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Abstract

The present age is the age of various scientific and technological developments in the world. The benefits of interdisciplines from the implications are consistent with the diverse scientific advances of day. The question of present research is that, given the increasing use of interdisciplines, especially in higher education in our country, "What are the positions of interdisciplinary in Iran's Upstream Documents and Country Development Programs?" To answer this question, a descriptive-analytic study was performed while using qualitative research method. In this research, the documentary analysis of first to sixth development programs of Islamic Republic of Iran was carried out after describing the interdisciplinary in higher education to examine the level of emphasis of documents before and after the formation of council, along with upstream documents. The findings indicate that: the documents related to the general policies of system for the growth and scientific development of Iran in the higher education and research centres for the growth and development of higher education scientific and research dimensions, the terms of interdisciplinary and interdisciplines have been directly and indirectly mentioned. communicating between science and religion is one of central issues in this section and has some kind of interdisciplinary vision. In the economic, social, and cultural development programs of Islamic Republic of Iran, it has indirectly created interdisciplinary relations and, directly, interdisciplines in different fields of science. More precisely, in the rules of programs of first, second, third and sixth five-year of country's development; there is no indication of interdisciplines. It should be noted that despite the existence of a part entitled "Development of Science and Technology" in the third chapter of third development plan, there was no effect of this term and its implications. But given the fact that in the fourth and fifth programs there are clear signs and indications of use of term interdisciplinary and interdisciplines, these two documents were more analyzed and reviewed. In the strategic documents of higher education Area of country, despite the adoption of broad strategies and programs for development in the fields of science, research and technology, there is no mention of using interdisciplinary. This indicates the lack of consideration and attention to interdisciplines and their decisive role in advancing the country's major goals and programs. It is possible to conclude that theoretical and practical interdisciplinary activities in the country have been carried out and have now increased.

Keywords: Higher Education, Country Development Programs, Upstream Documents, Interdisciplinary, Iran.



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Introduction

The discussion about the interdisciplinary curriculum in Iran has a history and, on the other hand, there is a lot of hope for it. This refers back to the upstream documents, such as the comprehensive country science map document (2010), which has been more referenced to the word interdisciplinary. Studies have shown that benefiting from the interdisciplinary curriculum in Iran's higher education system goes back more than thirty years old. Its first application has been seen in the "Cultural Revolutionary Staff Regulations" entitled "Interdisciplinary Services in Higher Education" (Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, 2018). Another application, after the Islamic Revolution, goes back the Imam Sadeq University. In this University "Different interdisciplines of humanities and Islamic education interdisciplinary relationship has been established" that has been established at 1981, (Imam Sadeq University, 2018).

Given the increasing and accelerating nature of science in various educational and research fields, the higher education system plays a significant role in aligning and accelerating the development, so that, an expansion according to the various needs of society, along with the training of skilled people, with interdisciplinary and creative mental powers in addition to giving importance to development and the promotion of science at the core of its goals. On the other hand, interdisciplinary can be interconnected, in addition to removing the distance between different sciences up to share each other with their own knowledge and achievements. Therefore, considering the broadness and complexity of various sciences, on the one hand; and responding to the diverse needs of community on the other, the need to benefit from interdisciplines should be prioritized in the planning of country's higher education system. In this regard, one of experts in the field believes that "because of policies of higher education, the development of interdisciplines, which was considered following the community's need for new expertise. An interdisciplinary orientation in future academic study is not an option, but it is coercion and a requirement.

In other words, filling human knowledge gaps or responding to the needs of human societies more efficiently and more satisfactorily does not leave a way for scientists and researchers" (Mehrmohammadi, 2009). Therefore, the entry of interdisciplines into various fields of society is more important including the scientific and social fields, and the consideration of daily needs of human and the various branches of emerging knowledge of human societies in them. The debate about interdisciplines in Iran has both a history and a great deal of hope. This refers to upstream documents, such as the Comprehensive Scientific Map of the Country (approved by the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution 679 of 13-10-2010), which refers to the interdisciplinary. The questions now are: "has interdisciplinary been paid attention in the Upstream Documents?" And, "what's significant place of interdisciplinary in Iran's Country Development Programs?"

Methodology

The nature of subject; the objectives and the questions of present research, according to the sources of this study; is qualitative research and descriptive-analytic research. The descriptive research methodology has described the conditions and importance of interdisciplinary in



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higher education, as well as the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution. Considering that the purpose of analytical research is to "understand and improve the set of conceptual concepts or conceptual structures according to which the interpretive experiences, the intentions are clearly expressed, the constructed problems and the researches are conducted" (Short, 2008).

The document analysis method has been selected of various types of content analysis methods, the documents here are upstream documents related to the subject and development plans of Islamic Republic of Iran. For a wider analysis of problem, other upstream documents include: First to Sixth Five-year Development Plans of Islamic Republic of Iran to assess the level of emphasis of documents before and after the formation of Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, and the general policies of fifth Economic Development Plan, Social and Cultural Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran; general policies of Fourth Plan of Economic, Social and Cultural Development of Islamic Republic of Iran; and general policies of system for the development and scientific development of country in the higher education and research centres; Objectives, Duties and Organization of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology was studied and analysed.

Discussion

The history of interdisciplines in the scientific world as a new branch of human knowledge has been around for hundreds of years. Some scholars believe that the term interdisciplinary refers back to the 1920s, which was raised in the field of social science research and the General Education Movement. According to Klein, "Some originated the term in the 1940s and in the Manhattan Project where the atomic bomb was built, and many others originated in the events of 1960s and 1970s and the establishment of flow of educational innovation and experimentation. Nowadays, the interest and tendency to the Interdisciplinary has been increasingly grown and, in modern times, it is considered as a new knowledge of basic pillars of knowledge and research. Johan Heilbron knows the interdisciplinary extension in educational centres from the 1960s and writes: "This is probably the most obvious sign of collapse of scientific disciplines as the dominant way of organizing educational centres" (Klein, 2010). Subsequently, other researchers have taken positive steps to introduce, expand and express interdisciplinary strengths that the teaching and research in the field of interdisciplinary is currently one of significant components and attributes of changing university systems. In other words, this approach means the need for the interdisciplinary presence in the higher education system to be the main factors behind its evolution. As the increasing growth in collaborative research, managerial support, financial allocation, and the existence of literature on interdisciplinary scientific activities is the corollary of above statement.

Klein also describes the multidisciplinary implications of reasons for the intensification of interest in it, and writes: "The interdisciplinary, with significant advances in the fields of knowledge production has solution to meet the immediate social problems, the significant advances in technological innovation, and a more integrated educational experience; The faculty members pay attention to its ability to pursue new intellectual questions, work in the new areas of education and research, creation of balance in the absence of specialized isolation, to inspire the spirit of innovation, and the methods of active training in curriculum, growth and developing comparative and participatory skills among students, and responding to social



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problems"(Klein, 2010). Because curriculum is the essence of any kind of university education that, in combination with effective teaching methods, ensures the efficiency and effectiveness of university education system and is considered as one of components of higher education and university system (Amery, Sobhaninejad, Rahnama, 2015). On the other hand, it is the students who need to create appropriate opportunities for learning and teaching about a wide range of scientific disciplines in accordance with daily needs, studying the problems of real world, establishing a link between their field of study and other scientific disciplines, using creativity and attempt to integrate and advance the knowledge of diverse scientific disciplines and gain high level thinking skills such as critical thinking, composition, and participation in group activities. It seems that having interdisciplinary knowledge and attempting to establish and apply it can meet the needs and problems created in various aspects of scientific community.

It should be noted that any training is done in the social context. Planners and educators should pay attention to the social context in which they work. If their goal is to empower their audiences, they should try to understand the existing social structure and determine which components hinder the ability to influence their lives in the audience. (Salehi Omran, Ezadi, Faraji, 2017). Researchers, while studying and analysing different higher education courses, consider it to be effective in changing the university system. Therefore, Klein writes: "The new Academy is a broad-based movement that has grown around the edges and has grown increasingly within the academies of older academy, while pointing to the research of Carol Geary Schneider and Robert Schoenberg, and also Minnich research. This academy includes new methods of research and teaching and learning practices, reorganization of scientific disciplines and a new communicative pluralism. He sees interdisciplinary as a fundamental change in higher education centres, and the factor facilitating the creation of an academic culture based on interdisciplinary education and research calls for the identification of points of convergence, distribution and proper use of available resources, capacity building and the creation of minimum requirements, the architecture and architecture of university campus, and the adoption of best practices, the creation of a reference database, and the deep organization of a rich set of strategies for the purpose of programmatic strength and sustainability" (Klein, 2010).

Therefore, given the importance of development and updating of learners in various aspects of science, the need to benefit from interdisciplines and interdisciplinary curricula becomes more evident. As far as the course of evolution of curriculum is concerned, interdisciplinary curriculum is raised and every day, the number of disciplines increases. This movement "helped to rethink some of structural knowledge of past few years. At this time, in North America, attention was paid on interdisciplines that focused more on their problems and challenges" (Turner, 2006). It is worth noting: "From 1986 to 1996, US universities had a 36 Percent growth in interdisciplinary recovery, but other disciplines had grown by 76 Percent. However, the reality is that the rate of interdisciplinary development has not reached a specialized approach, but this movement has begun and is being pursued as a necessity at universities across the world" (Payne, 1999).

Today, the importance of interdisciplines in higher education is felt more and more because this educational system, which consists of several institutions and educational centres, seeks to "achieving goals such as education, research, developing creative and critical thinking,



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lifelong learning and problem-solving methods, developing knowledge boundaries and solving various educational, social, cultural, economic and political issues. And as the most striking feature of human capital investment, it plays a key role in educating and providing the necessary and efficient human resources to the various sectors of society" (Mehrmohammadi, 2008). In addition to the higher education system, institutions and research institutes also pay attention to studying and benefiting from the interdisciplinary and the results of interdisciplinary research. "Because of imperative of comprehension in solving problems and understanding the complexity and multidimensionality of problems facing human societies, it is thought that if scholars of a scientific discipline engage in the study of important problems on the basis of their own insight and without the help of specialists, other scientific disciplines; they take action without consideration and scrutiny in all aspects and dimensions of problem" (Etemadizadah & et al, 2011). Given the fact that the creation of interdisciplinary disciplines is one of major issues of day in the academic system and is increasing every day, this question comes to mind that: "Has interdisciplinary been considered in Upstream Documents and Country Development Programs of Iran?"

Finding in this research show that despite the existing uses of Interdisciplines in the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, all of them have been used based on terms such as studies, topics, sciences, disciplines, research, and interdisciplinary trends. Hence, the recognition of role and position of interdisciplines and interdisciplinary, according to the above-mentioned statements in upstream documents and Country Development Programs of Iran, requires an examination of structure and content of these documents and programs. Therefore, the need to investigate the position and role of interdisciplines and interdisciplinary in the development model is felt as a collective goal and accepted by all stakeholders in development programs, because national development is a complex, inclusive and dynamic process. In the course of this change, attention to the growth and development and spread of science and the necessity of them is inevitable. Therefore, addressing the role of interdisciplines and interdisciplinary positions, especially in development documents and programs, is considered as a necessity and factor in their effectiveness and efficiency. This article seeks to explain that "has the position of interdisciplines in development documents and programs been considered? How is it? If positive, "In response to the above question, the upstream documents and development plans of Iran have been analyzed in relation to the issue discussed in the article, which is presented below.

- Documents related to the general policies of system for the development and scientific development of Iran in the higher education and Research Centres

The general policy of system, which investigates national interests, including the country's research and development, has various educational centres that have been set up to implement its policies. Given the nature of documents of overall policies of system in the scientific and research field, have they considered the interdisciplinary?

In analysing these documents, it became clear that a proper structure has been created to strengthen the link between the field and the university and to strengthen continuous strategic partnerships in the social, educational, scientific and research fields. To emphasize scientific theorizing, especially in humanities, "the exchange of professors and students, the establishment of interdisciplinary scientific centres, joint courses and research and theoretical



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theorizing on development patterns and the relationship between science and religion with the goal of realizing the goals of Islamic Revolution" (Documents and Programs for the Development of Country, Section 8-3 General Policy Systems) (Mirafzali, 2018). In the general policies of Islamic Republic of Iran for the growth and development of scientific and research dimensions of country's higher education, it has been directly and indirectly referred to terms of interdisciplines and interdisciplinary. Communicating between science and religion is one of central issues in this section and has some kind of interdisciplinary vision. In terms of this scientific policy, as a result of link between the two fields of science and religion, while the scientific development and growth; we can achieve the high goals of Islamic revolution. It is worth noting in the analysis of documents, after the 679 Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, indirectly establishing an interdisciplinary relationship, and directly interdisciplines in various aspects of science, has been addressed in this document.

- Documents related to the laws of first to sixth five -year development programs of Islamic Republic of Iran

The other documents that have been reviewed are the rules of first to sixth five year of development plan of Islamic Republic of Iran, which necessary infrastructures have been done to pave the way for development in different dimensions, design and implementation of programs in five stages of five years due to specific circumstances and conditions. The time division is presented as follows and this paper analyses these documents:

- The Law of First Five-Year Development Plan for the Islamic Republic of Iran (1989-1994):

The first law of development is considered the first five-year plan of Islamic Republic of Iran after the revolution. This law was written and enforced when the imposed war had left many ruin and it was necessary to integrate into a new era with a coherent plan to repair these failures and establish a dynamic economic system.

- The Law of Second Five-Year Plan of Islamic Republic of Iran (1994-1999):

The second five-year plan was based on the experience of first program. In the text of this law, it can be easily found the increasing experience and confidence of country's planners.

- The Law of Islamic Republic of Iran's Third Five-Year Plan (2004-2000):

There is no sign of interdisciplines in the analysis of these upstream documents, which include the rules of first, second, third, five-year country development plans (Mirafzali, 2018).

It should be noted that despite the existence of a part entitled "Development of Science and Technology" in the third chapter of Third Development Plan, there was no effect of this term and its implications. But given the fact that in the fourth and fifth plans, there are clear indications and mentions of use of term interdisciplinary and interdisciplines, these two documents have been analyzed further as follows:

- Law of Fourth Five-Year Plan of Islamic Republic of Iran (2010- 2004):

Because of importance of role of knowledge and technology and skill as the main factor in advancing in the law of fourth development plan, according to its fourth chapter entitled: "Development based on knowledge" and its clause, "Revision of academic disciplines based on social needs, labour market and scientific developments" (Mirafzali, 2018). The development of interdisciplinary sciences seems necessary with an emphasis on humanities. In the development laws of country for the first time, in the fourth chapter of this law, the term "interdisciplinary" and "science" and also the development of interdisciplinary science have



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been used. This application of above term is one of courses approved by the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution in 2010. In other words, the plan for the development of interdisciplinary sciences and the creation of grounds for implementing this bill in the above-mentioned program is quite evident.

- Law of fifth Five-Year Development Plan of Islamic Republic of Iran (2011-2014):

The fifth development plan of country, has been implemented since 2011, has the most application of interdisciplinary. This is also due to the widespread perception of benefits of interdisciplinary use in various aspects of country's growth and development.

In the second chapter of fifth development plan, entitled Science and Technology, and in Part No 15: "In order to fundamentally change in higher education, especially in the fields of humanities, the realization of software movement and the deepening of foundations of belief, Islamic values and professional ethics, with the aim of improving the quality of knowledge and education, the ministries of science, research and technology; And health and medical education are required to do the above measures. In clause B and E it also refers indirectly to the term interdisciplines:

Clause (B): Compilation and promotion of qualitative indicators, especially in the fields of humanities, in particular in the fields of Quranic and Household science and interdisciplinary studies, utilizing the capabilities and facilities of seminary and providing the necessary training in accordance with the role of girls and boys.

Clause (E): expansion of theoretical, critique and free-thinking seats, conducting interdisciplinary studies, developing scientific poles and producing native science with emphasis on humanities" (Mirafzali, 2018).

In these two clauses, it is clearly referred to interdisciplinary studies in the true and present sense of above word, in the context of qualitative development and promotion of science, and many aspects of scientific growth and development. Achieving all of these above will ultimately lead to a fundamental change on higher education in the country and the promotion of quality in various fields of human knowledge and centres of education and research.

- The Law of Sixth Five-Year Plan for the Development of Islamic Republic of Iran (2017-1400):

In section 12 of sixth country development law as General Education, Higher Education and Science and Technology, which includes parts 63 to 66, there is no mention of interdisciplinary.

- Documents related to the goals, tasks and organization of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology of Islamic Republic of Iran

"In part 1, and in accordance with part 99 of Law of Third Plan of Economic, Social and Cultural Development of Islamic Republic of Iran, approved on 06/04/2000, and in order to integrate into executive affairs and the policy-making of scientific system, research and the technology of country, the goals of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (2018), one of which is the development and expansion of various scientific fields, at the same time there is no mention to the term "Interdisciplinary" along with none. It should be noted that these goals and tasks after the adoption of law of Third Development Plan of country, have determined that in both cases, in general, has been devoted to the development of science, but



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in the true sense of word, the interdisciplinary has not been considered. In other words, the designation of functions and powers of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (approved by the Supreme Council meeting of 23/04/2006) was also adopted after the approval of Third Development Plan Law. "In the implementation of part 99 of Law of Third Plan of Economic, Social and Cultural Development, with the main purpose in order to integrate into executive affairs and policy-making of country's scientific, research and technology system; the Law of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, 09/08/2004 was approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Considering the determinant role of science, research and technology in achieving the goals of ideal society of country in the Twenty-Year Vision Document of Islamic Republic of Iran and will be the allocation of an independent chapter entitled Knowledge-based development in the Fourth Development Plan, the main mission of Supreme Council of Science, Research and Technology Leadership is The scientific and technological development of country in order to continuously promote the country's position and authority in science and technology with the mission of policing and overseeing cross-cutting and intergovernmental coordination" (Ministry of Science, Research & Technology, 2018). In part 1 of this document, entitled "Policy making and macro planning", despite the adoption of large-scale development strategies and programs in the fields of science, research and technology, there has been no mention to the benefit of interdisciplinary. This indicates the lack of consideration and attention to interdisciplines and their determinative role in advancing the country's major goals and plans. However, in those years, theoretical and practical interdisciplinary activities were carried out in the country, which is cited below.

Among the academic circles that has referred to the interdisciplinary topics and even has published a few articles about this topic in its 4th No, the magazine "The SOKHANE SAMT and its new name, Research and Write Academic Books". In the second and third pages of this magazine in the fall of 1998, the editor in the editorial of this issue, entitled "answering" (Barzegar, 1998), seeks to explore how the impact of interdisciplinary studies on scientific production and compilation of textbooks is discussed. Other activities in this regard include the establishment of Institute of Cultural and Social Studies. "Since 2005, the Institute has been set up to fulfil the goals of Fourth Development Plan by the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology as the Executive Officer of interdisciplinary Program for Improving the Situation of Humanities, which resulted in the establishment of Secretariat of Interdisciplinary Projects and the Formulation of Over 200 interdisciplinary fields. According to the Institute of Cultural and Social Studies, the issue of applying humanities and reconciling this field of science to meet the concrete needs of community in humanities is one of most important requirements for the development and implementation of interdisciplinary disciplines. During the first two years, the list and headlines of some disciplines were gradually evidenced from 2005 to 2007. Then the designed disciplines were investigated and reviewed for more precise monitoring and troubleshooting by expert evaluators of each discipline based on the interdisciplinary surveillance formed and sent to the Higher Education Extension Council for final approval. In 2008, the Institute also launched the Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities Quarterly, which has given interdisciplinary both in education and in research (Institute of Cultural & Social Studies, 2018). The 37th No of this magazine has been published this year and the electronic edition of magazine is also available on the magazine's web site.



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Conclusion

Given the increasing use of interdisciplinary curricula, especially in higher education in our country, the present article seeks to investigate "what interdisciplines have been reflected in Iran's upstream documents and Country Development Programs?" An upstream documentation analysis related to the higher education Ministry of Science and curriculum was investigated to answer this question. The results of this documentary analysis indicate that the discussion of interdisciplines has been raised since the early revolution, and its history dates back to the approval of headquarters of cultural revolution, but for some reason, until 2010, and approval of Comprehensive Scientific Map of the Country comprehensive scientific map document of country, it was no longer included in the documents and continued to move slowly. Given the above points as well as other content analysis, it turns out that the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution has been the first to use the term "interdisciplinary" and its extension. From the implications of attention to the development of interdisciplinary, it can be referred to the establishment of Imam Sadeq University in 1983, which illustrates the implementation of 1979 Cultural Revolutionary Authority's ratification of need for interdisciplinary services between colleges of university.

In upstream documents analysis related to the research purpose, the structure and content of these development documents and programs in the country, implies the theoretical acceptance of a collective mental program, whose determination in all decades has been decisive in their formulation and consolidation, and after the compilation and the presentation based on a rational order has been placed the basis of all activities in the country. In fact, this structure reflects the belief in the rule of a purposeful thinking to govern the country; the content of these documents and programs also implies that the necessity of having a common literature and a general program for action based on the plan has been certainly assumed. A careful look at the documents and development plans discussed in the paper shows that the role and position of interdisciplines in upstream documents has been taken into account and some actions have also been taken.

Of course, as expected, with the emphasis on the scientific circles about the use of interdisciplinary topics in the quantitative and qualitative growth of sciences, and according to the documentary analysis of this article, it can be concluded that in our country, the history of studies and activities of interdisciplinary, based on the ratifications of 1979 cultural revolutionary authority's resolution and the establishment of Imam Sadeq University as the first interdisciplinary university of country, has been for more than thirty years; But its practical activities, such as the publication of journals and quarterly reports, and the founding of research institutes, goes back the less than twenty years. This indicates the arrival of these studies since the victory of Islamic Revolution, It has been a macro policy making and official and national documentary, and has been officially valued by them. Analysis of contents of first to fifth five-year development plans of Islamic Republic of Iran to investigate the level of emphasis on upstream documents along with other country development programs in Iran.

From the other results obtained, there is semantic difference and similarity between the interdisciplines can be mentioned. In the same way that the "Interdisciplinary" is placed next to the words and combinations of topics and sciences, sciences and technologies, trends, and domains, and the term "intradisciplines" alongside the words of studies and research, which in



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both synonyms has been used with interdisciplinary. But in parts, these two terms have been used in the current and distinct meanings of term, such as interdisciplinary tendencies in humanities, and tendencies interdisciplines of humanities and other sciences. So, here there is a difference between the interdisciplinary and intradisciplinary, and each one has been used separated from each other.

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