



Relevance of Urbanization in the Modern World

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Annotation: This article outlines theoretical approaches to explaining the essence of urbanization as a trend in the development of international society. The factors influencing the development of urbanization are considered.

Key words: urbanization, agglomerations, suburbanization, urban population, development of individual regions, globalization.

Urbanization is the growth of cities due to the movement of people from rural areas in search of better jobs and better living conditions.

Cities and towns are at the center of a rapidly changing world economy - they are the cause and effect of global economic growth. All over the world, cities are growing because people are moving out of rural areas in search of work, better living opportunities and a better future for their children.

For the first time in human history, most of the world's population lives in cities.

- Three billion people - half the world's population - live in cities
- By 2050, two-thirds of the world's inhabitants will live in cities. (In 1800, only 2% of people lived in cities. In 1950, only 30% of the world's population was considered city dwellers.)
- Nearly 180,000 people move to cities every day.
- In developing countries, the urban population is replenished annually by 60 million people. This level of urban population growth will continue for the next 30 years.
- Many cities in Africa and Asia will double in size over the next 15 to 20 years.

According to the level of urbanization, countries are divided into three groups. The first group is *highly urbanized* countries where the share of the urban population is more than 50% (Russia, Canada, USA, etc.). The second group - *medium urbanized* countries where the share of the urban population is 25-50% (Algeria, Mauritania, Egypt, Nigeria, South Africa, Bolivia, Paraguay).
Third group

- ✓ low- *urbanized* countries, where the share of the urban population is less than 25% (Mozambique, Ethiopia, Oman, Pakistan, Nepal).

Urbanization has an impact on the environment. 3/4 of the total volume of pollution is associated with the growth of urbanization. This has led to a new phenomenon in the economically developed countries of the world - "suburbanization".

suburbanization - this is the outpacing of the growth of the suburbs over the growth of the "urban core", obtained due to the relocation of the wealthy population to cleaner suburbs.

The main distinguishing characteristic of an urban settlement (small town, city, municipality, city of regional destination, metropolis) from a rural settlement (village, village, urban-type settlement) is a significant population, population density, as well as the structure by sectors of the economy (production, agriculture, services, infrastructure).



From this follows the obvious conclusion that the development of productive forces, technical and social progress are precisely the driving force behind urbanization in the era of globalization, transformation and digitalization of society.

Urbanization processes are influenced by certain factors, among them are the following:

- 1) historical. During the resettlement of the population, historical factors are of paramount importance. Those areas that were densely populated at the time when modern man was being formed, or when the mighty civilizations of the ancient world existed, remain so today. These are Europe and South and East Asia. Also, the directions of powerful migration flows from Europe after the era of the Great Geographical Discoveries led to a greater population density on the eastern coast of America.
- 2) socio-economic. Since ancient times, people have been striving to live in those areas that are more organized, that have begun to develop earlier and life in which is more civilized. That is why the processes of population migration are inevitable.
- 3) natural. Now this factor is not as relevant as before, because in the past, human settlements were drawn to live where the best natural conditions would help them survive, but today this is not entirely true.
- 4) social and innovative. At the present stage of human development, innovations are an important factor in urbanization, because a large number of people move to the city precisely because there is a high development of innovations, technologies, digitalization , which contributes to an increase in the quality of life.

The category "city" from the standpoint of studying socio-economic phenomena is currently in the focus of attention of many scientists: the tasks of studying the transformation and growth of cities (from small to large ones) are highlighted, the reasons for the development of some cities and the extinction of others are identified, the reasons for the increased interest in moving to one city are considered. cities as opposed to others, and so on. Today, the balance between the urban and rural population of the planet is approaching 50/50%, which is observed for the first time in the history of mankind.

Today, about 55% of the world's population lives in cities. About 180,000 people move to cities every day. Experts believe that by 2050 this figure will rise to 68%, that is, another 2.5 billion people will move to the city, while about 90% of this increase will occur in Asia and Africa. According to the UN, by 2050, 2/3 of the world's population will live in cities.

At present, the Republic of Uzbekistan has faced a number of problems in the implementation of the urbanization process.

In particular, over the past 10 years (2009–2018), there has been a downward trend in the level of urbanization (from 51.7 percent to 50.6 percent) in 10 out of 13 regions. Urbanization remains rather low in Khorezm (33.3 percent), Surkhandarya (35.5 percent), Bukhara (37.4 percent) and Samarkand (37.4 percent) regions.

It should be noted that the level of urbanization in Uzbekistan in the world coordinate system remains relatively low. According to the UN international rating (report for 2018), Uzbekistan ranked 155th among 233 countries of the world in terms of urbanization, while this indicator averaged: in the world - 55.3 percent, in the CIS countries - 66.0 percent , Russia - 74.4 percent, Turkey - 75.1 percent, Kazakhstan - 57.4 percent, Turkmenistan - 51.6 percent.

Given the existing problems, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in his Message to Oliy The Majlisu noted that due to the problem of the existing “gap” between those regions where the able-bodied population is concentrated and those where more jobs are created,



which affects regional development, the disproportion in the economic and social development of the regions is increasing. The current situation in the country requires strengthening the role of targeted economic development of the regions on the basis of a comprehensive diversification of market regional mechanisms.

In this regard, it is necessary to carry out a comprehensive development of the regions, to create decent living conditions for the population by accelerating the process of urbanization. As part of the implementation of these goals, the President decided to liberalize internal migration. Which, in turn, will lead to an increase in the well-being of the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In order to overcome the existing imbalances and systemic problems, intensify the processes of urbanization, as a new factor in ensuring sustainable development, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in his message to Oliy The Majlis has set a strategic goal to bring the level of urbanization in the country to 60 percent by 2030. As part of this work, 7 large cities were selected - Andijan, Bukhara, Samarkand, Karshi, Ferghana, Namangan and Nukus and 12 satellite cities of these large cities, and the necessary measures for their development will be developed. In this regard, by April 1, 2020, the parliament and the government must study international experience in this area and develop specific proposals for reforming the propiska system.

The main factors contributing to an increase in the level of urbanization are the implementation of predominantly large investment projects in the extractive industry, which will contribute to the industrialization of cities; organization of high mobility of the rural population and a high level of external migration; definition of a targeted policy aimed at the integrated and sustainable development of cities. Also an important aspect for the development of urbanization in the Republic of Uzbekistan is the mandatory consideration of the features characteristic of certain categories of cities, locations in the design and implementation of investment projects, certain errors in the statistical reporting of the actual number of urban population, especially large cities, etc.

Each country, each region of the world has gone through certain stages of industrial development and demographic transition, which have led to the current state of urbanization. However, according to the theory of D. Gibbs , all countries of the world are characterized by the passage of 5 main stages (stages) of urbanization processes with one or another speed of development:

- ✓ the stage when the development of cities in terms of growth rates significantly lags behind the development of rural areas;
- ✓ the stage when the development of rural areas slows down due to the flow of population to cities;
- ✓ the stage of reducing the share of the rural population against the background of the urban one;
- ✓ the stage of increasing flow of population to large cities, when large agglomerations are formed and the population of small towns is reduced;
- ✓ a stage that is characterized by deconcentration of the population in cities and growth in the suburbs, mainly of the rural type.

The second and third stages of the so-called urban concentration are now characteristic of most emerging economies, including Uzbekistan.

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