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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

An Analysis of the Revolutionary Principles from the Perspective of the Supreme Leader of Iran in the Context of Globalization

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EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Interdiction:

The study of political and social revolutions constitutes a critical domain within the social sciences. Given their infrequent occurrence, revolutions provide unique opportunities for scientific inquiry, including hypothesis formulation and testing, content analysis, and the development of novel theoretical frameworks. With the advent of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, religious values were operationalized within a contemporary political system, yielding unprecedented experiences across organizational and managerial domains. These experiences are distinct, given the unique nature and normative foundations of the Islamic Revolution.

The Islamic Revolution, positioned as a precursor to the eschatological revolution of the Imam Mahdi within an Islamic cosmological framework, holds a distinctive status. The role of its officials and agents is consequently expected to align coherently with the revolutionary trajectory. Managers, as role models for the public, exert a significant influence on cultural development and social behavior. Therefore, a comprehensive understanding of the Revolution's constituent components is essential to effectively confront emerging threats. The continuity and perpetuity of

the Revolution represent a recurring theme in the discourse of the Supreme Leader of Iran, particularly in recent years. He has explicitly stated that the permanence of the Revolution should be regarded as an objective, necessitating continuous deliberation on its preservation. As the Supreme Leader posits, the identification and provision of the elements ensuring revolutionary permanence are incumbent upon all.

This article seeks to examine the concepts of "revolutionary-ness" and "revolutionism" as articulated by the Supreme Leader. The central research question aims to identify the components of revolutionism within Iranian-Islamic society, with the purpose of recognizing identity-related opportunities and challenges arising from globalization processes and formulating appropriate responses.

Method:

The present study is applied in terms of its objective and employed a mixed-methods approach with an exploratory sequential design. Given the research aim—to formulate a theory of revolutionism and sustained revolutionary orientation—a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods was deemed necessary to facilitate both in-depth understanding and empirical validation.

Qualitative Phase:

In the initial qualitative phase, a content analysis of 35 directly transcribed speeches by the Supreme Leader was conducted, followed by semi-structured interviews. Purposeful sampling was employed to select expert participants (informed elites) possessing academic expertise and executive experience at decision-making levels within the scientific community. Data from the qualitative phase were analyzed using thematic analysis and the Delphi technique.

Quantitative Phase:

In the subsequent quantitative phase, a researcher-developed questionnaire was designed based on the extracted criteria from the qualitative analysis. The statistical population for this phase comprised university professors and administrative personnel working in cultural and educational sectors. Sample size was determined using Cochran's formula. Descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, frequency tables, and graphs) were computed using SPSS software. Inferential statistical analyses included the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test for normality, one-sample and independent t-tests, exploratory factor analysis (EFA), confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), and structural equation modeling (SEM).

Findings:

Following thematic analysis and coding of the 35 speeches, a substantial number of initial codes were identified. After accounting for redundancies and overlapping themes, the principal components of revolutionism as articulated by the Supreme Leader were classified as follows: preservation of the revolutionary movement, adherence to Islam, progression toward spirituality, Islamism, identity construction, learning from Imam Khomeini and his school of thought, and the principle of social justice.

Based on the research findings, the proposed model of revolutionism components comprises background conditions, causal conditions, pivotal (core) conditions, intervening conditions, as well as strategic and consequential categories.

Conclusion:

The results indicate that revolutionary awareness and revolutionary thinking are fundamental factors fostering the development of Islamic Revolution literacy. Individual value systems and ethical orientation exert significant influence, while spirituality, revolutionary self-development,

and jihadi management serve as foundational elements. The realization of revolutionism components is contingent upon strategies such as revolutionary spirit, firm determination, revolutionary commitment, and revolutionary cohesion. The implementation of these strategies yields comprehensive consequences for governmental managers, including guardianship of the Revolution, legality, pragmatism, service orientation, and jihadi management.

It is evident that governmental managers require a profound understanding of the Revolution, alongside the requisite skills and competencies, to remain committed to the revolutionary path. These concepts may serve as guiding principles for officials in perpetuating the revolutionary trajectory. Finally, drawing on the research findings and the derived model, it is concluded that strengthening revolutionary identity and sustainability, reinforcing the religious worldview of youth, internalizing authentic revolutionary, religious, and Islamic values through systematic culture-building, reforming the intergenerational transfer of values and norms, and presenting spiritual and mythological role models—alongside ethical considerations—remain essential priorities.

Data Availability Statement

Data available on request from the authors.

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Ethical considerations

Not applicable.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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