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The thesis submitted For The Degree Of Master Of Science (in The Field Of Geography and Rural Planning)

Analysis of the effects of dust storms on the quality of life in rural households (Case study: Hirmand County)

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Abstract

Rural communities and their productive activities have long been exposed to natural threats due to their close relationship with the natural environment and their limited capacity. Geographical location and climatic conditions have caused this region to be constantly exposed to dust storms, which this natural phenomenon has caused a lot of economic, social and environmental damage to the lives of rural households. The aim of this study is to investigate the effects of dust storms on the quality of life of rural households Hirmand County and to study the objective and subjective indicators of quality of life. The statistical population of this study was rural households in Hirmand County and also 351 questionnaires were considered for households based on Cochran's formula and sample size correction formula. Excel, ArcGIS, SPSS software, Vicker model, Friedman test and one-sample t-test were used to analyze the data. The results show that in the villages of Hirmand County, we are facing the many negative effects of dust storms on the quality of life of rural households. According to the research analytical findings, the effects of dust storms on the quality of life of rural households in Hirmand County on mental and objective recovery are more than average.

Keywords: quality of life, rural households, dust storms, Hirmand County.