

## Directions of Urban Concentration in Syrian Arab Republic<sup>1</sup>

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### Abstract

The search aims to measure the urban concentration, analyse the reasons and results of urban domination phenomenon for the governorates centers in Syrian Arab Republic since 1970 till present, and to define the futurism potentialities of urban concentration in Syrian cities according to the results of urban concentration measurement. The study took place on Syrian governorates centers, where statistical data were collected by the researcher, analyzed and paneled in order to be used in the study. We use the most famous urban concentration measures in analyzing the urban domination phenomenon for Syrian governorates centers; which are: Primacy measure for Walther Christaller in 1933, the law of primate city for Mark Jefferson in 1939, the size and rank rule for Zipf in 1941 – 1949, and the measure of urban density which was done by Eric Srobl and Luisito Bertinelli in 2003.

<sup>1</sup> For the paper in Arabic see pages (519-539).

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The study results produced a strong indicator for dominating both of cities, metropolis Damascus and Aleppo over other urban centers in Syria, whereas Aleppo city, which located in the north compete the metropolis; Damascus that is located in the south, and work as a growth pole in attracting people, in addition, there are other moderate cities in their way to become metropolitan cities in the near future. Also, the urban population concentration causes defects in the urban hierarchy; and in the balance of Syrian cities network. The results of the measures which are used in the study indicate the danger of unbalanced urban growth in Syria, if Syrian government does not follow a complete urban policy. So, the topic still either incomplete or missing in the time which require working to develop an active means in order to dominate on the present-day directions for urban growth. "The Regional Planning and its Rule in achieving sustainable Development in Syria" in its recommendations; emphasized on the importance of establishing a complete regional growth poles by getting benefit from the competitive feature for each city in order to reduce the pressure on metropolitan cities, with a special focus on what was mentioned in the tenth quinquennial policy.