



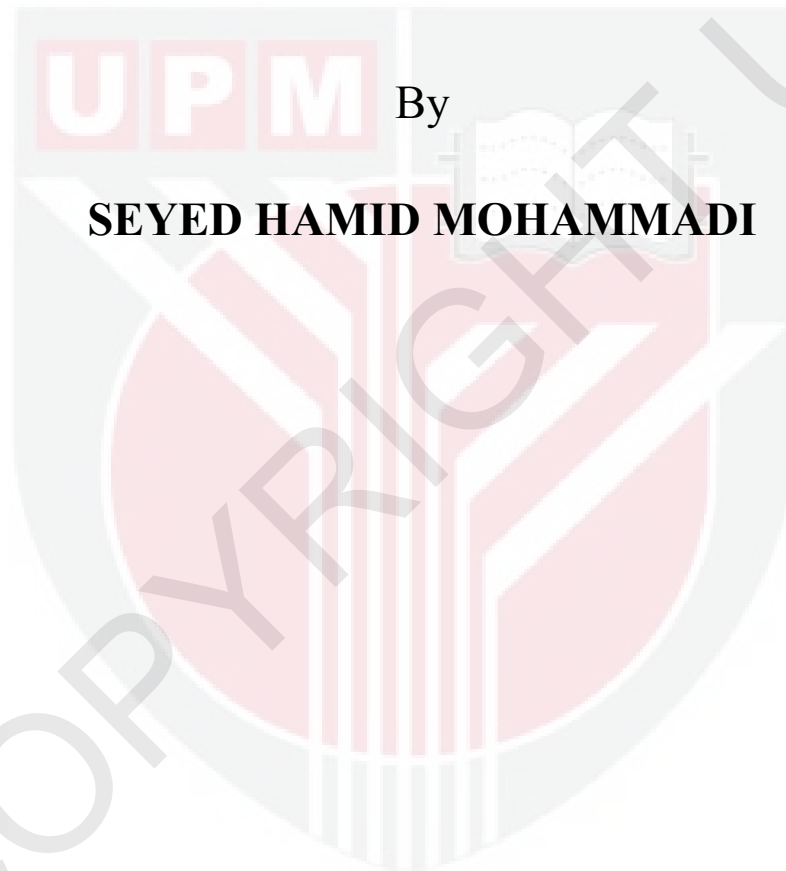
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN TORBAT - HEYDARIEH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IRAN***

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FEM 2012 25

**PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN TORBAT-
HEYDARIEH LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IRAN**



By

SEYED HAMID MOHAMMADI

**Thesis submitted to the school of Graduate of Studies,
University Putra Malaysia, in fulfilment of
Requirements for degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

October 2012

DEDICATION

Dedicated to my Father and Mother for their continuous support, love and encouragement throughout my postgraduate study



**Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree Doctor of Philosophy.**

**PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN TORBAT-HEYDARIEH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IRAN**

By

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October 2012

Chairman: Sharifah Norazizan, PhD

Faculty: Human Ecology

The main purpose of the study is to investigate the process of people's participation in Torbat-Heydarieh local government. Poor people's participation in local government has been identified as a barrier to the development of good governance. This research via survey and interviews conducted illustrated that there are several factors and limitations contributing to the success of people's participation in the local government activities. By highlighting these factors and limitations, the researcher's goal is to mobilize research and policy efforts to overcome those limitations and to enhance the level of people participation in local government to promote good governance. It is acknowledged that local people play an important role in local decision making processes. The participation of local people in the decision making processes will empower them and this is a big step towards good governance.

This study employed both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Questionnaire survey was used to identify the level of public participation and to examine the relationships between citizen perception towards participation, citizen attitude towards local government, civic engagement, and the characteristics of respondents with levels of people participation. Descriptive Statistics, Correlations, T-test, and One-way Anova were also performed to complete the data set. The study also employed qualitative interviews to identify the conflicts which arise over perceptions towards participation between the local people and members of the local government, as well as to determine the barriers of participation.

The findings showed that the level of people participation in local government of Torbat-Heydarieh, Iran, is at non-participation level. This means that the people do not really participate in the decision making process. At this level of participation, it shows clearly that good governance will not be achieved in Torbat-Heydarieh. Several factors have contributed towards this non participation which include lack of knowledge and participatory skills among members of local government, lack of opportunity to participate and negative view towards local government among local people. This study also investigated the people's perception towards participation and its relationship with level of participation. Based on findings of this study, although, the descriptive findings showed positive perception of respondents toward participation in local government but there was no significant relationship between perception and levels of participation. The study also investigated the people's attitude towards local government and its relationship with level of participation. The result showed that level of non-participation

has a negative relationship with attitude however the levels of tokenism and citizen-power had positive relationship with attitude towards local government. The T-test result showed that there is significant difference between male and female regarding their participation in levels of participation. One-way anova result also showed that participation of respondents are different based on their education background and types of their occupation.

The findings of this study have important implications for developing people's participation in Torbat- Heydarieh local government, particularly in the decision making process. The findings of this study contribute to the body of literature concerning people participation and good governance. The information gathered from this study will enable members of the local government to increase their capacity in terms of their attitude, accountability, awareness and to be more creative opening up new channels of communication and avenues for the local people to participate.. On the other hand, the local people will also have to increase their capacity and be more aware of the importance and benefits of participation and the opportunities to make a difference. The commitment and working together of both parties will enhance public participation and hence promote good governance.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah.

**PENYERTAAN AWAM DALAM KERAJAAN TEMPATAN DI
TORBAT-HEYDARIEH, IRAN**

Oleh

SEYED HAMID MOHAMMADI

October 2012

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Tujuan utama kajian ini adalah untuk menyelidik proses penyertaan masyarakat dalam kerajaan tempatan di Torbat-Heydarieh. Penyertaan yang lemah masyarakat di kawasan itu dikenal pasti sebagai penghalang kepada pembangunan pentadbiran yang baik. Penyelidikan ini melalui tinjauan dan temu bual yang dilaksanakan menunjukkan terdapatnya beberapa faktor dan keterbatasan kepada kejayaan penyertaan masyarakat dalam aktiviti kerajaan tempatan. Dengan menyoroti faktor-faktor dan keterbatasan ini, tujuan penyelidik adalah untuk menggerakkan usaha penyelidikan dan polisi untuk mengatasi keterbatasan ini serta meningkatkan tahap penyertaan masyarakat dalam kerajaan tempatan untuk mempromosikan pentadbiran yang baik. Hal ini diakui bahawa masyarakat tempatan memainkan peranan penting dalam proses membuat keputusan untuk peringkat tempatan. Penyertaan masyarakat tempatan dalam proses membuat

keputusan akan mendayaupayakan mereka dan ini merupakan langkah besar ke arah pentadbiran yang baik.

Penyelidikan ini menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif dan kualitatif. Borang selidik tinjauan yang digunakan adalah untuk mengenal pasti tahap penyertaan awam dan menguji hubungan antara persepsi masyarakat terhadap penyertaan, sikap masyarakat terhadap kerajaan tempatan, penglibatan masyarakat, dan ciri-ciri responden dengan tahap penyertaan masyarakat. Statistik deskriptif, korelasi, T-test, dan ANOVA satu hala digunakan untuk menganalisis data. Penyelidikan ini juga menggunakan temu bual kualitatif untuk mengenal pasti konflik yang timbul ke atas persepsi terhadap penyertaan antara masyarakat tempatan dan ahli-ahli kerajaan tempatan, serta mengenal pasti halangan dalam penyertaan. Kajian ini turut mengkaji persepsi masyarakat terhadap penglibatan dan hubungannya dengan tahap penglibatan. Berdasarkan terhadap penemuan kajian, walaupun, penemuan secara deskriptif menunjukkan persepsi positif responden terhadap penglibatan kerajaan tempatan tetapi tidak terdapat hubungan yang ketara diantara persepsi dan tahap penglibatan. Kajian ini turut mengkaji sikap masyarakat terhadap kerajaan tempatan dan hubungannya dengan tahap penglibatan. Kajian menunjukkan tahap ketidak penglibatan adalah berhubungan negative dengan sikap bagaimanapun tahap TOKENISM dan kuasa-masyarakat adalah berhubungan positif dengan sikap terhadap kerajaan tempatan. Keputusan T-test menunjukkan terdapatnya perbezaan ketara diantara penglibatan lelaki dan perempuan mengenai tahap penglibatan mereka. Keputusan one-way anova juga menunjukkan penglibatan responden adalah berbeza berdasarkan latar belakang pendidikan dan jenis pekerjaan.

Dapatan kajian menunjukkan tahap penyertaan masyarakat dalam kerajaan tempatan Torbat-Heydarieh, Iran, adalah di peringkat bukan penyertaan. Ini bermakna masyarakat tidak benar-benar menyertai dalam proses membuat keputusan. Pada tahap penyertaan ini, ia menunjukkan dengan jelas bahawa kerajaan yang mempunyai pentadbiran yang baik tidak akan tercapai di Torbat-Heydarieh. Terdapat beberapa faktor yang menyumbang kepada bukan penyertaan ini termasuklah kurangnya mempunyai pengetahuan dan kemahiran penyertaan dalam kalangan ahli kerajaan tempatan dan kurangnya minat serta pandangan negatif terhadap kerajaan tempatan oleh masyarakat tempatan.

Penemuan kajian ini mempunyai implikasi penting untuk mengembangkan penyertaan masyarakat dalam kerajaan tempatan di Torbat-Heydarieh, khususnya dalam proses membuat keputusan. Dapatan kajian ini memberikan sumbangan kepada literatur tentang penyertaan masyarakat dan pentadbiran yang baik. Maklumat yang dikumpulkan dari kajian ini membolehkan ahli kerajaan tempatan meningkatkan kapasiti mereka berkenaan sikap, akauntabiliti, kesedaran dan menjadi lebih kreatif untuk membuka saluran-saluran baru bagi komunikasi dan cara masyarakat tempatan untuk menyertai. Dari sudut yang lain, masyarakat tempatan juga harus meningkatkan kapasiti mereka dan lebih menyedari kepentingan dan manfaat dari penyertaan serta peluang untuk mengenal pasti perbezaan. Komitmen dan kerja sama antara kedua belah pihak akan meningkatkan penyertaan awam dan mempromosikan pentadbiran yang baik.

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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 19/10/2012 to conduct the final examination of **Seyed Hamid Mohammadi** on his thesis entitled “**People Participation In Torbat-Heydarieh Local Government, Iran**” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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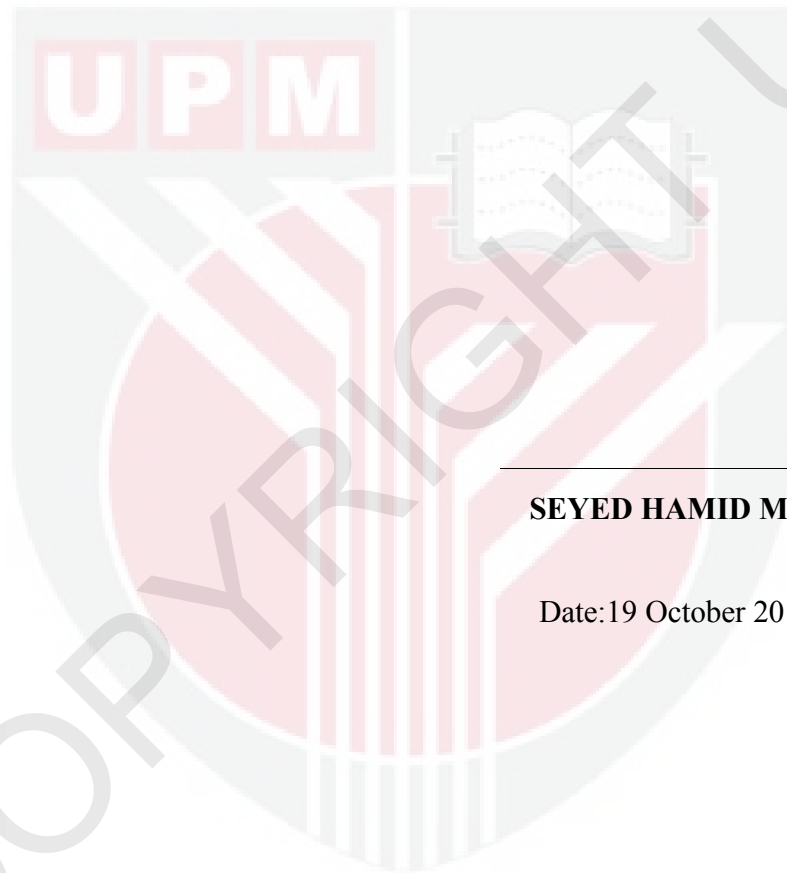
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at University Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.



SEYED HAMID MOHAMMADI

Date: 19 October 2012

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