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THE IMPACT DEGREE OF SOCIAL CAUSES OF POVERTY ON THE TRENDS OF CITIZENS OF AL-MAFRAQ GOVERNORATE, JORDAN

SALEH GNEAAN ALMASAEED
ASST. PROFESSOR
CENTER FOR ISLAMIC WORLD STUDIES
AL AL-BAYT UNIVERSITY
MAFRAQ

TORKI M. AL-FAWWAZ
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF FINANCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
AL AL-BAYT UNIVERSITY
MAFRAQ

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to identify the degree of influence of social causes of poverty on the trends of citizens of Al-Mafraq Governorate. The study consisted of (294) researched persons, who were chosen using relative random sampling from the three provinces of Al-Mafraq Governorate (North -Eastern Badia, North Western Badia and Al-Mafraq Town (Al-qasabah) for the study purpose, a 16-item questionnaire was constructed and used for data collection. Descriptive and deductive analyses were used to determine substantial differences. The study revealed the following results: the degree of influence of social causes of poverty on the trends of citizens of Al-Mafraq Governorate was (high), reaching the arithmetic mean of the respondents (3.76: 5.00) in terms of: weak social safety nets, high population growth rate, women competing against men in the labor market, increased migration from rural areas to cities in search of better work, unsuitable work place and wages. In light of the results of this study, a number of scientific and practical recommendations have been presented.

KEYWORDS

social causes, poverty, social trends, Al-Mafraq governorate, impact degree.

1. INTRODUCTION

Poverty is one of the phenomena that identify the general features of a country's economy; it exists in all countries, developed or underdeveloped. Poverty rates rose due to demographic, political, cultural and environmental factors (Hayder and Saleh, 2005). Poverty exists in urban and rural areas. Jordan, for example, is one of the countries where poverty exists. Statistics show that the poverty gap there amounts to 5.1 in rural areas, while it is 3.1 in urban areas (Saleh, 2002).

The existence of poverty in Jordan can be attributed to the following factors (FAO, 1998; World Bank, 2004): inadequate emphasis on social aspects in the development plans that have been implemented in Jordan, low economic growth, the approved development patterns being related to patterns of production, distribution and consumption, inability to tackle poverty, slow decline in total fertility rates in Jordan, disparity between education and training outputs and labor market needs, weak domestic investment rates, difficulty of attracting foreign investments to Jordan, failure of public spending to reach the poor, lack of incentives provided to them, difficulty of reforming institutions to improve services provided to them, modest health, nutrition, drinking water, and sanitation services, weakness of pro-poor production projects in Jordan, failure of structural reform and privatization programs in reducing the number of poor people who are suffering mostly from chronic malnutrition.

Poverty is a complex phenomenon with economic, social, political and historical dimensions (Chambers, 1995). Poverty is not acceptable: socially, economically, politically, and morally. Yet, there are large areas and broad prospects for governments to confront and handle poverty, or at least curtail its severity (Ckshad, R, 2011).

Zones of poverty have low levels of health, not only because health service expenses are not affordable, but also because health awareness is low. They also witness a rise in the total fertility rate compared with less poor areas, where the total fertility rate among the poor reaches 5.2 births born during the reproductive period for women, compared with an average of 3.1 births for women in zones not classified as poor (Ministry of Planning, 2002; Haider and Saleh, 2005).

The World Bank (2004), in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Social Development and the Department of Statistics prepared a study entitled: "An Evaluation of World Bank Assistance for Poverty Reduction, Health and Education: A Country Assistance Evaluation." This study showed that the poverty rate in the Jordan reached 14.2% in 2002. In addition, poverty exists in urban and rural areas with a greater proportion of the poor in the latter (Shari'a et al., 2004). Department of Statistics (2009) data showed that the crime rate in Jordan reached (7.6%). Al-Mafraq governorate is ranked as the third place for general crimes after Aqaba and Amman. The estimated number of general crimes in Al-Mafraq Governorate was 1,681 in 2006, rising to 2,212 in 2007 and to 2,412 in 2008. However, based on this data, it is not certain that there is a correlation between the high level of crime and high poverty and unemployment in Al-Mafraq Governorate due to the absence of pertinent data from the relevant security authorities. Yet, it is assumed that high unemployment rate is among the factors causing the high level of crime in Al-Mafraq.

Poverty is generally a challenge for Jordan, as approximately 14.2% of the population were below the poverty line in 2002. The unemployment rate was estimated at 14.5% in 2003 and at about 13.7% in 2000. This indicates that the average annual growth rate of unemployment did not exceed 1% during the period 2000–2003. A national strategy to combat poverty through an anti-poverty program in Jordan has been developed. It involves the public sector, the private sector, civil society organizations, international organizations and donors (Poverty Combat Program, 2002). Because of the negative impact of poverty on the social characteristics of the population and its consequent negative impact on the political and security situation in Jordan, it has become necessary to conduct a comprehensive analysis on the areas of poverty in order to identify the nature of the problem of poverty, as well as know its dimensions and the factors causing it. Combating poverty requires the implementation of a number of policies and strategies by the government, the private sector and civil society institutions. Therefore, many studies have been conducted to find out the geographical distribution of poverty and the strategies and policies adopted for poverty reduction in Jordan (Squor, 2009). Combating the problem of poverty requires the implementation of policies and strategies adopted by the government (Bakr, 2004).

But, before implementing any poverty reduction program, it is necessary to define the concept of poverty in Jordan, identify its causes and methods of measurement and then handle it by providing the opportunity for all people to earn their livelihood with sustainable means and implementing policies and strategies generating adequate levels of funding such a program (Abu Khurma and Sundus, 2003). It is also necessary to emphasize integrated human development policies, boosting local control over resources, reinforcing organization and capacity building at the local level, increasing the involvement of non-governmental organizations, development of integrated strategies and programs to manage the environment in a sound and sustainable way, resource mobilization, eradication of poverty and mitigation of its impact, job creation and income generation for all areas, especially those suffering from poverty. National development plans and

budgets should underscore investment in human capital with special policies and programs for the poor, women and children in both urban and rural areas (Hafar, 2000).

1.1 PROBLEM AND QUESTIONS OF THE STUDY

Lower per capita income as well as increasing intensity of poverty in all parts of Jordan widened the gap between the rich and the poor in all the governorates of the Jordan with some variations from one governorate to another. This is particularly true for Al-Mafraq Governorate, which is the poorest governorate of all. In light of this fact, the researchers decided to study this phenomenon. to identify the degree of influence of the social causes of poverty on the trends of the citizens of Mafraq Governorate. Therefore, the study sought to answer the following question: What is the impact degree of the social causes of poverty on the trends of the citizens of Mafraq Governorate?

In light of the previous discussion, the study aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Evaluating the efforts to battle poverty. This evaluation can be achieved by a scientific methodology to analyze oral and written views of the respondents in order to identify poverty as it is linked to the relationship of people with wealth and social demographic factors.
2. Identifying the size of the problem of poverty, as well as its causes and characteristics with regard to social causes in Al-Mafraq Governorate, where the population of the study meets the conditions of generalizing the findings.

1.1.1 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study derives its significance from its concern about the problem of poverty which has a direct impact on the social groups in Jordan, resulting in lowering the purchasing power of the Jordanian dinar by percentage of 60% against foreign currencies. This decline contributed to a sharp rise in prices with negative effects on the social sectors. Interest in poverty is one of the top priorities in formulating national development plans and strategies, mainly those related to the present and the future of communities. Therefore, this study seeks to conduct a comprehensive survey of the social causes of poverty in order to find out the most prominent dimensions of poverty facing the social sectors as seen by the people involved in the study. Then, the study will put forward recommendations for decision makers and concerned organizations with solutions to the problem of poverty, where these recommendations can be benefited from in preparing plans, programs, and priorities that secure sustainable community development.

The significance of the study emanates from its analysis of the causes of poverty and the identification of its levels. Al-Mafraq Governorate has been selected as a field of study, because it is the poorest governorate in the Jordan, with a poverty rate of 23%, representing 8.2% of the poor in Jordan.

1.2 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Trends: are sensations, feelings and internal transformations that control the individual's behavior, lead to adopting a position, a principle, a standard, a value, a behavior or a judgment (Hiayari, 1997). Trends are the outcome of responses to poverty included in the scale of trends used in this study. These include the social causes that constitute grounds for poverty through the culture of the community and the principles that it adopts.

Poverty: Poverty is the individual's inability to achieve a minimum standard of living. In its simplest sense, it is a standard of living lower than the level of certain economic and social standards. According to the income perspective, poverty does not mean a lack of income per se. Rather it is not meeting the income activities and investments that generate the appropriate human capacity of the person (Ministry of Social Development, 2001).

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Following is a summary of some of the previous studies in the field:

(Tayeb, 1990) conducted an economic and social field survey involving a regular random sample representing about 20% of the total families of Al-Karak Governorate. He studied 3,126 families, distributed across Al-Karak Governorate. In order to determine the poverty line, he adopted Squor's study (1989), which stated that the abject poverty line was about 8.2% of the families of the province, while the absolute poverty line was at estimated at about 15 dinars a month per person and about 100 dinars a month for a family. The families living below the absolute poverty line accounted for about 32.6% of the governorate's total households (Tayeb, 1990).

Squor et al. (1993) aimed at finding out the reality of poverty and its characteristics. They adopted the data of the survey: (Labor Force and Unemployment Returnees and Poverty in 1991), conducted by the Jordanian Department of Statistics. The study revealed that extreme poverty rate amounted to 6.6%, whereas absolute poverty rate was 21.3% of the total Jordanian families, with disparity among the governorates of Jordan. This study showed some of the poor families' characteristics in terms of size, dependency ratio, disability and unemployment. It also showed their educational status and indicated the huge gap among the average incomes of poor families.

Kharabsheh et al. (1994) studied how to reduce poverty in Jordan by adopting strategies and mechanisms. The study provided the basis for a strategy to curtail poverty in Jordan. The study revealed that the anti-poverty strategy in Jordan should be based on several principles, taking into account the social and demographic aspects of the environment, giving them the importance in parallel to that given to the economic growth and emphasizing that any strategy to reduce poverty is the responsibility of several ministries as well as public, private and voluntary organizations, because one organization cannot by itself encounter poverty. The study emphasized that effective management of these institutions and popular participation in decision-making have a significant role in facilitating the implementation of the strategy.

Hamdan and Crane's study (2000) sought to determine the impact of the economic reform on the pattern of food programs for the poor, the daily food consumption costs, the deficit (if any) in the food budget and the size of the required support for the poor family budget. The study used the variance analysis to test the significance of differences among the rates of consumption. The study also used the food tables of the Beirut American University and the 1973 WHO and FAO resolutions. The study found a negative impact of the economic reform programs on the kind of food available to the poor families in Amman region.

Baqer's study (2000) aimed to identify the concept of poverty, stages of combating it and the style of the poverty line in Jordan. It also reviewed the indicators of poverty in Jordan.

Edinat and Wazani's study (2000) put forward a number of recommendations for tackling the poverty and unemployment problems in Jordan in light of similar cases in other Arab countries. These cases had been put forward in a poverty and unemployment seminar in 2000, in which a group of Arab countries participated. The study showed that there were many efforts made to deal with the problems of poverty and unemployment in Jordan, but they were not effective enough to eradicate the problem of poverty; they were rather palliative than curative solutions.

Tarawneh's study (2000) traced the methods and mechanisms used on the ground to reduce poverty and unemployment. The study conducted a descriptive analysis of the role of foreign aid reducing poverty in Jordan. It concluded that there is a substantial defect, not in the anti-poverty policies or the lack of or amount of foreign aid, but in the philosophy of the current development trend. In addition, the flaw lies in managing the fight against poverty and unemployment, the multiple parties working in this field, the contradiction in methods and trends, waste of efforts and money and lack of coordination among multilateral parties, whether governmental or non-governmental.

Hunaiti et al. (2002) aimed to identify factors raising the level of life quality of the Bedouin community in the Jordanian southern desert region according to the viewpoint of the people themselves. The study used the social survey method on a sample selected by the Department of Statistics. It consisted of 227 Bedouin families representing households located in seven population constellations belonging to three units of development; namely: Al-Qatraneh, Al-Hasa and Al-Husseiniyah. The study showed that eight factors had the greatest effects on the community development in the region; namely, the wife's participation in agricultural tasks, the agricultural extension services, sheep production, household spending on communications and gifts, manufacturing and home economics, public health indicators, housing, spending on food and goat production.

(Bajali, 2003) reviewed the main factors in the eradication of poverty in Jordan, such as unemployment, economic growth, free trade, governmental anti-poverty programs and the efforts of governmental and non-governmental organizations. Her study relied on reports issued by international organizations, such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). It showed that unemployment in Jordan began to rise in the late eighties, jumped to 16.9% by 1995 and remained high through the rest of the decade, but in 2003 it dropped to 14.6%. The economic growth rate is not sufficient

to boost the welfare of the population. The empowerment of poor people is the starting point. This includes opportunities for women, opening the political climate for the poor, training of young people to enter the labor market and enhancing the awareness of citizens.

The researchers used previous studies to define the research plan, study sample, study tools, and statistical methods.

3. METHOD AND PROCEDURE OF THE STUDY

This study is a descriptive analytical research. Therefore, the researchers present a precise account of the procedure and methodology for the implementation of this study, including a description of the study population, study sample, tools used, validity and reliability of the instrument, stages of implementation, variables and statistical processing used in the analysis of data to obtain the results.

3.1 THE STUDY SAMPLE

The study consisted of (294) researched persons from the three provinces of Al-Mafraq Governorate (North -Eastern Badia, North Western Badia and Al-Mafraq Town (Al-qasabah)) (Ktejcic, 1999). Table 1 shows the distribution of the study sample according to residence area.

TABLE 1: DISTRIBUTION OF THE STUDY SAMPLE ACCORDING TO RESIDENCE AREA

Residence Area	Number	Percentage
North- Eastern Badia (desert)	151	51.36 %
North -Western Badia	13	4.42 %
Al-Mafraq Town (Al-qasabah)	130	44.22 %
Total	294	100%

3.2 THE STUDY TOOL (THE QUESTIONNAIRE)

A questionnaire commensurate with the study objectives and questions was designed using literature and the views of specialized judges and reviewers. The objective of the questionnaire is to identify the impact degree of social causes of poverty on the trends of citizens of Al-Mafraq Governorate. It consisted of 16 items of social poverty causes; each was given an ordinal weight according to a 5-point Likert scale.

3.3 THE PILOT STUDY

The tool of the study was applied to a stratified random sample consisting of 30 members, who were included in the field sample of the study (North- Eastern Badia, North- Western Badia and Al-Mafraq Town (Al-qasabah)), representative of the population characteristics. The statistical validity of the tool was tested, depending on the analysis of the results of the pilot study which tested the experimental and construct validity. The results showed that the correlation factor of the social causes of poverty was 0.85, which generally means that there is a correlation among the questionnaire items.

The data obtained from the field study were statistically processed by using the (SPSS), descriptive analysis of data and deductive methods to verify the differences.

3.4 THE STUDY VARIABLES

The study included an independent variable and a dependent variable.

The independent variable: is the social causes of poverty included in the questionnaire format consisting of (16) items.

The dependent variable: is the response of the sample members and their opinions on the social factors causing poverty in Al-Mafraq Governorate.

4. DISCUSSION OF THE STUDY RESULTS

This study aimed to identify the degree of impact of social causes of poverty on the trends of inhabitants of Al- Mafraq Governorate. The causes were presented in 16 items, each stating a social cause of poverty in Al- Mafraq Governorate. The mean, standard deviation and rank of each item are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2: MEAN, STANDARD DEVIATION, AND RANK OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS

Number	Social Cause	Mean	standard Deviation	Rank
1.	Significant increase in birth rates	1.90	0.88	16
2.	Women competing against men in the labor market	4.45	0.67	3
3.	Increased migration from rural areas to cities in search of better work	4.33	0.47	4
4.	Lack of seriousness and dedication to work	2.76	0.62	14
5.	Emphasizing human relationships rather than actual work	3.24	1.42	13
6.	Low perception and contempt of manual work	4.09	1.26	8
7.	High population growth rate	4.56	0.49	2
8.	Parental disapproval of some of certain works	3.53	1.01	11
9.	Weak focus on community development plans	2.92	1.37	15
10.	Weak social safety nets	4.58	0.57	1
11.	Head of the family disabled, old or dead	4.22	.052	7
12.	Dependency and fatalism	3.32	0.75	12
13.	Unsuitable work place and wages	4.27	0.44	5
14.	Difficult access to services and employment opportunities	4.24	0.53	6
15.	High dependency ratio	3.85	0.70	10
16.	Lack of women's contribution to domestic production	3.93	0.78	9
	Total for all social causes	3.76	0.31	-

It is noticed that from above (table 2) the means for the social causes as a whole ranged between (1.90 - 4.58). Item (10) " Weak social safety nets" came in first rank with a mean of (4.58), item (7) " High population growth rate " came in second rank with a mean of (4.56), item (2) " Women competing against men in the labor market " came in the third rank with a mean of (4.45), item (3) " Increased migration from rural areas to cities in search of better work " ranked in the fourth place with an arithmetic mean of (4.33), while item (13) " Unsuitable work place and wages " ranked in the fifth place with an arithmetic mean of (4.27). Which means that the impact of the social causes of poverty trends of the citizens of Al-Mafraq Governorate is (High), where the arithmetic mean of the responses of the study sample is (3.76: 5.00).

These results, which reflect the social causes of poverty, can be explained by discussing the following sub results:

These results reflect the real cause about the weakness of government programs to reduce poverty and unemployment, since the weakness of social safety nets and competition between women and men in terms of employing women over men had a negative impact on the reality of poverty in males, in addition to these reasons, the internal migration to urban areas also had an impact on the villages' people in terms of spatial dimension between places of residence and the sites of the work. Workers coming from remote rural areas have to either rent places of residence or commute daily, and this consumes nearly all their wages, let alone fatigue and late reporting to work. This difficulty may force them to eventually quit work. This is an indication of the failure of the economic system to satisfy the need of housing, a need which is one of the goals of the science of economics that seeks to solve the society's economic problems.

"Women competing with men in the labor market": Women are not responsible for unemployment; their right to work is guaranteed by the constitution. The question that poses itself is: can unemployment be eradicated by lessening the competition of women with men in the work place? The answer to this question is that the percentage of women in the labor force is low. If a woman seeks work outside the home, this is an indication that she needs a monthly salary to support herself and her children. By going to work, she sacrifices and waives her right to take care of her children in the family context. There is another reason for a woman to work: it is the high cost of living. To combat the difficult economic conditions, men and women have put in their thoughts and efforts at the work site.

Based on this discussion, the problem emanates from the unfounded perception of competition between men and women in the labor market. This perception overlooks the real causes of unemployment represented by the development cessation at all levels. There are also considerations that affect the work of women, such as culture, level of unemployment and its impact on the family income as well as the obstacles facing the family of a working woman (Miles, 2002).

As for the work place and wages, laborious work and inadequate pay are among the main causes of poverty and unemployment, because they drive young people to shun work, especially when prices and the cost of living are high. This situation has raised the percentage of poverty in Jordan to 10%–20% of the total population. Therefore, this situation is highly hazardous, as it compels this sector to seek several improper alternatives of attaining income, such as excessive work hours in poor conditions or resorting to crime or corruption. A practical remedy for this situation is necessary for the government and the concerned authorities. They have to market local labor in other Arab countries and foreign markets beyond these, give the young people of the poor families priority in government appointments, raise the minimum wage in proportion to the line of absolute poverty, unify the poverty funds, continue attracting foreign investments to ensure the employment of a greater number the unemployed and find solutions to the unemployment insurance system (Shra'ah, 2005).

There is a direct relationship between the value of the dependency burden rate and the level of poverty in Jordan, assuming stable labor productivity. This indicator is influenced by a number of indirect causes of poverty; namely, the rate of labor force participation, the participation of women in the labor force, unemployment, income distribution which is affected by inequality in the distribution of property and financial assets among the population and inadequate transfers to the poor (Karimah, 2005). Large family size, excessive consumption pattern, social disintegration and role conflicts, as well as lack of clear objectives are all reasons closely linked to poverty. Consequently, the researchers propose practical solutions to address such reasons through the organization of the Jordanian family size by activating awareness programs, increasing attention to the role of women in the work force through teaching and providing adequate employment opportunities proper for her, involving all of the family members in the development process.

It indicate that the total fertility rate is higher in the Al-Badia of Jordan with 4.2 births per woman, compared with 3.6 births in Jordan as a whole, due to the high birth rates of the age group (30–34) years (Massarwah, 2007). This increase in birth rate increases both family size as well as the burden of dependency. As mentioned above, there is a relationship between the value of the dependency burden rate in Jordan and the level of poverty. Assuming a stable productivity of labor, the concerned parties need to intensify the awareness programs related to family planning.

Regarding to High population growth rate can be explained by the relationship between population growth and its size. The poverty phenomenon soars if the population growth rate exceeds the rate of economic growth, a situation which has been characteristic of Jordan since the mid-eighties of the past century. Accordingly, both problems of poverty and unemployment should take priority in governmental programs for a comprehensive national plan taking into account the most important reasons intensifying poverty and unemployment, such as an abnormal population growth rate, the decline of GDP at constant prices, the decline in per capita GDP and the dinar's low purchasing power.

The negative corollaries of the high rates of poverty and unemployment manifest themselves through the increased demand for economic resources and investments to provide more health services. The increase in demand for more health services raises the cost of such services, entails expanding the establishment of health facilities and increasing the number of trained personnel in the field of health care to meet the needs of the growing population.

Population growth also depletes more economic resources due to spending on education which requires more school buildings, equipment and teaching staff. Schooling also needs preparation of curricula, textbooks and other equipment required for education. This expenditure rises with time as the number of students goes up. Population growth has its bearing on environmental and natural resources, especially the two main basic supplies: food and water. Thus, curtailing population growth to reasonable levels and reinforcing awareness programs and family planning initiatives are among the most effective methods of addressing poverty.

As for dependency, many young people shun work as they depend on their families in all aspects of their lives, believing that the jobs available are not commensurate with their social status. So, they embrace optional unemployment, turn away from work, although they deny doing this. Unemployed means that they are fit and qualified for work, but work is not available to them. But "denial" indicates that work is available but job seekers are not allowed to work by other people, or the market laws ban it (George, 1992). Communities facing poverty fall into two categories: communities that reject the whole issue of poverty believing that it is due to free will, not predestined. In this vein, some European and Western nations erupted in revolution against feudalism and the classes in power, rejecting the reality of slavery for food under their lords' injustice. Popular revolutions erupted, such as the French Revolution, rejecting all causes of poverty. Poverty, they believed, is not fatalistic, prompting those nations to claim equality. According to them, poverty is not proportional. In the East, the problem of poverty is accepted; it is believed to be fatalistic; i.e. predestined as inevitable and accepted due to faith considerations. Therefore, people remained slaves at the mercy of a minority of feudal lords. This conviction still holds strong in the minds of 85.2% of the poor women who believe that it is the "Will of God" or the so-called fatalism that makes them poor, while 72% of poor women believe that it is their community that determines the proper and improper economic behaviors of women. As a result, they were deprived of opportunities to improve their income (Akhbaruna, 2010).

The increased migration from rural areas to cities in search of better work can be ascribed to lack of sources of income in the repellent areas. This explains the increased rates of internal migration which affect the poverty rate for the indigenous population in terms of bringing about emerging changes in terms of numbers of employees. The presence of different levels of education and skills changes wages and employment opportunities for the natives. However, the migration of workers with their families from the countryside to the central cities negatively affects their lives with more poverty. The traditional existence of poverty in rural areas cannot be compared to the abject poverty near the central cities, because with poverty in the countryside there is greater elasticity in income depending on agricultural products (Glaezier et al., 2008).

The findings above show that the arithmetic mean of the responses of the study sample is 3.76 indicating a high impact of social causes on poverty and unemployment in Al-Mafraq Governorate. The results indicate that social causes have a profound impact on aggravating both poverty and unemployment in this area. As poverty is inherently linked with high levels of political and social risks, the political stability is pinned on the ability of the state to create and realize the economic growth in order to raise the level of income for the general public. Unemployment is a dangerous problem, because it depletes the community resources both quantitative and qualitatively. Therefore, it is imperative to develop policies to tackle unemployment in the framework of the national economy closely linked to the strategy of economic and social development. To bring about integration in solving social problems resulting from poverty and unemployment, the illiteracy rate of 20% must be cut by preventing student drop-outs in the compulsory schooling stage. Prices must be controlled to reduce their negative effects on citizens, particularly the poor; poverty funds must be unified for this purpose. More foreign investments should be attracted to ensure the employment of a larger number of the unemployed, an unemployment insurance system should be set up, the economic base should be enlarged and economic adjustment policies should be enhanced (Shra'ah, 2005). There is also a need to find other solutions to social causes of poverty by reducing the disparity among the applications of comprehensive social policies, providing educational, health and social care services, allocating pensions for those without breadwinners, providing adequate housing and striking a balance between rates of workers in administrative state organizations and the percentage of workers in the economic sector.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of this study lead to the following recommendations:

1. Creating mechanisms that prevent disparity between the number of graduates and the number of jobs through synchronization of education, rehabilitation and training outputs with the needs of the labor market and employment policy in light of a knowledge-based economy.
2. Converting the development process into cumulative process in order to eliminate poverty as well as to develop investment and provide social welfare services on the one hand and eliminate all forms of administrative and financial corruption on the other.
3. Reducing the number of foreign workers, except for careers where the Jordanian work force is not sufficient, like construction and agriculture.
4. Organizing the Jordanian labor market by establishing a database for all Jordanian job seekers, creating suitable job opportunities and regulating expatriate informal employment conditions.

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