group of people over another. Accordingly, when a source of fear threatens all the people, it can bring different human societies together in order to come up against the common source of fear. Liberalism thinkers consider the state of anarchy as the leading cause of fear in which human life is controlled by 'supreme evil,' i.e., being destroyed by others. Therefore, the essential goal of a state is to save its citizens from such evil. In this regard, by applying the principles of liberalism as the theoretical framework of the research, it is discussed that the Covid-19 pandemic can be considered a common source of threat to all human societies, in which the states will be forced to cooperate together to counter it. In the present study, borrowing from liberalism's concept of fear, we take benefit of the Covid-19 pandemic as a lens to conceptualize fear as a factor of international cooperation. Concerning this, the main question is how the fear of the Covid-19 pandemic can motivate different societies to make contracts in the face of this worldwide fear. In the research hypothesis, by using the descriptive-analytical method, the similarities between the liberal assumptions of fear and the fear of the Covid-19 pandemic are highlighted. In this respect, it is argued that as, according to Judith Shklar, some degree of fear is inevitable in societies, and each system requires minimum levels of fear in order to motivate compliance; it seems a degree of common fear at the international level is also a matter of necessity for more cooperation between the international actors in the current era.

Keywords: cooperation, Covid-19 Pandemic, fear, international relations, liberalism.

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Islamic legal production in the pandemic: A survey of global Fatwas on Covid-19

Subject: Culture

Emily Jane O'Dell

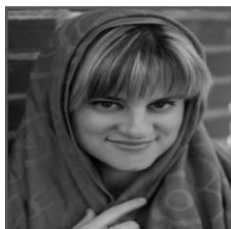
Abstract

This paper surveys Covid-19 fatwas issued in Iran and around the world to consider how the pandemic has shaped and produced Islamic knowledge in a global context. Drawing from the fields of Islamic legal anthropology, public health, medicine, and religious studies, this research seeks to consider how Islamic jurisprudence has addressed general concerns about Covid-19, such as vaccines (their safety, efficacy, and ingredients), funerals/burials, mass gatherings, haji, animal slaughter, communal prayer, social distancing, as well as more specific and local questions related to the virus and treatments of the virus. Incorporating landscapes of Islamic jurisprudence from the Middle East, Asia, and the Americas (and fatwas written in Persian, Arabic, English, Turkish, Urdu, and Indonesian, Malaysian), this research highlights the cultural, social, and demographic aspects of global fatwa production and how Islamic legal jurisprudence has been mobilized to help fight the virus and save lives. Special attention is given to what hadith and Islamic legal principles in particular have been cited in Covid-19 fatwas and to the ethical and religious obligations referenced that recognize the sanctity and necessary preservation of human life. The paper also explores how the ethics of finance have been considered and adjudicated in relation to the production and distribution of vaccines. Due to a lack of juristic precedents in Islamic classical jurisprudence on vaccines, Islamic legal scholars have charted new paths in Islamic law to help preserve Muslim communities and human life in general during this global pandemic. Thus, the pandemic has led to new historic horizons of fatwa production and Islamic jurisprudence has helped to guide millions of Muslims around the world through bodily, communal, and medical concerns related to the virus-likely saving countless lives. This will be the first paper of its kind on Covid-19 fatwas in a global context.

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Keywords: anthropology, Covid-19, Islam, law, medicine, public health.

Global Developments in the Corona and



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Covid-19, rigorous restrictions or wrong decisions

B. Shabani*, N. Wise, A. Nazifi

Abstract

31 December 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) first reported the presence of an unknown virus causing pneumonia-like symptoms in Wuhan (WHO Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) Dashboard, 2020; Williams & Kayaoglu, 2020). Initially, views of the relatively unknown virus suggested it was not a threat nor a public health emergency. However, over the past two years, the Covid-19 has become the most critical issue across the globe killing millions of people and damaging the global economy. The countries took vastly different measures to combat the spread of infection, based on a wide range of considerations, approaches, policies and strategies; some were precise and timely, while others were vague and delayed (with dire consequences). To explore this topical direction of research, one of Hofstede's cultural dimensions (individualism/collectivism), the Edelman Trust Barometer and the number of Covid-19 confirmed cases to population ratios from WHO had been considered. Trust Barometer offers insight into levels of trust based on three categories: 1. Trust=60-100%; 2. Neutral=50-59%; and 3. Distrust=0-49%. Considering the relationship between Covid-19 confirmed cases to population ratios based on Coronavirus, WHO provides various daily statistics for all countries and the political trust scores (i.e. trust in government) are based on the 2020 Edelman Trust Barometer report. By considering Hofstede's cultural dimension, countries with higher (lower) trust and lower (higher) infection rates tend to be collectivist (individualist) societies. Moreover, the examples appear mixed for neutral trust countries considering infection rates. However, the cultural dimension rate seems to moderate the relationship between infection rate and political trust such that the infection rate is lower for countries with lower individualism. Concerning the level of trust that populations have in their government, the rate of respecting the Covid restrictions are proven that controlling the virus spread was successful or not. Governments that projected a very clear message from the country's critical situation saw people trusted and reacted accordingly, while in other countries, confusing messages caused catastrophic results. Taking numerous factors into consideration (i.e. vigorous large-scale testing or strict lockdowns, and other means of controlling), evaluating the level of success in controlling the spread of Covid-19, preliminary results suggest countries with high political trust, lower rates of individualism, and those governments that disseminate clear messages, citizens will more likely support the Covid restrictions and hence, the spread of the virus and its significant negative health implications may be better contained. Three research propositions evolved by considering the mentioned factors: Research Proposition 1: there is a positive correlation between trust in government and a country's infection rate due to a pandemic. Research Proposition 2: cultural differences moderates the relationship between trust in government and infection rates. Research Proposition 3: messages of clarity moderate the relationship between trust in government and infection rates such that the countries with a clear message show lower infection rates.

Keywords: collectivism, Covid-19, individualism, infection rate, political trust.



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The complicated state-religion relationship in Israel: An illustrative case study of the Israeli government's pandemic policy regarding the Hasidic community

Subject: Culture

Elham Kadkhodae

Abstract

Claiming to be simultaneously a liberal democratic and Jewish state, the state-religion relationship in Israel has always been a complex one. Issues such as military service, conversion, laws of marriage and divorce, etc. have been points of serious contention in a regime where secular Zionists needed the cooperation of religious Jews to succeed in creating and preserving a state. Whether the state effectively regulates the lives of the ultra-orthodox (Hasidic) community, or that this community and its leaders are able to enforce their will unto Israeli governments is contested, and can vary case by case. This difficult relationship is a problem that is never completely solved, but rather managed through unstable compromise referred to as maintaining the so-called *status-quo*. The picture has become more complicated with the rising population and influence of the ultra-orthodox Jews in social and political sectors in recent years. The coronavirus pandemic and the government's attempts at controlling the situation through regulating the daily lives of Israeli citizens have initiated a new arena of tension between the state and the Hasidic community. The current research is an illustrative case study of the interaction between the Israeli state and the Hasidic religious community during the coronavirus pandemic. It studies the different stages of the pandemic in Israel and the government's response and policy related to the Hasidic community which experienced higher rates of infection. Online sources and data describing the state and the Hasidic community's interaction regarding the pandemic are analysed in this illustrative case study. The study adopts Jonathan Fox's (2011) four models/types of policies aiming to limit the role of religion in politics, which fall into two broad categories of separationist and secular, in its analysis of the data. It aims to understand if and how the state-religion relationship in Israel has evolved or changed, contributing to the existing literature aimed at clarifying and categorizing the state-religion relationship in Israel.

Keywords: Covid-19 pandemic, Israel, Hasidim, state-religion relationship, Ultra-Orthodox Judaism.



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Subject: Culture

Lemon Juice, Cow's Urine, Butter, Herbs or Spices as "Magical Bullets" in defeating and as remedy for Covid 19! Popularity of Traditional Medicine in the Indian Subcontinent

Parisa Ehteshamnia, Maziar Mozaffari Falarti*

Abstract

Citing traditional medicine Indian parliamentarian Pragya Thakur, from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), in 2021 caused much political controversy, outrage (particularly amongst the Medical community) and public disgust when she openly claimed that drinking cow's urine purifies the lungs and thus prevents Corona virus disease (Covid-19). Indeed, with the onset of the Covid pandemic in 2019, one of the most controversial issues globally continues to be the effectiveness, relevance and application of traditional medicine as a staid remedy, shield and as an answer in defeating it. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines traditional medicine as a set of knowledge, skills, and practices based on the indigenous theories, beliefs, and experiences of different cultures that have been used in health as well as in the prevention, diagnosis, improvement, and treatment of physical and mental illness. Traditional medicine is thus seen by many to be as an alternative, or a more cost effective replacement, to modern medicine that can not only protect against the Covid-19 virus but also can potentially cures it. The Indian Subcontinent is indeed no exception. In fact, in terms of the total number of people infected with the virus three of the top twenty nations (that of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan) are located in the Subcontinent. During the Covid-19 crisis, many people in the Subcontinent have resorted to an array of traditional medicine; with some as bizarre practices and treatments based on religious or superstitious beliefs. This includes Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani (Yunani) that are considered as some of the world's old (if not the oldest) holistic healing systems which are common and popular across the Indian Subcontinent. Being as part of a larger project in this study the authors will report, examine and outlay the eclectic array of traditional medicine and practices (including superstitious) that are popular amongst Muslim and Hindus in numerous parts of the Indian Subcontinent to counter Covid-19. As bizarre, as they may sound these alternatives to modern medicine can indeed offer hope, comfort, knowledge and some protection against the virus and its spread.

Keywords: Ayurveda, Covid-19, medicine, subcontinent, traditional, Unani.



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در ایران و جهان

evolutions in Iran and the world

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An anthropological perspective on the lived experience of Afghan displacement in Iran

Subject: Culture

Mona Momeni

Abstract

The dramatic population movements globally and particularly by Afghan refugees to Iran over recent decades and during the latest humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan bring about alternative definitions and unprecedented aspects in the interpretation of forced displacement. This study explores contemporary displacement as well as enduring diasporas through an anthropological perspective into the lived experiences of refugees who reside in Iran, giving particular attention to refugee groups living locally in Kerman province. While understanding social and cultural variations and similarities, this research gives a voice to the displaced and provides insight into refugees' perceptions of the socio-economic conditions especially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Considering the most affected areas in the lives of the diaspora of refugees and new arrivals, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is explained concerning the decision-making policies, international and governmental support, and defining priorities. On this basis, this research proposes and analyses the various conditions refugees must follow in different contexts including education, cultural practices, and everyday practices. Despite certain spontaneous decisions, this article indicates that global and local policies influence the patterns of refugee movements in time and space as well as the classifications for different conditions while acknowledging the circumstances of alternative experiences affected by future respiratory pandemics across the globe.

Keywords: Afghanistan, anthropology, Covid-19, displacement, Iran, refugee diaspora.



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COVID-19: Economic and trade evolutions in Iran and the world

COVID-19: International relations and political thinking evolutions in Iran and the world

COVID-19: Cultural, social and demographic evolutions in Iran and the world

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Subject: Culture

Iranian modernity in Indian imagination; A study on audience reception and perception of Iranian films in Covid-19 pandemic

Najmunneesa Chempayil

Abstract

In the unprecedented global crisis wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic and when the whole world was constrained by physical mobility, for people, watching film was the central act of engagement with the world. Film as a discursive formation embedded in the cultural politics of specific area, content, and meaning of any given film is relative and dependent on the spectator, the situation, and the cultural context. Filmic language prefigures an absence as a presence thus signifies through a dynamic process of substitution where the spectator is captured by an imagined or projected presence (Metz, 1954, p. 152). Iranian films are universally acclaimed for their thematic varieties and for dealing with social subjects, it attracts a large audience in India as it reverberates the Iranian realities and modernity to the world. It is reported that the adaption of OTT platforms like Netflix and Amazon during lockdown has not only eased the accessibility to foreign content but also multiplied significantly. The hybridity and trans-national nature of these digital spaces offer the audience to consume the foreign contents beyond geographies of language and culture. This paper intends to study the Audience's reception and perception of Iranian films during the Covid 19 pandemic. I posit that there is a leap in the reception of Iranian film in India that subsequently constructed the Indian perception towards Iranian modernity during the Covid 19 pandemic. By employing both the discourse and reception analysis I interrogate the way the film consumption pattern of the Indian spectators has turned towards Iranian films during the pandemic and how film acts as an agency to produce the perception of Iranian modernity among the Indian Audience. To study the Audience/receivers of Iranian films and their accession to Iranian films in India I would employ the focus group method through which the spectators actively engaged in Online databases and social networking forums will be interviewed. Secondary literature from Movie analysis websites and Social Networking Sites will also be considered for the analysis.

Keywords: Covid 19 Pandemic, Iranian Films, Iranian modernity



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کووید ۱۹: تحولات اجتماعی، فرهنگی و جمعیتی در ایران و جهان

COVID-19: Cultural, social and demographic evolutions in Iran and the world

تاریخ‌های مهم:

۹ بهمن ۱۴۰۰: آخرین مهلت ارسال چکیده‌ها

۱۶ بهمن ۱۴۰۰: اعلام نتایج داوری چکیده‌ها

۱۰ اسفند ۱۴۰۰: پایان زمان ثبت‌نام

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Analysing the matthew effect in e-learning during Covid-19: Insights from India

Subject: Culture

Chinmayee Mishra*, Navaneeta Rath

Abstract

Disasters often lead to disruption and uncertainty in the education system, apart from other disorders that it creates in the social life. In light of the current pandemic Covid-19, we can see the changing nature of risk in the education sector when we compare it with other natural disasters. Owing to the typicality of the situation, e-learning is gaining momentum with a large number of students and teachers turning to digital education. However, there are certain lacunae for which it has not replaced conventional education even after a decade of its presence. The paper tends to analyse the Matthew effect in e-learning which may exacerbate the social-economic achievement gap. Matthew effect as a phenomenon was coined by the sociologist Robert K. Merton which can roughly be interpreted as advantage begets more advantage or accumulation of disadvantages. Through content analysis as the methodology opted for the research it seeks to study various qualitative texts related to digital divide in e-learning during the pandemic. By studying those texts, we tend to find the impact of Mathew effect on the students. The geographical scope of the research is confined to studies from India. It studies how the pandemic has increased the digital divide in India and its impact on the disadvantaged section. With no better alternatives, online learning seems to be the most practical solution as the need of the hour. The effect can widen the digital divide if countervailing measures are not taken. The impact on the disadvantaged section cannot be eliminated completely but there should be careful consideration for reducing it especially at planning and administrative level. The pandemic also presents an opportunity to work on digital infrastructure and decrease the digital divide. Digital education should be popularised in consonance with the spirit of the Sustainable Development Goal to 'leave no one behind'.

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Keywords: COVID-19; Digital Divide; Education; e-learning; India; Matthew effect

Global Developments in the Corona and



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در ایران و جهان
 کووید ۱۹: تحولات اجتماعی، فرهنگی و جمعیتی
 در ایران و جهان

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Subject: Culture

Morality vs. Profit in dealing with Covid-19 in era of Global Village

Seyed Sadroddin Moosavi Jashni

Abstract

The entire world was shocked when it came to know that Covid-19 was going to hit each and every individual worldwide if the necessary measures were not taken in due time. However, the virus became a global pandemic and spared no spot on the dwelling part of the globe. At the time of writing of this paper, COVID-19 has taken the lives of 5,747,959 people. Currently 75,484,367 people are infected patients and 311,341,982 have recovered from the deadly disease (worldometers.info/coronavirus/). The developed world was very quick in mobilizing its technical facilities and utilizing its technical knowhow to develop vaccines and some medicines to prevent the virus's further spread. But, this time, the virus does not seem to be willing to stop and every time the world is on the verge of heaving a sigh of relief from the COVID-19, a news is aired about its mutation. However, many countries in the southern hemisphere, the undeveloped nations, and even some of the developing countries suffer more than the developed countries from the deadly virus because of their lack of the necessary knowledge to develop the required vaccine and medicine to fight the pandemic. Despite the fact that the developed countries have made great achievements in the field of developing vaccines, they are not ready to share the formula with the other countries to speed up the fight against the pandemic. The first argument of this paper is that profit has overpowered morality and blocked the way of inflow of vaccine formulas to the needy countries. The second argument of this paper is that if this trend continues and morality does not triumph over profit in the developed world, the outcome will cause an irreparable wound on the developed world, in particular, and the entire world, in general, for it is not possible to contain the pandemic in one part of the world and let it unleash it in other parts.

Keywords: Covid-19, Global village, morality, profit.



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- ◀ کووید ۱۹: تحولات اقتصادی و تجاری در ایران و جهان
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