

# **Title: The Genealogy of the Dominant Economic Discourse in today Iran**

*Author: Mohammad Maljoo, Iran*

## **Abstract**

The bases of mainstream economic discourse in the present day Iran began to be embryonically constructed by the transferring process from the western thought during the 1960s. Today, this discourse is largely based on the neoclassical microeconomics, the mainstream macroeconomics, the mathematical economics, and econometrics. This discourse developed in the Iranian scientific community of economics during the 1960s and 1970s, even though it was at an enormous distance from its original western discourse. From the alleged Cultural Revolution in 1981 and particularly the early 1990s to the present, with changes have been occurred in the western discourse over time, the related Iranian discourse in spite of its tops and downs due to the 1978 Revolution has rapidly grown in the Iranian scientific community of economics, determining and forming the economic research and educational structures for the sake of itself, achieving a hegemonic position on the basis of its reward and punishment system, and eventually marginalizing the alternative economic discourses, whether potential or actual, according to not much clear hierarchical structure.

Thus, the mainstream economic discourse is a heterogeneous system of meanings, concepts, methods, and theories on the one hand and the economic research and educational structures on the other hand that consists of not only a set of linguistic forms but also a system of power relations in the Iranian scientific community of economics, thereby forming and determining patterns of the research and educational behavior of practitioners, so that it prevents the rising, growing, and maturing of the alternative economic discourses.

In view of the above background, three central questions are as follow: 1) How, under what conditions, and for what reasons, has the dominant economic discourse been introduced and established in the Iranian scientific community of economics since 1960s? 2) On the basis of what mechanisms the dominant economic discourse has achieved a hegemonic position in the Iranian scientific community of economics since the early 1990s? 3) How does the dominant economic discourse prevent the rising, growing, and maturing of the alternative economic discourses?