

## **The Developmental thought in ibn Khaldoon's "Mukaddimah" an Analytical Study Comparing the Theoretical approaches explaining the process of Urban development and studying the indicator of the progress of development with time<sup>1</sup>**

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### **Abstract**

Ibn khaldoon counted in his Preface "Mukaddimah" on the premise that "the sum of the social, economic, political and environmental phenomena can be explained through urbanism," and that urbanism is the sum of human production in society through its peculiar characteristics. He was the first to start the foundation of a science called Urbanism. It has often been translated as the science of culture and civilization; sometimes as Urbanization, sociology or social organization. In this research, it can also be called the science of planning and development, and the alphabet for the introduction of social, economical and international planning. Ibn Khaldoon's approaches have been amazingly close to the methods of modern scientific research in this field. The content of his theories can be compared to contemporary ones.

Research that indicates the precedence of Arabs in the field of Urbanism, development and their demographic, social, economical and environmental branches has been conducted. The importance of this research lies in that the Preface "Mukaddimah" still contains scientific bases that must be discovered and reformulated in a contemporary manner for them to function as an alternative for the Western standard concepts and theories, which are dictated to us, and which have been reached through experimentation and experience.

<sup>1</sup> For the paper in Arabic see pages (٥٢١-٥٧٣).

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The research assumes the possibility of using Ibn Khaldoon's ideas and terms contemporarily and continuously. It also emphasizes their importance as a foundation for studies of current situation of the growing countries. It begins with a compact biography of Ibn Khaldoon, clarifying the importance of his Preface "Mukaddimah" for understanding and explaining the socioeconomic phenomena in the contemporary reality of the societies of growing countries. Then it moves on to analyze extracts taken from the Preface "Mukaddimah". The purpose of choosing these extracts are to emphasize that Ibn Khaldoon was not only a pioneer, but that he has also founded a fixed science with rules and laws. The research here explores the contemporaneity of the Preface "Mukaddimah" in its contributions to the science of planning and development. In order to clarify the depth of his presented theories and their comprehensiveness, a comparison has been made between the accuracy of his elicited theory on the study of the indicator of the progress of development with time, and international scientific theories, which aimed at the explanation of the relation of time to development. The research then ends with a number of important conclusions and recommendations in this field.