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## **Land ownership as a key problem of range management in Iran**

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**Key words** : land tenure , ownership , social conflict , nationalization .

**Introduction** The year 1962 marks an important event in the history of the agrarian system of Iran characterized by a change in the land tenure system . This land reform change was on natural resources and rangelands . While rural lands were allocated to the farming communities , government brought the rangelands under state control . As a result rangelands control by social groups was abolished . Rangeland management came under the mandate of the government and executive organizations , depriving the rural and nomadic communities of the right of ownership and management . Half a century after , the rangelands still remain under the control of the government .

**Materials and methods** A content and historical analysis of over 50 reports and papers , research data , and personal observations were employed in this land ownership study .

**Results** Results could be summarized as follow :

- 1 . The land reform was not uniform , because farmlands were allocated to rural communities , whereas rangelands that belonged to the nomads were nationalized .
- 2 . The results of the differential treatment of the nomads mistrust and further created disordered rural , nomads and government relationships . Social relations were also degraded , and the situation is still same at present .
- 3 . Since the nationalization of the rangelands , there has been protest by the nomads as they never accepted the rangelands to be government's property . There are significant courts cases due to this .
- 4 . the principle axis of the claims is about taking possession and ownership between government and range users and exploiters .
- 5 . The various projects along the improvement of the rangelands implemented by the government and executing organizations , have not registered noticeable success .
- 6 . These conditions call for two basic and serious actions for an appropriate management of rangelands . The first is drafting of a new law on the basis of land use and land ownership , and the second is preparation of conditions for serious participation of users and exploiters in decision making and management of rangelands .