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DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF POPULATIONS IN THE NEIGHBOURING AREAS
OF SR MACEDONIA

In the analysis of the populations' movement dynamics and some other demographic characteristics in the neighbouring areas of SR Macedonia, 26 city settlements are taken into consideration. Our methodical way in determining the areas is based on essential social and economic conditions in Yugoslavia.

The towns in SR Macedonia, as central places began to develop more intensively after the end of the WWII (second World War) and especially 10 - 15 years ago. The midfunctional relations of the central places are being defined by the clearer shaping of the gravity spheres. In a process like this, the function and physiognomy of the neighbouring areas are being changed especially under the influence of stronger industrialization and urbanization. But, we still can not say that all neighbouring areas have developed so much that they make a compact urban and functional unit with the city core, although it has been done very much on that field.

According to our knowledge, in the towns of SR Macedonia, with the exception of Skopje and some other larger towns, the neighbouring areas become equal with a part of the daily gravity ones. Those are some spaces that unite free peripheral city surfaces with the surfaces of the districts of the closest villages and somewhat further, where an intensive urbanization is taking place, agrarian transformation, city functions dispersion, changes of the settlement physiognomy and where the contact with the town core makes one functional connection.

In our presentation, we shall talk mostly about the population problem. Today in SR Macedonia there are 1668 country settlements, out of which 153 lie in the neighbouring areas. It is 9.1 % which means that their participation in the areas of 26 towns is not very big, as the arrangement of the villages is not the same in different areas. So, in the areas of 7 larger towns 86 settlements lie, i.e. more than a half of the total neighbouring areas.

In the settlements of the neighbouring areas, in 1971, there were total 127.006 inhabitants, which is 15 % of the total country population of SR Macedonia. Compared with 1961, the population has increased for 16.8 % or more 18.329 inhabitants. This growth has especially become bigger because of the mechani-

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cal influx of the population, because neighbouring areas become attractive immigration places. So, out of the total population in the neighbouring areas, 42.592 persons are immigrants and that is 33.5 %. The immigration influx mostly comes from the villages that lie in the boundaries of one community. To this type of immigrants belong 66.0 %. It is very interesting the fact that the neighbouring areas still are a kind of stage or transient areas for settling down in the towns, although this phenomenon begins to decrease.

In connection with the dynamics of the population in the neighbouring areas three specific groups of population may be taken out: THE FIRST GROUP formed by the neighbouring areas of the larger towns (Skopje, Bitola, Kumanovo, Tetovo, T. Veles, Prilep and Ohrid), where in the year of 1971, 79.274 inhabitants used to live. It is 62.8 % of the total population in the neighbouring areas and where compared with the year of 1961 the population increase is the highest, i.e. for 23.5 %. Taking into consideration that the towns of this group are functionally better developed than the other central places, they attract much more the population from their neighbouring places and from the other communities. In the neighbouring areas of this group the space spreading of urbanization is mostly expressed. Because of that reason the biggest is participation of employed people outside the places they permanently live, i.e. in towns. For instance, out of 12.077 active persons, that are in all of the neighbouring areas, and who work to other places, to this group belong 7.922 persons or 65,6%.

THE SECOND GROUP is consisted from the neighbouring areas that are medium size towns, where specialized and very much developed agricultural production takes place. Those are for example, the area of Kočani where rice is being grown, Kavadarci with grapevine and Strumica with early vegetable and other plowman products which are taken to markets and sold very much. Because those reasons, the population in this group is relatively high, so an average settlement has 1.000 inhabitants. Migration to the country is also high, but, what is very characteristic, immigrants mostly come from the communities, i.e. they move into the neighbouring areas as farmers and there they can work on the agriculture and on the more intensive plants.

THE THIRD GROUP formed by the neighbouring areas of the smaller towns. In the settlements of this group the number of the population is not big, average one settlement has about 500 inhabitants. The number of the population decreases, while the immigrants mostly come from the villages of the communities themselves. One of the reasons for the population decrease is in connection with the fast movement of the population from small to big towns and from villages to small towns with the origin mainly from the neighbouring areas. The limited functional contacts between central places and neighbouring areas reflected in the little participation of the employed active persons from villages to towns.

The size of a village and its population are taken as an important fact to study the planning of the settlements in the neighbouring areas. The following study and analysis have been made.

The villages with more than 800 inhabitants dominate mostly, i.e. this group has 65 settlements or 42,5 % out of all villages in the neighbouring areas. There live 94.072 persons which is 75,2 % from the total population in all neighbouring areas. One settlement has average 1.448 inhabitants. According to that the highest number of inhabitants is concentrated in big villages, so their future development is in accordance with the number of the population.

The second group is consisted of medium size settlements, of 301-800 inhabitants, there 53 villages of that kind or 34,6 %, which means they are in a large number. 27.239 persons live there or 20,5 % out of the total population in the neighbouring areas. One settlement has average 514 inhabitants.

Small villages belong to the third group, up to 300 inhabitants. There are 35 settlements of that kind or 22,9 %. 5.695 persons live there or 4,3 % from the total population of the neighbouring areas. One settlement has average 163 inhabitants. This kind of villages especially those under 100 inhabitants, have no satisfactory social and economical situation, and they are a specific problem in the space spreading of the urbanization.

A charter of the household movement in number is very important because they represent the basic family and working core, and social and economical problems and situation, depend on them.

In all neighbouring areas, in 1971, there were 24.277 households which is 15,5% out of all contry households in SR Macedonia. In comparison with 1961 their number has become larger for 4.283 households, because new families have immigrated and large old families have separated. Under the urbanization influence, the number of persons in one household decreases from 5,4 in 1961 to 5,2 persons in 1971. But the number of persons in the household depends on the stage of using the working surfaces, from the ethnic mixture of the population and the function of the central places. For instance, in the neighbouring area of Tetovo to one household 7,3 persons belong, and in Pehčeco 3,5 persons.

The structure of the active population (what they work) is very important for the consideration the present and future relations between the central places and the neighbouring areas, taken from socio-geographical aspect. On the other side, this element suggests with what kind working potencial the neighbouring areas are supplied. The engagement of the active population in agricultural and not agricultural works can be seen from the working structure.

According to all data in all neighbouring areas in 1971 the active population was 48.746 persons or 13,1 % from the total active population in SR Macedonia. In comparison with the active town population, to the active population in neighbouring areas belong 18,9 %, which means in all these areas there is a good number of active population. The neighbouring areas are characteristic by the fact that the not agricultural population participates there. So, in 1971 to the agricultural population belong 62,2 % and 37,8 % to the not agricultural one.

The biggest number not agricultural population is concentrated in the neighbouring areas of six bigger towns, it is 62,0 %; it is understandable because these towns give chances to employee people in not agricultural works.

The structure of employed active population according to their jobs is interesting. If we omit agriculture, then the largest number of active population in the neighbouring areas works in industry. According to the data from 1971, 4.653 persons worked in this economical activity, which is 25,3 % from the total agricultural population. This fact shows that in certain neighbouring areas daily industrial immigrations are active, which were minimum or none in the past. The most employed industrial workers are found in those neighbouring areas which central places are industrially developed as it is the case in Skopje, Tetovo, Kumanovo, Prilep, Bitola and others. In the areas of 14 towns, the participation of employed persons in industry is minimum. For instance, from the neighbouring areas of Debar, Negotino and Sveti Nikole the participation of the workers outside the place of their permanent living is seven times less than the case in the neighbouring area of Kumanovo.

After industry, the second place takes the active population employed in tertius activities, which is very much understandable, because central places give chances for that kind of employment. In these activities 3.738 persons work which is 20,3 % of the total agricultural population. In certain neighbouring areas the employed in the tertius activities show similar characteristics as those who work in the industry. In the neighbouring areas of smaller towns, the participation of this type employed population is minimal.

In connection with the employed active population from the neighbouring areas, their participation in building and manufacturing has to be mentioned. Those are two activities that give chances to employee not completely qualified persons coming from the country areas. 2.600 persons work in construction, or 14,1 % from the total not agricultural population, and in manufacturing 2.168 persons or 11,2 %. In these two characteristic activities for the neighbouring areas, 4.768 persons are employed which is almost the same with the people employed in the industry.

So far the following conclusions can be drawn: firstly, one third problems for the neighbouring areas in SR Macedonia become current after the second World War (WW II), precisely from the time when towns started developing as central places with wide functional and gravity influence in space. Because of that, changes and shaping of the neighbouring areas are very current for studies and practice.

It is obvious the fact that the number of population in the neighbouring areas becomes larger, and it is very important that it is caused by the mechanical influx of the population. So the neighbouring areas have become attractive immigration places and so they show their fast efficient and functional and urban transformation. In that way, it has to be paid attention to the neighbouring areas of the larger towns, where the concentration of settlements and population is bigger. But, the neighbouring areas of smaller towns must not be for-

gotten, because in that case their depopulation would continue for the account of large towns.

Developing conditions of settlements and neighbouring areas find their excuse in their size (number of the population), because almost half villages are bigger settlements, with more than 800 and 1.000 inhabitants. Small settlements have their problem of further development, i.e. a question of displacement or integration with larger settlements by which the problem of spacious planning would be solved.

In the neighbouring areas, especially in larger towns, there is a large number of working people (working power). Because of that, it is necessary to lead realistically a modern development of agriculture in the neighbouring areas, a dispersion of some urban functions to realize, an infrastructure to take place etc. In that way the active working power can be better used, and also migration directions towards central places can be escaped.

Finally we can conclude that neighbouring areas in SR Macedonia become very current for studies not only from the sociogeographical point of view, but also from the thorough geographical point of view. The problems that come out find their answers there, because the neighbouring areas are directly connected with the central places from where the spacious spreading of urbanization successively has to be carried out.

Mitko Panov

DEMOGRAFSKA DINAMIKA STANOVNIŠTVA U PRIGRADSKIM ZONAMA SR MAKEDONIJE

Analiza demografske dinamike u prigradskim zonama SR Makedonije obuhvata 26 gradska naselja. Gradovi, kao centralna mesta, počela su intenzivnije funkcionalno da se razvijaju posle Drugog svetskog rata, a naročito od pre 10-15 godina. Kao posledica takvog razvoja menja se fizionomija i funkcija prigradskih zona. Naročito su nastale promene u dinamici i strukturi stanovništva što je i osnovni cilj prikazivanja u ovom radu.

Od ukupno 1.668 seoska naselja, koliko ih je bilo u SR Makedoniji u 1971 godini, u prigradskim zonama leže 153 sela ili 9,1 %. Međutim, razmeštaj sela po pojedinim zonama je veoma različit, t.j. u sferama većih gradova koncentracija seoskih naselja je veća. U svim selima prigradskih zona ukupno je živelo 127.006 stanovnika ili 15 % od ukupnog seoskog stanovništva u SR Makedoniji u 1971 godini. U odnosu na 1961 godinu broj stanovništva se je povećao za 16,8 %. To govori da naselja u prigradskim zonama postaju imigraciona mesta jer 33,5 % od tog stanovništva su doseljenici.

U vezi dinamike stanovništva u prigradskim zonama mogu se odvojiti tri specifične grupe naseljenosti. Prvu grupu čine prigradske zone većih gradova (7 gradova), u kojima je u 1971 godini ukupno živelo 79.274 stanovnika, ili 62,8 % od ukupnog stanovništva u svim prigradskim zonama. Drugu grupu čine zone srednjih po veličini gradova gde je zastupljena specijalizirana poljoprivreda i gde je naseljenost relativno znatna. Treću grupu čine zone manjih gradova u kojima broj stanovništva stagnira zbog njihovog sporijeg funkcionalnog razvoja. Veličina sela po broju stanovništva je različita, ali najviše preovladuju velika sela, sa više od 800 stanovnika, na koja otpadaju 42,5 % od svih sela u prigradskim zonama.

Dalje je u radu izvršena analiza brojnog kretanja i strukture domaćinstava u naseljima prigradskih zona. Naročito je interesantan prikaz broja aktivnog stanovništva, na koje je u 1971 godini otpalo 13,1 % od ukupnog aktivnog stanovništva SR Makedonije, a to govori da se dobar dio aktivnog stanovništva nalazi u prigradskim zonama. U vezi strukture po zanimanju najveći broj je angažiran u poljoprivredi a nije mali i u industriji i u tercijarnim delatnostima.

U zaključku je konstatirano da prigradske zone u SR Makedoniji postaju veoma aktuelne za proučavanje ne samo iz sociogeografskog već i iz kompleksno geografskog aspekta. Problemi se moraju na vreme rešavati jer su oni najneposrednije vezani za centralna mesta odakle treba sukcesivno da se odvija prostorno širenje urbanizacije.