

## THE ROLE OF RURAL SMALL TOWNS (SOUM CENTER) IN POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

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### Abstract

In our country, unemployment rate reaching became exhausted (unemployment rate is 11.6%, the first season in 2016). At the same time, there are changing population settlements and developing few major cities more than other cities due to rapid migration of population (Socio-Economic Geographical Sector, 2013) created from concentration of population and socio-economic gravity (National Development and Innovation Committee, 2011) due to poverty which is created from unemployment (D.Baatar, 2016).

For instance, in 2013 compared to 2006, Mongolian population has grown by 11.4 % and population of capital city Ulaanbaatar and other central cities of provinces has grown by 20.4% (NSO 2013).

So, in order to create multi-centered structure of population density and settlement, there is needed to develop "soum center" which is combined nomadic life style and current level of Mongolian economic development.

The target of this study is to show economic role of soum centers for Mongolian economy which is developing based on advantage of geographical location. That is one of the most important factors to create multi-centered structure of population settlement.

This investigation was processed in Erdenesant soum, Tuv aimag, Tariat soum, Arkhangai aimag, and Orkhon soum, Bulgan aimag, which are well developed infrastructure, pasturing livestock and favorable region to develop farming and area of peri-urban.

Also, it is analyzed on "ger area" structure of countryside, sociological surveys from herders which is chosen by sample methodology and recent year's statistical data.

Urban areas are developed by advantage of geographical location while combining peri-urban areas and road-networks (M.Bayantur, 1970), so that, cities which are connected by road-network can develop more than other cities (Socio-Economic Geographical Sector, 2007).

**Key words:** *population distribution, rural settlement, herder movement*