

COMPARATIVE SURVEY ON NATIONAL IDENTITY IN IRAN AND LEBANON

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ABSTRACT

Concept of national identity is as the broadest and the most important level of collective identity. Today, as national identity affects on national integrity and national unity of a country and leads to stability and security of political units, it is paid attention to increasingly. This essay is aimed to study national identity in Iran and Lebanon comparatively and between University of Tehran and University of Beirut students. The comparison of national identity has done in six dimensions: social, historical, geographical, linguistic, political, and cultural. For describing national identity we used the conceptual frame of symbolic interactionism. Sample of this research was 800 students of universities of Tehran and Lebanon and sample of each country was comprised of 400 of Iran's four major ethnic groups (Fars, Turk, Kurd, and Lore) and 400 of Lebanon's four major ethnic groups (Shi'a, Sunni, Maronite Christians, and the Druze) which was selected by quota sampling method. The used method is survey and data collection was by questionnaire. For testing validity and reliability we used formal validity and Chronbach's Alpha. Statistical tests show that Iranian students have greater belonging in national identity and Lebanese students have greater commitment to it. Also the amount of "average" and after that the amount of "low" national identity was more common in both groups. In sum, national identity is a little more in Iranian student.

Keywords: *Identity, National Identity, National Belonging, National Commitment*

INTRODUCTION

The Problem Design and Explanation

The identity topic, particularly national identity, as it is the most basic element of social cohesion, social sciences today has become an important and effective axis. As the national identity by virtue of solidarity is the national community National power is an important indicator in evaluating in which ethnic, religious, racial and ... In integrity of the country, causing accumulation of national interest is created. Despite this integration, it brings democracy and independence for a country. In general, in Iran according to the context of multi-cultural identity and mosaics. Diverse and plural society, Issue of national identity and have a special place and always one of the major political systems that govern Iran. At the start of independence struggle of colonial peoples and the decline of colonialism and the formation of new states, the subject of the national unity and identity has been change to one of the intellectual concerns of thinkers, politicians and social and political science. In one of the last two decades, under the influence of globalization and the shrinking of the state role the nation's political, social, ethnic and cultural conflicts emerging in many countries like Yugoslavia, the Caucasus, Lebanon, and In other words, they have been taken into consideration(Ghasemi and Village, 2010). Today, hostility and protests in the region [the Middle East, Africa and South Asia]anti authoritarian regime or against the Western powers , less for poverty and more to the issue of identity. The perpetrators of these protests, mostly from the middle classes are college graduates (Libber and Weisberg, 2002). «Lebanon with all its small in terms of number of religions, it is considered one of the most diverse countries in the world. So that there are more than 18 official religion in Lebanon . These religions are closely linked to tribal issues where different tribes are separated from each other with regard to their religious affiliation. The religious scene in Lebanon is such strongly influence that even the political structure of the country is affected on. Division of political power, depending on the number of the tribes of the past has already taken place "(Beigi, 2010)." In other words, a unique feature of Lebanon, ethnic makeup and its cult of ethnicity in Lebanon is concerned by religion "(Ahmad, 1999). " Balance of approximately between Christians and Muslims on the one hand and the division of Muslims into Sunnis and Shiites on the other hand Lebanon has always been a volatile and unstable political space. What has recently identified complex ethnic and sectarian diversity issues and developments in Lebanon and the political space in this country has heavily dominated"(Beigi, 2010). The two multicultural societies, Iran and Lebanon have a lot of religious solidarity, emotional and cultural in common terms. In these

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two societies because of their multicultural context and diverse, mission of university and students in the basic preconditions of actions to make life more difficult and more important. Students on campus in addition to cultural, linguistic features, each religious community and their own culture, their belonging and loyalty is primarily confined to ethnic communities and they be known and identities based on it.

Their inter into larger communities with groups including universities increasingly positive emotional tendencies towards others more general is defined as (national identity). Today most young people, especially students, are against to the different patterns of local, national and world, and therefore an awareness of different cultures and communities get the same problem boundaries of their identities has changed. Hence the emphasis and reinforcement of national identity and rich cultural structure of the national society cause to strengthen national identity among students too. Accordingly, to the main question in this paper is that how is the national identity state among the Lebanese and Iran students? Are there any significant differences between the amount of any accrued and commitment to national identity (and its dimensions) degree in belonging in Lebanon and Iran students?

Background of the Research

This study for the first time compares the national identity that has been carried out between Iran and Lebanon in a survey method. In order to research about the national identity of the country and abroad, there are many studies have been carried out such as Parmenter Lane (1999) that he has study the different views about national identity in Japan (Hajiani, 2009). Reinkowski(1997) in a study with the title "National Identity in Lebanon in 1990" to study how the different contracts of the national identity were be formed in Lebanon after the Taif deals. But among Iranian researchers in recent years have paid to research on national identity, it can be pointed out to the Ibrahim Hajiani Resources of Iranian identity and national identity in country.

After that Hajiani counts on several dimension national identity: social, history, geography, political, religious, cultural, linguistic and literary dimensions. He also in a report reviews the status of national identity in Iran 2001- 2009) and compares the findings with the obtained data from empirical research in other countries, and show that the weight of Iranian national identity is more than of the European countries and the United States, Australia, Japan, (Hajiani, 2008). Mogegeani paper(2010) entitled the evaluation of national identity of the Tabriz University students in higher education curriculum of not only does not strengthening the national identity, but also has provided the weakening of ethnic identity and strengthened the tendency of ethnic national identity..

Theoretical Framework

Social Identity

More attention to social identity, social psychologists and sociologists is that it emphasizes the fact that their sense of identity through the dialectic between the individual and society are formed and acknowledge that identity is often the attitudes and feelings of However, the context of the formation of social life (Golhamadi,2010).

The leader of the social identities is Jorge Herbert Mead that survey the process of feelings and perceptions of individual process towards full self-checks. From the Mid point of view self is the consequence of individual i (I) and social i (Me). Jenkins supposes that the identity is equivalent to the social identity and asserts that all humans have a sense of social identity.. He said about the definition of identity; similarities and differences among individuals, among communities, among those is the communities (Jenkins, 2002). He also stated that social identity is a game in which "the play is" our sense of social identity, this is who we are and who they were and that the others understand themselves and others, and what are the other? (Jenkins, 2002).

National Identity

The concept of national identity at the first step is ties with the idea of one nation, and sense of belonging to a historical society. National identity is formed on the basis of geography and political boundaries are formed. (MoeeniAlamdary, 2007).

Anthony Smith believe that the national identity is sustainable changes reproduce the values, symbols, memories, myths and traditions of every nation which are the elements of every nation's distinction. He adds that the core of national identity is the "continuity and differentiation "(Smith, 2004).

According to the Smith idea, the National Identity will include: 1- the history land ,2-, myths and historical memories,3-, shared mass culture -,4-, a common legal rights and duties ,5-, common economy. National identity is multidimensional and it cannot be reduced to a single element. National identity is a mental process that will change over time (Smith, 1991).

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National identity has many dimensions that can simultaneously enhance the overall level of identity and strengthen solidarity in society. These dimensions are:

The Social Dimension of National Identity

Chalabi defined the dimension of social national identity as the common sense of belonging and a sense of commitment to the national community or "nation Mai" which gives subjects of collective identity." This caused a sense of participation in public savings (Chalabi, 1999). Indeed it can be say that concepts such as mood, second nature, character or national character and national identity are social consensus reflects the social dimension (QuraishMohammadi, 2010). The purpose of this variable, in this study, having friendly relations with others and full trust ,willing to join and participate in organizations, institutions (the tendency of social activity), expressed general satisfaction with the current situation, preferring the collective interest is the national interest.

The Historical Dimension of National Identity

The importance of history in shaping identity is so hot that Habez bam believe that the nation's growth and nationalism in Europe due to the history, myths and national symbolism knows. Long-term evolution and historical processes in shaping the deep sense of attachment and belonging to an effective nationwide. Memories, events and incidents, characters and historical ups and downs, they are very influential in shaping the collective ideas. It is because each community with its historic identity is defined and described (Memar, 1999).

In general the historical identity can be compared to historical knowledge and a sense of belonging and attachment to it because he knew. This definition includes three dimensions: 1 - Historical knowledge, i.e. knowledge about the most important events and historical figures. 2- Depend on history, there is a sense of meaning and emotion, positive and proud of it , or fail to understand the activities and affirmative action figures in the history of the country and feel proud , or discomfort and disparage .3-The historical dedication, sense of historical importance in comparison with other important items (Memar, 1999). The variable means honor to ancient works,define and determine the course of history of the nation (attachment historical existence of positive and negative emotions than positive events and personalities and sense of pride or discomfort), highlights of Civilization national community.

Geographic National Identity Demission

One of the human aspects is depending on the environment in terms of geography and space dependence of the identity of each individual. For the formation of national identity, to determine the range and scope of a certain territory is an absolute necessity. Economics and politics are closely linked with the land, the survival unit will be known to the person.

This means that there is only a certain territory, it will be possible to achieve the objectives and meet the needs. Attached to their native land with certain boundaries are determined, there are numerous indicators that some of them are: Readiness to defend the country in times of danger,Prefer to live in their own country and not being willing to migrate, Accept a certain land as an identified country (Ganji, 1999). The purpose of this variable, in this studyis, lack of willingness to migrate and living in other countries, ready to defend the land in times of danger, a sense of calm and tranquility when living is nationalland.

Literary Language and National Identity Demission

"Language is not the only means of communication between members of a society, but also one of the most important components of the detection, classification and identification is (Jahan, 2001).The purpose of this variable, in this study, using the language of national society, pride to the scientific literature, philosophy, politics and personalities associated with it, the use and importance of the national music.

The Political Dimension of National Identity

Belonging to a national political unit as a required part of the state, the political system and the legitimacy of the government of national identity (Sheykhavndi, 1999). The purpose of this variable in this study,is , the interest of the nation, defending the country's political system decisions (right or wrong), knowledge of the content of the Constitution, defend the integrity and political solidarity.

Cultural and National Identity Demission

Culture is shared subjective set formed at the historical past and transfers by socialization process from one generation to another "(Abolhasani, 2009). The purpose of this variable, in this study is, the sense of belonging to a national society lifestyle, and value judgments about the past heritage, to the preserving and enhancing cultural heritage, sense of belonging to cultural heritage, national symbols.

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MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methodology

This is a survey research. In this study, the questionnaire technique has been used to gather data, including the number of items in the Likert scale. Questionnaire was translated into Arabic and was sent for sampling to Lebanon. Sample of study in Iran is 400 Iranian university students at Tehran universities which are from four major ethnic: Turk, Kord, Lor and Persian. 400 Lebanon university students are from four major ethnic: Maronite Christian Ethnicity, Sonni, Sheea, Deruzi. The sample size in Iran is: Persians (108 men, 107 women) Turk (54 men, 53 women) Kord (22 men, 21 women) Lor (18 men, 17 women) respectively, in Lebanon : Maronite Christian Ethnicity: (48 men, 48 women), Sonni (64 men, 64 women), Deruzi (16 men, 16 women) Shia (72 men, 72 women) respectively. Thus the total sample size was estimated to equal 800. The study sample is stratified sampling.

Definitions and Measurement of Variables

In order to measure students' national identity Hajiani Scale (2000) and Rabbani (1388) used in numerous studies to be used, and each time has been a good validity and reliability and is based on the Likert scale. This sense of national identity based on two main aspects of the sense of belonging measured by historical, geographical, linguistic, cultural dimensions and the sense of commitment measured by social and political dimensions. The alpha for this measure is 93 percent. Level measurement of items is ordinal.

Element (Iran, Lebanon)	Reagents	Concept
Relationships and interactions of people are honest, sincere and trustworthy.	Full trust	National identity, social
Relationships and interactions of the Lebanese people are honest, sincere and trustworthy.		
As an Iranian, I tend to be active in institutions, organizations, NGO	Registered partnership	
As a Lebanese, I tend to be active in institutions, organizations, NGO	General satisfaction	
Living with Iranian people is satisfactory.		
Living with Iranian people is satisfactory.		
Lebanese people are living satisfactorily.		
Iranian people should prefer national interests to personal interests.	Collective interests	
Lebanese people should prefer national interests to personal interests.		

Items used in the questionnaire are given in the following tables and various items in both countries individually to come.

Table 2: Representative, the items measuring national identity and historical dimension

Items (Iran, Lebanon)	Reagents	Concept
I'm very proud of the national and ancient works	Ancient works	Historical
Iranians are both resistance in counter of enemies and heroes in history	civilization of National Society	dimension of national identity
Lebanese are both resistance in counter of enemies and heroes in history		
The nationalization of the oil industry in Iran is very important.	Historical dependency	
Islamic Republic of Iran is a great honor for Iranians.		
Independence of Lebanon is a great honor for Lebanese		

Table 3: Representative, the items measuring national identity and the geographical

Items	Reagents	Concept
Anywhere in the world prefer to live in Iran.	Immigration and prefer national society	Geographic dimension of National Identity
I am not willing to migrate to any other country.		
Lives in Lebanon everywhere prefer.	Defending the homeland	
If Iran gets attacked, it will defend.		
If Lebanon be attacked I will defend it.	Calm feeling of national society	
Because I live in Iran, I feel calm.		

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Table 4: Representative, the items measuring national identity and the language

Items	Reagents	Concept
I love Persian.	National language	National identity, the
I love the Arabic language.		language dimension
I think philosophers and poets such as IbnSina, and Hafiz are honor of every Iranian.	Scientific literature, philosophy, politics, along with its characters	
I Comment that the authors and myths are honor for all Lebanese		
I think more should be given to national music.	National Music	

Table 5: Represents, the items measuring national identity and political dimension

Items (Iran, Lebanon)	Reagents	Concept
I love my country does not depend on the performance of governments and in any way I like Iran(item 16).	Interest of the nation	Concept
I love my country does not depend on the performance of governments and in any way I like Lebanon(item 16).		
People should support the government's decision, even if it is wrong (item 17).	Defend decisions	
People should obey the laws even if some of them are wrong(item 18).		
The current constitution is an advanced law (item 20).	Constitution	
Although I am not agree with every thing but I feel Strongcommitment	Political solidarity	

Table 6: Representative, the items measuring national identity and cultural

Items (Iran , Lebanon)	Reagents	Concept
Anywhere in the world I am proud of being Iranian (item 1).	Sense of belonging to the national community	Concept
In terms of the culture Iranians are one of the greatest nations of the world (item 5).		Concept
Many elements of the Iranian culture and the pain of life today are not forgotten them (item 6).	Heritage	
Anywhere in the world , I 'm proud to be Lebanese (item 1).	Cultural Heritage	
Lebanese culturally one of the greatest nations of the world (item 5).	National symbols	
Many components of Lebanon's cultural are dysfunctionalthey ,so should be forgotten (item 6).	Reagents	

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results and Findings

Distribution of National Identity

Results indicated that national identity of 33.6 percent is low, 35.9% is average and 30.5% was too high. (Table 7).

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to nationality, national identity

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
269	131	138	Frequency	Low
33.6	32.8	34.5	%	
287	174	113	Frequency	Average
35.9	43.5	28.3	%	

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244	95	149	Frequency	Up
30.5	23.8	37.3	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Belonging to National Identity

Of the 800 students surveyed, 33.9% low, 35.4% as average and 30.8 percent had high levels of national belonging.

Table 8: Distribution of respondents belonging to ethnic segregation

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
271	145	126	Frequency	low
33.9	36.3	31.5	%	
283	171	112	Frequency	average
35.4	42.8	28	%	
246	84	162	Frequency	up
30.8	21	40.5	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Sense of national culture in four dimensions, the historical, geographical and linguistic dimension is determined by the distribution of which can be seen in the table 9:

Cultural Dimension

Of the 800 students surveyed, the cultural dimension of 1.6 percent was below the level of the cultural dimension, 41% average, and 57.4 percent was high.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents belonging to national cultural

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
13	5	8	Frequency	low
1.6	1.3	2	%	
328	199	129	Frequency	average
41	49.8	32.3	%	
459	196	263	Frequency	up
57.4	49	65.8	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Geographical Dimension

Results indicated that Geographical dimension of, 38.6 percent was low, 29.3 percent average and 32.1 percent was high.

Table 10: The geographical distribution of the respondents according to nationality

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
309	137	172	Frequency	low
38.6	34.3	43	%	
234	149	85	Frequency	average
29.3	37.3	21.3	%	
257	114	143	Frequency	up
32.1	28.5	35.8	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total

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100 100 100 %

Historical Dimension

Results indicated that, 35.3 percent of historical dimension was low, 37% average, and 27.8 percent was high.

Table 11: Distribution of respondents according to the nationality of the historical dimension

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
282	160	122	Frequency	low
35.3	40	30.5	%	
296	133	163	Frequency	average
37	33.3	40.8	%	
222	107	115	Frequency	up
27.8	26.8	28.8	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Language Dimension

Results indicated that 33.9 percent of language dimension was low, and 31 percent was above the average rate and 35.1 percent was average.

Table 12: Distribution of the respondents according to nationality, language

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
271	170	101	Frequency	Low
33.9	42.5	25.3	%	
281	136	145	Frequency	Average
35.1	34	36.3	%	
248	94	154	Frequency	Up
31	23.5	38.5	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Table 13: Frequency distribution of respondents' commitment to the separation of nationalities

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
311	123	188	Frequency	low
38.9	30.8	47	%	
265	160	105	Frequency	average
33.1	40	26.3	%	
224	117	107	Frequency	up
28	29.3	26.8	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

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Commitment of National Identity

Results indicated that 38.9% of commitment of national identity was low, 33.1 % was in average rate and 28 percent had high levels of national commitment.

Politics

According to table 14, 37.6 percent of political dimension was low, and 32 percent was above the average rate and 30.4 percent was average.

Table 14 Distribution of respondents according to the nationality of the political dimension

Table 14: Distribution of respondents belonging to national cultural

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
301	126	175	Frequency	low
37.6	31.5	43.8	%	
243	129	114	Frequency	average
30.4	32.3	28.5	%	
256	145	111	Frequency	up
32	36.3	27.8	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Social Dimension

According to table 15, 36.9 percent of the social dimension was low, 38% was average and 25.1%, was up.

Table 15: Distribution of respondents belonging to national cultural

Total	Nationality		Results	
	Lebanon	Iran		
295	107	188	Frequency	low
36.9	26.8	47	%	
304	184	120	Frequency	average
38	46	30	%	
201	109	92	Frequency	up
25.1	27.3	23	%	
800	400	400	Frequency	Total
100	100	100	%	

Table 16: Descriptive indicators of national identity and nationality of its dimensions according to respondents

National identity and its dimension									Describe index		nationality
National identity and its dimension			Belonging and its dimension			National identity					
Social	politic	Commitment	language	Historical	geographic	Cultural	Belonging				
12	15	27	15	20	20	36	72	121	mode		
14	15	29	12	17	14	34	77	107	Middle		
13.7	15.03	28.74	12.5	16.6	14.07	32.9	76.13	105.12	Mean		
12.7	18.08	48.93	5.3	7.05	22.5	23.3	142.26	308.7	Variance		
3.6	4.2	6.9	2.3	2.6	4.7	4.8	11.93	17.6	SD		
4	5	10	3	7	4	15	33	43	Minimum		
20	25	45	15	20	33	40	101	138	Maximum		
16	20	35	12	13	29	25	68	95	Domain	Iran	

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400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	Number of respondents	of
16	15	33	13	20	16	32	73	104	mode	
15	16	31	12	16	15	31	73	104	Middle	
14.8	16.3	31.14	11.6	16.1	14.4	30.9	73	104.2	Mean	
9.8	11.7	26.14	6.6	9.03	11.9	15.7	78.4	133.03	Variance	
3.1	3.4	5.1	2.6	3.01	3.4	3.96	8.85	11.5	SD	
4	6	13	3	5	5	13	49	69	Minimum	
20	25	45	15	20	20	39	91	131	Maximum	
16	19	32	12	15	15	26	42	62	Domain	
400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	Number of respondents	of Lebanon
16	15	33	12	20	20	32	74	105	View	
15	16	31	12	16	15	32	74	105	Middle	
14.3	15.7	29.94	12.06	16.3	14.2	31.9	74.5	104.7	Mean	
11.6	15.3	38.93	6.1	8.09	17.2	20.6	112.7	220.8	Variance	
3.4	3.9	6.24	2.5	2.8	4.15	4.54	10.6	14.86	SD	
4	5	10	3	5	4	13	33	43	Minimum	
20	25	45	15	20	33	40	101	138	Maximum	
16	20	35	12	15	29	27	68	95	Domain	
800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	Number of respondents	total

Descriptive Statistics of National Identity and its Dimensions

Table 16 describes indicators of national identity and its dimensions according to nationality. distribution rate among Iranian national identity is more than respondents in Lebanon. In other words, we can say that the degree of consensus on national identity between Lebanese has been higher. in fact, Lebanese had a greater commitment to social and political system. Descriptive indicators of other dimensions in the table are visible (Table 16).

If national identity and its dimensions in the range between 1 and 5 are drawn, then it will be easier to compare two groups of Iranian and Lebanese students. The work is performed at table (17). Table (17) shows means of national identity and its dimensions in both nationality of Iran and Lebanon.

Table 17: The average national identity and nationality of its dimensions according to respondents nationality and its dimension

Commitment and its dimension		Belonging and its dimension						National identity	Nationality
Social	Politic	Commitment	Language	Historic	Geographic	Cultural	Belonging	mean	
3.42	3.01	3.2	4.16	4.15	3.52	4.12	4	3.23	Iran
3.71	3.26	3.5	3.88	4.02	3.59	3.86	3.8	3.20	Lebanon
3.57	3.13	3.3	4.02	4.09	3.55	3.99	3.9	3.21	Total

Hypothesis Test

1 - Comparison on national identity (belonging and committed) among Iranian and Lebanese

Hypothesis 1: It seems that there is different rate of belonging between Iranian and libanaisstudents in national identity.

Hypothesis 2: It seems that there is different rate of commitment between Iranian and libanaisstudents in national identity.

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Table 18: Comparing the average dimensions of national identity among students in Iran and Lebanon

Significant level	Amount of (t)	Mean difference	mean	No.	Nationality	National identity and its dimension
.382	.875	.92	105.12	400	Iranian	National identity
			104.2	400	Lebanon	
.000	4.24	3.15	76.13	400	Iranian	belonging
			72.98	400	Lebanon	
.000	-5.54	-2.4	28.74	400	Iranian	commitment
			31.14	400	Lebanon	

According to the above table it can be seen that there is no significant difference between the national identity of Iranian students and Lebanese national identity.

There are differences between belonging of Iran and Lebanon students, so that sense of belonging in Iranian students are higher than the Lebanese students.

There are differences between commitment of Iran and Lebanon students, so that sense of commitment in Lebanese students are higher than the Iranian students.

2 - Comparison of national identity among students in Iran and Lebanon

Table 19: Comparison of national identity among Iran and Lebanon students

Significant level	Amount of (t)	Mean difference	mean	N o.	nationality	Dimensions of national identity
.000	6.782	2.2	33	400	Iranian	Cultural dimension
			30.9	400	Lebanese	
.303	-1.031	-.30	14.07	400	Iranian	Geographic dimension
			14.4	400	Lebanese	
.015	2.444	.49	16.6	400	Iranian	Historical dimension
			16.1	400	Lebanese	
.000	4.880	.84	12.5	400	Iranian	Language dimension
			11.6	400	Lebanese	
.000	-4.662	-1.3	15.03	400	Iranian	Politic dimension
			16.3	400	Lebanese	
.000	-4.751	-1.13	13.7	400	Iranian	dimensionsocial
			14.8	400	Lebanese	

According to the table 19 it can be seen that there is a difference in the level of culture, history, language, between Iran and Lebanon students, that is the amount of cultural, historical, linguistic, in Lebanese students is higher than the Iranian students.

There is significant difference in political and cultural dimensions between Iran and Lebanon students. So that the rate of Lebanese students is higher than the Iranian students.

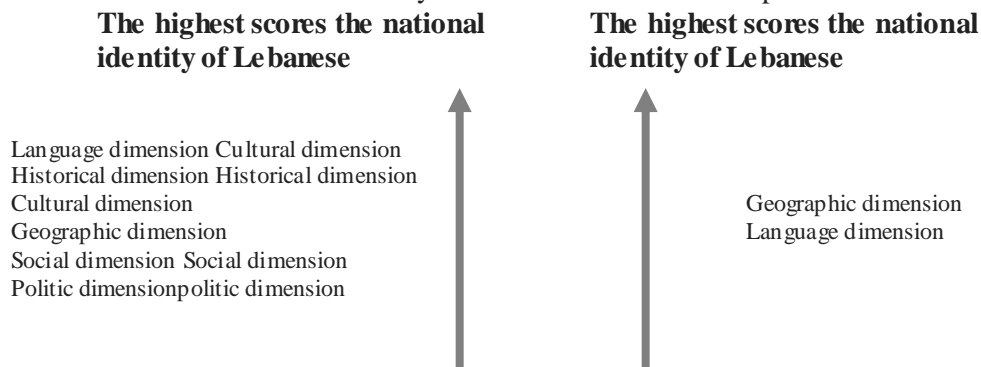
There is no significant difference between Iran and Lebanon students in geographic dimension.

Results

Strength and enrich the national identity of the country, especially in multi-cultural and multi-ethnic countries can strengthen the national identity and cause of national unity and solidarity between the national society to provide and guarantee national unity.

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Iran and Lebanon's national identity based on the status of multiple scores is as follows:



Between the multiple dimensions of national identity among students, there are significant differences between Iran and Lebanon. Average dimensions of culture, history, language, in Iranian students are higher than Lebanon students. Rates among Lebanese political and cultural dimensions are upper than Iranian students. There isn't any significant difference between Iran and Lebanon students at geographic dimension. Overall, findings indicate that national identity among Iranian students generally is more intensive. Most belongings refer to the characteristics of the language, history, culture, geography; then social dimension has relative importance. But the political dimension of national identity of Iranian Students is medium. The Lebanese national identity among students with (0.3) less than Iranian national identity has the high strength. There is most belonging to the cultural characteristics, history, language, geography, international among the students. Most of Lebanon's commitment is to the social dimension that has the most importance. Lebanese political dimension of national identity is average.

It was expected with attention to Iranian's long and rich history and civilization, and complete process of nation-state the rate of Iranian national identity be more than Lebanon's. (The country was in the colony of Ottomans, and then French, and the process of its nation-state is not entire and has been for many years in a civil war). But research findings show no significant difference between the two countries and almost their identical is the same. These findings are consistent with "Korm" view. (Fifteen years of civil war in Lebanon, has reinforced its identity actually [national identity] in the Lebanon War, Lebanon's representative claimed that as a whole, while only a few years before, the country was completely created by the French colonial [he means that there is no such thing as a nation but now it has national identity (according to Korm quotes, 2000). Iranian's national identity shows high strength due to 3000-year invasion by others nations, because of its geographic location and external threats, as well as Korm Conclusion.

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