

**Presenting the Model of the Effect of New Means of Communication on Social Security, Emphasizing the Mediating Role of Cultural and Social Threats of Western Media Against the Islamic Republic of Iran.**

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**Purpose:** Considering the role and importance of social security, this study was conducted with the aim of providing a model of the impact of modern communication tools on social security, emphasizing the mediating role of cultural and social threats of Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Methodology:** The present study was a cross-sectional applied research. The research community consisted of 123 officials and activists in the field of social security of related organizations. The sample size was determined based on the table of Krejcie & Morgan, 93 people who were selected by stratified random sampling method. The research tool was a researcher-made questionnaire, whose face validity was confirmed by the opinion of experts and its reliability was confirmed by Cronbach's alpha method for the entire questionnaire, new means of communication, cultural and social threats, and social security as 0.94, 0.96, 0.95 and 91.0 was calculated. Data were analyzed by structural equation modeling method in Lisrel software.

**Findings:** The findings showed that the model of the effect of new means of communication on social security with emphasis on the mediating role of cultural and social threats of Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran had a suitable fit. Also, new means of communication had a direct and significant effect on cultural and social threats and social security, and cultural and social threats on social security. In addition, new means of communication had an indirect and significant effect on social security by mediating cultural and social threats ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** Considering the effect of variables, it is necessary to plan to increase social security through the adjustment of new means of communication and cultural and social threats.

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## 1. Introduction

Providing security in society is a basic priority for all countries, and despite this, there is no 100% possibility for social security. Because the differences between people and educational and social differences are always effective and there is always a percentage of crime, delinquency and violence in any society and based on that, a feeling of insecurity is created (Vahedi, Eghbali, Rezaei, Rezaei and Ghasemzadeh, 2021). Today, all aspects of human social life are affected by security, and no phenomenon of social life is unaffected by security, and security is necessary to have a healthy social life (Bronstein, Scott, Shoven and Slavov, 2020). Security, as one of the important and fundamental needs, provides the basis for human growth and development and increases peace and comfort in social life (Gechett, Paetz and Villanueva, 2021). One of the most important human needs after satisfying the physiological needs is the need for security and especially social security, which has led to the formation of various long and wide security and law enforcement institutions and organizations in every society (Rezadoost, Zakavi and Asgari, 2021). Social security is very important as one of the dimensions of security and a part of the social, economic and political conditions of every social unit, and when the body and soul of people are at ease and at peace, the platform is ready for their material and spiritual prosperity (Schmitt, 2015). Social security is one of the five dimensions of national security and indicates the identity of large social groups in the society, which can be defined as the feeling of security against the threat of family members, friends, capital and living environment (Rafiee Dolatabadi, Zargar and Abdolrahmani, 2021). This structure is a complex and multidimensional category that affects the development and excellence of any society, and for the development and evolution of societies, the element or category of social security is very important and necessary (Jones and Li, 2018). Social security is a type of positive and comforting psychological feeling and belief of citizens regarding the non-occurrence of security incidents or social threats in the current and future conditions of society (Yu and Li, 2021). Social security refers to the protection of the individual against the dangers that the society creates for individuals, such as poverty, hunger, unemployment, and lack of access to health and education. This type of security, with the assumption of equal rights of groups in having the right to life, preserves group characteristics such as language, customs, rituals and ceremonies, as well as the right to benefit from the welfare and facilities of the community, provides a space free from harm and worry for the groups (Badeleh, Alinasab and Rezazadeh Bahadoran, 2020).

One of the factors related to social security is modern communication devices, which nowadays have become an integral part of many people's lives and many people use these devices (Asvija, Eswari and Bijoy, 2019). The communication-information revolution of the 21st century should be seen as much more than the mere electronicization of the relationship between people, and this revolution by creating the possibility of a network society that gives people and societies a new identity in new forms, not only rules and regulations governing communication and the interaction between humans, but has changed the attitude of humans towards themselves, others and the world (Ahmadi, Hashemi and Ruhani, 2011). Modern means of communication are powerful tools that can establish communication between the people of the world in the shortest possible time and have brought perspectives to the world that affect all aspects of the political, military, economic, social, educational and even kinship and family life of today's people. It has turned face-to-face interactions and relationships into mediated relationships, reducing visibility and visits and overnight stays, alienating relatives from each other, etc. (Khaje Nouri, Bahmani and Delavar, 2017). These devices are Internet and web-based tools that are used for sharing, discussion, interaction and exchange of ideas between people and provide many possibilities and capabilities for communication and participation between people (Shepard, Joyner, Furgerson, Hulcher, Chen and Keppley, 2022). The expansion of communication tools and social media in the Internet space is one of the foundations of the new communication-information revolution, which has provided a suitable and powerful platform for exchanging information and establishing communication between different people. Therefore, knowing the extent of the influence of these means of communication in people's lives and examining its effectiveness is very important for strategic planning (Batca and Gourbesville, 2016). New means of communication, as

one of the consequences of modernism, have changed the functions of the family and have left many effects on it; In such a way that values such as materialism, consumerism and individualism have been removed from their main functions and caused the severing of authentic family ties. These devices turn the family into a space for individual and personal activities, where hedonism, individualism and sovereignty dominate as prominent features of modernism. Also, these devices lead individuals or families to unhealthy competition to achieve superior social positions and more efficiency, and make the relationships between individuals and families cold and unstable (Caballini, Agostino and Chiara, 2021).

One of the variables that can possibly mediate between new means of communication and social security is cultural and social threats. Threats against security at the current time can be divided into two types of hard or system threats and soft or civilian threats. Meanwhile, soft threats are expected to challenge the security of social, cultural and political systems, and this justifies the development and adoption of cultural and social strategies (Jamshidi and Qorbi, 2012). A threat is an action or phenomenon that causes a challenge in the life of a group of people or a society and government in a short or long time (Crossler, Andoh-Baidoo and Menard, 2019). In other words, threat means the lack of complete security in which the values and interests of a group or society are endangered (Roos, Gelfand, Nau and Lun, 2015). Cultural and social security is the basis of the security of the whole society, and cultural and social threats are the basis of insecurity in the society (Valente, Gouveia, Neves, Vasques and Bernardo, 2021). Among the types of threats, cultural and social threats are of particular importance and these types of threats can cause changes in the social and cultural identity and patterns accepted or approved by a group or society (Kashima, Dennis, Perfors and Laham, 2021). Regarding cultural and social threats, it can be said that the perpetrators of cultural threats seek to use cultural mechanisms and methods on the fundamental values of society (such as God-centeredness, anti-enemy, justice, freedom, scientism and altruism), basic attitudes (such as attitudes towards foreigners, political attitudes, attitude towards the type of government and attitude towards the type of social relations) and basic preferences (such as moral, social, political and cultural preferences), customs, character and behavior have a negative impact and change it. Also, the perpetrators of social threats seek to have a negative impact on the identity of the people of the society, social cohesion, social capital, behavioral patterns, national attachment, readiness for change and popular ideas (Torabi, Esmaeili and Bahrami, 2020).

Very few researches have been conducted on the relationship between new means of communication, cultural and social threats, and social security, and the most important and relevant results are reported below.

Abasi-Aghdam, Rezai and Attari (2020) while researching the impact of social security on the prevention of social harms, concluded that the relationship between social security and social harms was inverse and that social security had an effective contribution to the prevention of social harms.

Dastranj and Ghanbari (2020) while researching the state of feeling of social security and socio-cultural factors affecting it, reported that there was a significant relationship between age, gender, employment status and membership in associations with feeling of social security in young people, but between the amount There was no significant relationship between education, marital status, social class and the amount of social media use with their sense of social security.

Ahmadi and Alipouri (2019) conducted a research on social and cultural harms and concluded that the most important social harms include the number of marriages, the number of divorces, the rate of divorce and marriage, satisfaction with life, intentional homicide, a history of risky behavior, corporal punishment of children, and a sense of security. And the social capital of the family and the most important cultural damages included religious beliefs, sacrifice and national pride, use of satellite, educational preferences, feelings of happiness, participation in elections and life preferences.

Naderi and Bakhshayesh (2018), while researching the impact of virtual social networks on social security, reported that virtual social networks on social security have a two-faceted nature. At the same time, it is an effective tool for creating identity harmony, strengthening national identity, promoting Islamic-Iranian

culture and values, strengthening the power structures of society such as governance and social groups, strengthening the components of social capital, persuading and accepting beliefs and values, helping to socialize. and transferring cultural heritage and strengthening social solidarity; Due to the lack of necessary hardware and software infrastructures and the lack of coherent and purposeful policies, it causes confusion of the identity order, the gap and identity falsification or identity crisis, the change of the intellectual system and thoughts of users, the delegitimization of beliefs and beliefs, the spread of new patterns that conflict with values and Dominant norms (weakening of national beliefs, values and beliefs), change in people's clothing, change in food type and habit, collapse of institutionalized social relations or change in lifestyle, change in national language and weakening of social cohesion and homogeneity, and now it has become one of the It has become an important means of threatening the social security of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Shiri and Rahmani (2016) conducted a research on the effect of the use of modern means of communication, line and telegram, on the state of family cohesion, and concluded that the use of modern means of communication has an inverse and significant role on family cohesion and its components, including family stability, intimate relationships of family members. , relationships with relatives, the way family members eat, the way of hosting a party, the way of family outings, and the way of verbal communication.

Social security plays an important role in other situations of the society and on this basis it is necessary to examine the effect of other variables on it. Based on the review of the research background, it was determined that the role of the variables of modern means of communication and cultural and social threats has been neglected or that Less researched. One of the gaps that led to the proposal of the title of this research is the importance of social security and the lack of research that has examined the relationship between modern communication tools and cultural and social threats. Another important point is that the results of this study can help specialists and planners in improving the social security situation and cause its improvement. The last thing about the importance and necessity of the current research is that, as it is clear in the research background, few researches have been done about the relationships of the mentioned variables and the results of the researches are different. As a result, this study was conducted with the aim of providing a model of the effect of modern communication tools on social security, emphasizing the mediating role of cultural and social threats of Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## 2. Methodology

The present study was an applied cross-sectional study. The research community consisted of 123 officials and activists in the field of social security of related organizations. The sample size was determined based on the table of Krejcie and Morgan, 93 people who were selected by stratified random sampling method. For this purpose, the size of the community was determined by gender, and the sample size of men and women was selected from the community members in the same ratio. The selection criteria of these people include responsibility or activity in the field of social security, at least bachelor's degree, not receiving psychological services in the last three months, no addiction and use of psychiatric drugs, no occurrence of stressful events such as divorce and death of relatives in the last three months, and willingness to participate were in research.

The process of conducting the present study was such that after determining the title and the research community, the size of the community was determined and the sample size was calculated, and then sampling was done from among the members of the community. For the samples, the importance and necessity of the research was explained and they were assured about the observance of ethical points and they were asked to participate in the research. In the next step, the samples were asked to answer the researcher-made questionnaire of the current study and not to leave any question of the questionnaire unanswered, and finally, the samples were thanked for completing the tools.

The tool of the current research was a researcher-made questionnaire that had three dimensions: modern means of communication, cultural and social threats, and social security; So that modern means of

communication include five components of applications, social networks, internet sites, mobile phones and satellites, cultural and social threats including three components of dominating nations, promoting and imposing ideas and goods that are contrary to society's values, and deculturalizing nations and social security. The three components were individual security, family security and community security. To answer each question, a five-point Likert scale was used and the score of each component or dimension was calculated with the total score of the questions of that component or dimension. The face validity of the researcher-made questionnaire was confirmed by the opinion of experts and its reliability was calculated by Cronbach's alpha method for the entire questionnaire and the dimensions of modern means of communication, cultural and social threats and social security as 0.94, 0.96, 0.95 and 0.91 respectively. Finally, the data obtained from the implementation of the researcher-made questionnaire were analyzed by the structural equation modeling method in Lisrel software.

### 3. Findings

The results of the frequency and percentage of gender and education of the samples of the present study in Table 1 indicate that most of the samples were male (60.22%) and had a master's degree (54.84%).

**Table 1.** The results of frequency and frequency percentage of gender and education of the samples of the present study

percentage of frequency	frequency	categories	Variables
22/60	56	Man	gender
78/39	37	Female	
18/31	29	bachelor's degree	education
84/54	51	Master's degree	
98/13	13	P.H.D	

The correlation results of the present research variables in Table 2 indicate that there was a positive and significant relationship between new means of communication, cultural and social threats, and social security ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Table 2.** Correlation results of the variables of the present study

social security	cultural and social threats	New communication tools	Variables
		1	New communication devices
	1	83/0	Cultural and social threats
1	68/0	79/0	Social Security

Examining the assumptions of structural equation modeling indicates that the assumption of normality was valid for all three variables of modern means of communication, cultural and social threats, and social security and their components. Also, the assumption of correlation between variables was established for structural equation modeling. As a result, the conditions are ready to perform the analysis with the structural equation modeling method. The results of the fit indices of the current research model in Table 3 indicate that the model of the effect of modern communication tools on social security with an emphasis on the mediating role of cultural and social threats of Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran had a good fit.

**Table 3.** The results of the fit indices of the current research model

Acceptable fit	amount	Abbreviation	index name
GFI > %90	98/0	GFI	goodness of fit index
AGFI > %90	98/0	AGFI	Adjusted Goodness of fit Index
RMR < 0/08	04/0	RMR	root mean square residual
NNFI > %90	99/0	NNFI	Unnormalized fit index
NFI > %90	96/0	NFI	Normalized fit index

CFI>%90	98/0	CFI	Comparative fit index
RFI>%90	99/0	RFI	Relative fit index
IFI>%90	99/0	IFI	Incremental fit index
RMSEA<0/10	02/0	RMSEA	root mean square error of estimation

The results of the results of the current research model in Figures 1 and 2 and Table 4 indicate that modern means of communication had a direct and significant effect on cultural and social threats and social security, and cultural and social threats had a direct and significant effect on social security. In addition, modern means of communication with the mediation of cultural and social threats had an indirect and significant effect on social security ( $P<0.05$ ).

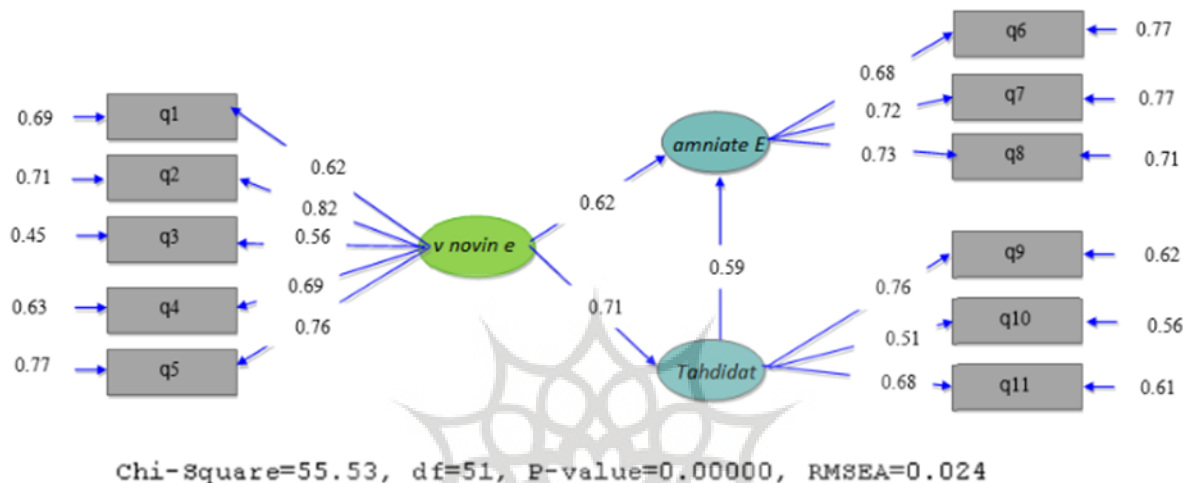


Figure 1. The results of the effects of the current research model in the case of standard coefficients

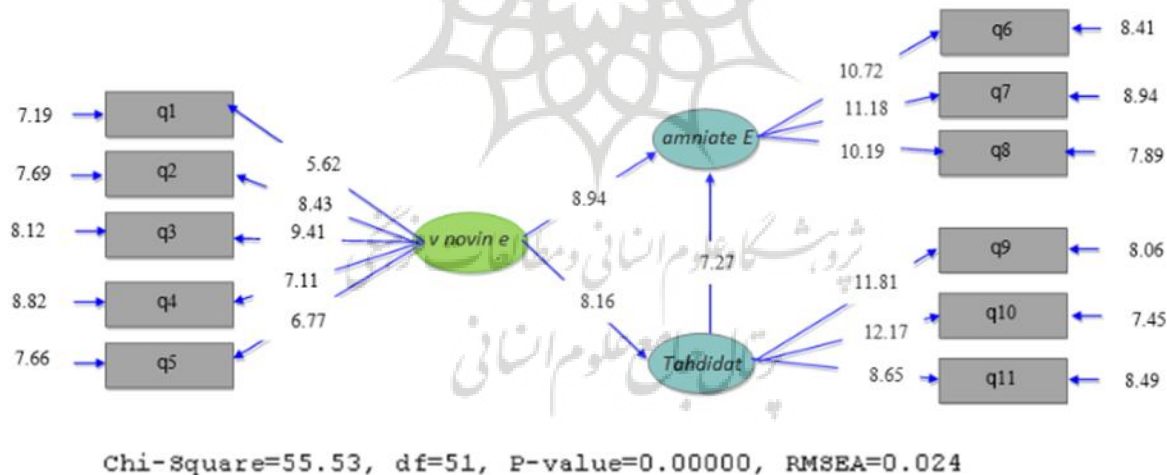


Figure 2. The results of the effects of the current research model in the significance mode

Table 4. The results of the effects of the current research model

Result	T-test	Standard coefficient	effects
not rejected	16/8	71/0	Direct effect of new communication tools on cultural and social threats
not rejected	94/8	62/0	Direct effect of new communication tools on social security
not rejected	27/7	59/0	Direct effect of social and cultural threats on social security
not rejected	85/6	42/0	The indirect effect of new means of communication with the mediation of social and cultural threats on social

#### 4. Discussion

Considering the role and importance of social security and its role in other situations of the society, this study was conducted with the aim of providing a model of the effect of modern communication tools on social security, emphasizing the mediating role of cultural and social threats of Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The results of this study showed that modern means of communication had a direct and significant effect on cultural and social threats, which was in line with the results of Shiri and Rahmani (2016). In explaining the direct and meaningful effect of new means of communication on cultural and social threats, it can be said that today the expansion of new means of communication and communication networks in the world has broken down borders and exposed the audiences of different countries to waves of global advertisements, which have very different concepts of intra-border and extra-border communication. created and with the topic of global village and globalization forced all scientific collections to become international audiences due to the wide role of communication and to be under the influence of different cultures and to use behaviors appropriate to those cultures regardless of their own culture . The culture of any country is one of the most fundamental components of preserving the identity and values of that society, which today has been affected or exposed to the damage of the power of modern means of communication, including the media, and it may also affect the cultural and social values of people. Therefore, it seems reasonable that new means of communication can have a significant effect on cultural and social threats.

Also, the results of this study showed that new means of communication had a direct and significant effect on social security, which was consistent with the results of Nadri and Bakhshayesh (2018) and inconsistent with the results of Dastranj and Ghanbari (2020). In explaining the discrepancy between the results of this study and the research of Dastranj and Ghanbari (2020), we can point to the difference in the nature of the variables. The current study investigated the effect of new means of communication on social security, but their research investigated the relationship between the amount of social media use and the feeling of social security. Perhaps the difference in nature between modern means of communication with the amount of use of mass media or even the difference in tools and the fact that both tools were researcher-made and not standard tools has caused the difference in the results of the two mentioned studies. Another possible reason could be that new means of communication have more destructive effects compared to mass media, which includes radio and television, and this causes the opposite and significant effect of new means of communication on social security. In explaining the direct and meaningful effect of new means of communication on social security, it can be said that man is a social being and the digital age and new technologies did not change this issue, but it changed the way of communication. Using social media, people have instant access to people's lives and new ways to interact with them. It should be noted that the use of these modern means of communication also has security risks and criminals use it for fraud, secretly collecting business information, stealing important and sensitive information, etc. Therefore, it can be seen that new developments, including new means of communication, have caused geographical boundaries to lose their meaning in the existing form and today's world has become a global village accessible to everyone, in which it is very difficult to preserve information and privacy. is. As a result, it can be expected that new means of communication can have a significant effect on social security.

In addition, the results of this study showed that cultural and social threats had a direct and significant effect on social security, which was consistent with the results of Abasi-Aghdam et al (2020) and Ahmadi and Alipouri (2019). In explaining the direct and meaningful effect of cultural and social threats on social security, it can be said that cultural and social threats refer to any type of individual or collective action that does not fall within the framework of the moral principles and rules of the society in which it operates, and is usually prohibited by law and morally reprehensible and Socially faced. Another important point is that cultural and social threats strengthen the feeling of social disorganization, individuals and groups feel that social control has been removed from their behavior, they consider themselves less responsible for the

cultural and social values and norms of the society, and cultural damages And they accept social more easily. Therefore, it seems reasonable that cultural and social threats can have a significant effect on social security. The last result and the unique contribution of this study is that new means of communication had an indirect and significant effect on social security by mediating cultural and social threats. No research was found in this regard, but in explaining the indirect and significant effect of new means of communication by mediating cultural and social threats on social security, it can be said that what has caused changes and transformations in the communication between people and even organizations today in scientific and non-scientific circles. New means of communication or media and social networks, if they are based on the Internet and the Web, are very effective for sharing knowledge and information, which often refer to activities in the field of technology integration, social interaction, text structure, images, sounds, and videos. New means of communication limit the facilities, power and potential capacity of the dominant ideology to exert dominance and with the mediating role of social and cultural threats, it can affect social security, which includes measures to preserve and survive the lives of the members of a society and preserve their ways and ways of life. to improve them, to have a significant effect. As a result, it can be expected that cultural and social threats are a suitable mediator between new means of communication and social security, and new means of communication can have a significant effect on social security through social and cultural threats.

Every research is faced with limitations during implementation, and one of the important limitations of this study is the limitation of the research community to 93 officials and activists in the field of social security of related organizations and the lack of research backgrounds to compare the results of the present study with them. Therefore, it is suggested to conduct more research in other groups, including military personnel and even ordinary people. Another research suggestion is to investigate the effect of new means of communication on social security with the mediating role of other variables such as wisdom, extroversion, etc. The results of this study have many practical implications for specialists and planners, and they can design and implement programs to improve social security through variables affecting it, including new means of communication and cultural and social threats. Therefore, it is necessary to plan to increase social security through adjusting new means of communication and cultural and social threats.

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