

# Nursing vs Aging in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal

**Mohammad Taghi Sheykhi\***

*Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Alzahra University, Tehran, Iran*

**\*Corresponding author:** Mohammad Taghi Sheykhi, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Alzahra University, Tehran, Iran



## ARTICLE INFO

**Received:** 📅 March 15, 2021

**Published:** 📅 March 23, 2021

**Citation:** Mohammad Taghi Sheykhi. Nursing vs Aging in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal. Biomed J Sci & Tech Res 34(4)-2021. BJSTR. MS.ID.005590.

**Keywords:** Aging; Nursing; Asia; Sociology; Demography

## ABSTRACT

Population aging as a new phenomenon is widely and comparatively appearing in Asia. The event first emerged in industrial world, but gradually, through transformation of norms and values, Asian countries too adopted the new values. Through change and rise in economic growth and educational upheaval, many Asian countries are currently facing population aging, but not sufficient nursing. The processes of modernization and industrialization have played major roles in aging of the Asian countries. However, aging being a natural or passive process, involves social exclusion in societies [1]. Despite the obvious connections between demography and sociology, it is surprising that these two disciplines have tended to develop as separate and distinct approaches to human society [2,3]. Despite the above argument, population indicators can widely analyze the population change.

## Discussion

Economic growth, which in itself leads to development, also affects the population in various ways; That is, a movement in which population growth, middle age, population aging, population health, and so on are affected. Over the last two centuries, economic growth has generally affected the developed countries of Western Europe; In other words, population growth has decreased in those communities, and as a result, a smaller population has emerged in these communities. Such a situation has affected the lives of citizens in those communities in various ways, economically and socially, and the quality of life; That is, a phenomenon that itself affected other demographic indicators such as life expectancy, reduction of mortality, etc. in those communities first and foremost in other parts of the world. Also, the middle age index increases widely under the influence of economic growth. The middle age index refers to the point at which 50% of the population is at that age. For example, today in industrialized countries the median age index is over 32 years old. In non-industrial societies, however, the median age index is generally below the age of 20.

Population aging, as one of the achievements of economic growth, first occurred in industrialized countries and gradually spread to other societies to some extent. Also, economic growth has led to better health of the population in different age groups. Hence, economic growth generally affects other social and demographic

indicators to a large extent. The Asian region or continental Asia with a population of 4.6 billion in 2020 [4,5], has also undergone extensive changes in the years since 1950, as far as aging and economic growth are concerned. This means that the demographic events of industrial societies have gradually affected Asian societies since the mid-twentieth century. Most of the changes due to economic growth and demographic change are related to East Asian countries. In the words of Indian Population Minister Karan Singh at the 1974 Bucharest Population Conference, "development is the best means of prevention."

This means that when countries pursue economic development, they naturally and regularly modify their population growth, or in other words, following the economic development of the population, it also modifies in various forms. Improving the life expectancy of the population, middle age of the population, reduction of population mortality and the like are among the things that are achieved under the influence of economic growth. The process or economic growth first happened to Japan, South Korea, China and many other countries. In such a situation, demographic planners in the long run must consider the needs of the population. This means that in the context of increasing life expectancy, for example up to the age of 80, the planning process in a country must anticipate the food, health, housing, employment, etc. needs of the population up to the age of 80 or older (Table 1).

**Table 1:** Selected Population Variables of Some Asian Countries 2019.

Continent/Countries	Population (millions) mid-2019	Births Per 1000 population	Deaths Per 1000 population	Rate of Natural Increase (%)	Population (millions) mid 2050	% Population Ages 65+	% Urban
Asia	4.587	19	6	1.3	5.344	9	49
Saudi Arabia	34.2	16	3	1.3	47	3	84
Turkey	82.6	15	5	1	104.6	9	75
Afghanistan	38	33	7	2.7	70.7	3	25
India	1.391.9	20	6	1.3	1.669.7	6	31
Iran	83.9	19	5	1.5	113.3	6	74
Pakistan	216.6	29	7	2.2	368.9	4	37
Philippines	108.1	11	6	1.5	144.5	5	47
China	1.398.0	11	7	0.4	1.367.4	12	60
Korea. S	51.8	6	6	0.1	47.7	15	82

Note: Source: 2019 World Population Data Sheet.

Fertility decline, as a determinant of population, also occurs naturally following economic growth; That is, a situation in which many of the people involved in economic growth at an older age marry and subsequently have children. This situation is also evident in many Asian societies today.

## Conclusion

Due to industrial and economic growth, population aging is currently occurring in many parts of Asia. But sufficient nursing programs are not put into practice to nurse the increasing aging people. Many aging people in Asia depend on their children and grandchildren for nursing and care during their old age. Countries like Japan and South Korea have put into effect satisfactory plans

to take care of their elderly people. So, Asia widely needs to plan and invest on its growing aging people. Pensions and insurance coverage are highly in need to be practiced in Asia. Income shortage is the number one problem of many aging people in Asia.

## References

1. Turner BS (2001) Society and Culture, London, Sage.
2. Wringley EA Shofield R (1981) The population History of England 1541-1871: A Reconstruction, London, Arnold.
3. Coleman D, Salt J (1992) The British Population, Oxford, Martin Robertson.
4. (2019) World Population Data Sheet. PRB, Washington DC.
5. (2020) World Population Data Sheet. Population Reference Bureau, Washington DC, USA.

ISSN: 2574-1241

DOI: 10.26717/BJSTR.2021.34.005590

Mohammad Taghi Sheykhi. Biomed J Sci & Tech Res



This work is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License

Submission Link: <https://biomedres.us/submit-manuscript.php>



### Assets of Publishing with us

- Global archiving of articles
- Immediate, unrestricted online access
- Rigorous Peer Review Process
- Authors Retain Copyrights
- Unique DOI for all articles

<https://biomedres.us/>