

INVESTIGATION OF SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPROVING OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF TEXTURES (BASED ON DATA FROM TRADITIONAL BAZAR OF KERMANSHAH)

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ABSTRACT

For many years, most of Iranian cities encountered the problem of textures which are the old core of the cities and by passing time, they became corroded and lost their efficiency. In this regard, traditional bazars of cities, not only for cultural heritage values, but also for their relationship with daily life of people of the city are considered as very important spaces. This research, by descriptive – analytic method and collection of data by documentary and field methods, investigates and evaluates priorities of improving environmental quality of the space of Kermanshah traditional bazar by asking people of bazar so that it can recognize priorities and requirements of improving old and urban textures and provide a better path for maintaining and revitalizing this this valuable spaces and textures and prevent isolation and boredom of such spaces. The most important priorities of users were considering reconstruction of texture and space, preventing more abandonment of bazar space and improving activities in it.

Keywords: *Texture, Environmental Quality, Kermanshah, Traditional Bazar,*

INTRODUCTION

One of Currently, Iranian cities face the problem of old textures which are not compatible with modern urban life and characteristics of a modern city. Structural and performance somatology of these textures reveals the manifestation of problems such as contradiction with overall urban structure, concentration and congestion of population and activities, economic recession, loss of body quality, loss of district and residential values, loss of social qualities, inappropriate environmental conditions, difficulty in access and traffic problems and decline of visual and cultural values. Urban organization focuses on humans' cohabitation and this means making life better and evolution of urban organization. Organization Kermanshah bazar and in general, old textures is intervention and is performed for the sake of promotion of working quality and urban life in such textures in contrary to their gradual deterioration (Vazin, 1999). Historical extents of Kermanshah is the manifestation of official and unofficial activities of those who – at first glance – seem conflicting and incompatible. However, by passing time and applying changes in body structure, they are well organized and their form and content – in combination with each other – has become the origin of the best samples of Iranian urban spaces. But, what has made these districts a problematic issue is deterioration over time and vulnerability of their masonries.

Importance and Necessity

Old texture of traditional bazar at the center of Kermanshah and the vicinity of Feiz Abad led to initiation of structural, economic, social and cultural difficulties. Therefore, spatial organization and enabling bazar tradespersons of bazar for the process of revitalization and renewal requires a systematic vision and a general strategy with Kahn planning.

To keep the texture alive and spontaneous, participation of residents is necessary. However, unfortunately, due to lack of facilities in the texture and its reconstruction, original and old residents have immigrated and stranger people having no familiarity with the district and only for economic reasons, resided there and repairers inevitably look at the texture as a dead body and sometimes, using masonries

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and methods completely contradicting with the texture, not only don't prevent damaging the texture, but also destruct the body of the texture.

Goals

1. Creating the culture of old texture and compatibility
2. Improving economic level of tradespersons inside the old texture and making added value for estates

Literature Review

Improvement and reparation of old textures separate and independent from historical buildings has not been taken into account before WWI by reparation congresses.

The first international seminar which focused on reparation, protection and improvement of old textures was Gobino congress (1960).

Codifiers of the global charter of Amsterdam (1975) also asked for extensive changes in legal criteria and executive regulations of intervention in old textures so that they can succeed in harmonizing old spaces with that of modern life.

Since mid-19th century, the issue of reparation and improvement of old urban textures became separated from visions and reparative recommendations of pioneers of architecture and relevant disciplines. Therefore, Athens charter in 1931 until Amsterdam resolution moved away from exclusively artistic aspects with an evolutionary trend and by considering buildings separately, penetrated to socioeconomic issues of buildings in historical and old textures as a unique topic. But, historically, keeping and maintenance of societies for future generations has been considered. In this regard, bazars as the beating heart of Iranian cities is of great significance.

Research Questions

1. Could implemented plans meet the requirements and goals of Kermanshah bazar and tradespersons?
2. How compatible are implemented plans with socioeconomic characteristics of the district?

Research Hypotheses

1. People participation is one of the most important components of success of renewal plans of bazar old textures.
2. Success of renewal plans for bazar old textures leads to service capitations required by residents.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Methodology

Strategy governing this research is descriptive. Geographical region of this work is Kermanshah bazar. Data collection is done through referring to housing and population statistics, improvement and renewal organization, field recordings and interview with residents as well as corresponding experts and consultants of plans to receive opinions and scientific and executive viewpoints about studied district. Population volume who received questionnaire included 200 tradespersons with about 30 years of activity in bazar. For analysis of data, software like EXCEL and SPSS were used.

Research Category

Kermanshah is the 9th crowded city of Iran and the center of Kermanshah province having a population approaching 784,602 and 93,389,956 m² area. Kermanshah is one of the important cultural and historical cities whose establishment dates back to 4th century.

Study region is bazar located in the center of the city which is one of the old and known textures of the city. Inadvertence of officials on one hand and residents on the other hand which is because of financial inabilities, led to deterioration of this part of the city.

Lack of appropriate access, fineness and inappropriate portioning of the texture, low quality of buildings leading to lack of resistance against natural events, compact and dense texture, gradual evacuation of

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some parts of texture, low financial afford of residents, higher age of old residents and concentration of businesses in this region are some of the reasons of such selection.



Figure 1: Marking Kermanshah bazar (municipality)

Role and Position of Iranian Market

Iranian markets composed the backbone of cities and are a set of various buildings woven to each other in a special form. In general, each bazar is composed of a main body and buildings connected to it. Main body which has a direct or sometimes plant-like form may find various branches. However, they are created by repetition of simple arches and two chambers in both sides. Contrary to this similarity, buildings connected to main body are diverse and from different types including governmental, commercial, religious, educational and service providing.

Concepts, Viewpoints and Theoretical Basis

Theoretical Basis

Deterioration is one of the most important issues corresponding to urban spaces which lead to disorder, disequilibrium and disproportionality. Deterioration helps elimination of group memories, loss of urban life and formation of daily urban life and by reducing life of the building and with a rapid acceleration, leads to the end of life of it.

Deterioration of urban textures by time must be reviewed in the process of urbanization of the country. In such process, rapid growth had an effective and continuous role in development of cities on one hand and renewal of previous spaces on the other hand (Bagherian, 2010). Although this issue is the result of unequal share of cities' parts and textures from growth factors and facilities and this resulted in obvious differences in the appearance of cities and environmental quality of textures, creation and development of new spaces make a logical and consolidated relationship between new and old spaces and keep and improve the integration and identity of the city.

Old Urban Texture

Each urban texture is composed of two main parts: 1. Body, 2. Performance. Those parts of urban texture whose body and performance are lost are called old textures. When activities and utilities can meet requirements, but the body is damaged or when activities system is disordered, applications will be lost but body is kept, it is somehow deteriorated. Today's revolution of Iranian cities is physical and social loss of old parts and problematic textures within cities which due to external or internal factors face various problems and gradually became old and deteriorated (Azizi and Arasteh, 2010).

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Depreciation, deterioration and end of life of buildings due to physical factors is a natural and inevitable phenomenon.

Therefore, attempt to select a pattern or strategy which can make the flow of life in this logic permanent is necessary. Such patterns must have local and indigenous origin and be based on participation of people. Furthermore, it must be in harmony with time and at the same time, protect cultural heritage and take the socioeconomic issues of the residents into consideration.

Table 1: urban texture (consultant engineers of Tadbir Shahr)

Urban Texture	
Deterioration Characteristics	
<p>■ social:</p> <p>Takeover of non-indigenous people</p> <p>Low residential and spatial value</p> <p>■ economic:</p> <p>Relative low value of land and housing</p> <p>Inability of resident to improve building due to poverty</p> <p>Lack of motivation for investment</p> <p>■ urban management:</p> <p>Lack or weakness of urban services</p> <p>Lack of public spaces</p> <p>Lack of urban utilities</p> <p>■ environmental:</p> <p>Low quality of environment or health</p>	<p>■ body form:</p> <p>Often irregular structure</p> <p>Fine buildings having one or two floors</p> <p>Using brick, wood and iron is high</p> <p>■ ownership:</p> <p>Lack of clear separations</p> <p>■ infrastructures:</p> <p>Lack or vulnerability of infrastructures</p> <p>■ application:</p> <p>Increased incompatible application in residential texture, lack of service providing spaces</p> <p>■ system of network</p> <p>Having inefficient network</p>

Intervention in Urban Textures

Intervention in urban textures is done in the form of improvement, renewal and reconstruction and each includes actions as follows:

Improvement

Improvement is done in order to utilize potential and actual utilities and strengthening positive aspects and weakening negative ones through support, maintenance, protection, revitalization, integration and reparation.

Renewal

The purpose of this activity is to increase efficiency and productivity and restoring urban life in the texture and through renewal, empowering, revitalization, conformity and revolution are accomplished.

Reconstruction

This is carried out for making new living and body – spatial situations and is done through destruction, cleaning up and refreshing.

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Investigation of Old Texture with Respect to Access to Evaluation Indices

Table 2: Characteristics of old texture with respect to indices of texture evaluation (Consultant engineers of Tadbir Shahr)

Characteristics of old texture	Evaluation index
Having historical, architectural, religious or antiquity value	1. having value
No value	
Internal	2. position in city
Middle	
External	
Extension	
Low permeability	3. access, infrastructure and urban utilities
Lack of networks and access to urban services	
depreciated urban equipment and infrastructure	
narrow passages	
Lack of cultural, educational and urban services	4. urban services
Lack of some services	
Irregular and without plan	5. Texture type
Organic	
Fineness	6. status of body and appearance
Old building	
Lack of structural system	
Low quality of building	
Low density, short floors	
Numerous visual abnormalities	
Official residence in city center	7. type of residence
Unofficial residence in suburbs	
Urban background	8. Urban background
Rural background	
Immigration of indigenous people and residence of immigrant and non-indigenous people	9. sociocultural problems
Low educational level and sociocultural problems	
Air pollution and other environmental issues	10. environmental issues
Getting out of urban economic cycle and life	11. financial, economic and investment
Loss of economic justification and avoiding investment	characteristics

Investigation of Old Textures Boundaries with Respect to Deterioration Indices

To determine the span of old textures, surrounding textures of this region and outside were studied with regard to deterioration indices and following results are briefly described:

Deterioration of texture with respect to structure: after investigations and field sampling, it was found out that in outside textures, index of deteriorated buildings doesn't apply yet and their deterioration is mainly below 50%. These parts are constructed in newer periods and are of relatively appropriate strength and stability.

Impermeability: Only some parts of the south of Saedi St. in south of the span have this index and more than 50% of the passages are below 6m.

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Fineness: in two parts of outside textures, fineness texture can be applied and more than 50% of parts are less than 200 m².

A Vision toward Improvement of Kermanshah Bazar

According to Statistics of Moshaver Arse in 1998:

About 6% of respondents had no action for solving problems of their activities. Less than 10% stated that comprehensive reconstruction of the body will be effective in solving their problems. More than 20% believed in effectiveness of comprehensive body reconstruction in solving their problems while about 60% consider sanitary reparation effective in solving their problems. Proportions obtained from this responses are in agreement with previous responses. In other words, 2/3 of all of the respondents have no clear understanding of interrelation of factors partitioning bazar with economic components and consider secondary and minor factors important in improvement of bazar body. About 10% were aware of this continuity and demands body changes in bazar while 20% of respondents suppose that fundamental changes in bazar may be effective in promotion of their business. Domination of lack of a comprehensive vision toward general and integrated body of bazar in this responses is a clear fact which must be taken into account.

According to Polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

1. Based on statistics, about 42% stated that performing improvement and reconstruction will be effective in solving problems of their activity and business.
2. About 37% declared that improvement and reconstruction have no effect on their performance.
3. About 21% demand destruction and reconstruction according to modern architecture and masonries as the only way to improve their activity place.

Actions Proposed for Improvement of Kermanshah Bazar

According to Statistics of "Moshaver Arse" in 1998:

Regarding certain activities which must be performed for improvement of bazar body, more than 5% of respondents noted comprehensive reparation, about 20% reparation of roofs, more than 20% reparation of floor and subfloor, more than 15% increasing equipment and safety, less than 10% appropriate access, about 5% improvement of urban landscapes, about 10% improvement of facades and appearance of chambers as preferred activities.



Figure 2: Interior space of Kermanshah bazar (wikimapia)

Quality of responses shows agreement and similarity with responses to previous questions. Yet, a considerable portion of tradespersons, consider body changes in roof, floor, safety and equipment and façade enough for improvement and only about 10% of respondents believe that for improvement of bazar, comprehensive changes in body are necessary; while about 20% who face problems in transportation, consider fundamental changes in texture of bazar and surrounding as a basic component of improvement.

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According To polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

Regarding action which must be taken for improvement of bazar boy, after a survey, consultants discovered that:

1. 22% of respondents proposed reparation of roofs and their reconstruction at the top of their suggestions.
2. 41% of respondents take improvement of passages and floor of bazar into consideration.
3. 52% demanded improving entrance stairs of bazar.
4. About 24% proposed establishment of parking and widening passages.

Social Viewpoints

Necessity of Improvement

According to Statistics of Moshaver Arse in 1998:

Regardless of negligible number of respondents, nearly all of them acknowledge the necessity of improving Kermanshah bazar. At the same time, about 10% of them consider such improvement impractical while others believe that it is feasible. On the other hand, a little less than 90% of respondents confirm their readiness for participating in the process of improvement while a little more than 10% deny participating.

By relying on the results of processing responses to economic and body questionnaires, we can interpret given answer as follows:

Majority of tradespersons of Kermanshah bazar, due to lack of a valid and deep understanding of the process of improvement and limiting it to some secondary and minor actions, consider it as a facile process and confirm its feasibility; while 10% of them, due to considering it as a comprehensive and fundamental, cast doubt on its feasibility.

According to Polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

Due to necessity of improvement of bazar environment, attracting collaborations and feasibility evaluation in the category of consultant, following results were obtained:

1. About 78% of respondents, believe that improvement and reparation of bazar is feasible.
2. About 23% consider it infeasible or ineffective.
3. About 63% of all of respondents are ready to collaborate with officials and administrations of improvement.
4. From all respondents, about 37% don't consider themselves responsible for reconstruction or taking part in it.

Understanding and Expectation from Improvement of Kermanshah Bazar

According to Statistics of Moshaver Arse in 1998:

Nearly 20% of respondents note increasing services, less than 10% increasing equipment and facilities, about 5% reconstruction of performances, less than 10% improvement of national economy, more than 30% body reparation by keeping traditions and less than 5% consider replacement of new buildings with old ones as clues of improvement process. Diversity and maybe scarcity among these clues emphasizes on lack of a comprehensive understanding from improvement and necessity of educational and cultural activities in this regard.

According to Polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

Based on definitions of improvement and in unfamiliarity of people with professional definitions of improvement and field inferences about the perception of tradespersons about it, following issues can be summarized:

1. Increasing services by about 32.5% of respondents
 2. Increasing equipment and facilities by about 63% of respondents
 3. Improvement of national economy by about 11.5%
 4. Reparation and reconstruction of bazar body by about 86% of respondents
 5. Renewal of old buildings by about 25% of respondents
- are noted as their main expectations regarding renewal.

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Perception from Participation in Kermanshah Bazar

According to Statistics of Moshaver Arse in 1998:

More than 60% of respondents consider participation in the process of improvement feasible in the form of financial aids and less than 5% as organizational participation. More than 20% of respondents consider a combination of financial and organizational participation and less than 10% taken other forms of participation into account. As numbers shows, answers to this question is in agreement and in line with previous ones and a significant portion of respondents have a financial-based perception from participation and more than 1.5% believe in joint participation.

According to Polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

1. Despite of frequent visits, guild of goldsmiths were not ready to participate.
2. According to information collected, more than 83% of respondents consider participation in improvement process as a financial matter.
3. Moreover, about 11% of respondents interpreted participation as organizational and spontaneous collaboration of people.
4. About 6% of respondents, consider participation as combination of financial, administrative and guild activities.

Method of Participation in Kermanshah Bazar

According to Polls of Engineers of Moshaver Mad Shar in 2007:

Less than 15.7% believe that substantiation of participation in the process of improvement requires pressure from above (government) and that first step must be taken by government in this way. At the same time, more than 31% of respondents emphasize on effective planning and management, 2.3% on training and cultural activities, 23.6% on making trust with participants, more than 19% on coordination with bazar activists and establishment of a council system as solutions which can make the public participation possible in improvement of Kermanshah bazar.

At the same time, more than 7% of respondents were unaware of the question. In summary, answers given to social questionnaire clearly illustrate that although majority of activists of Kermanshah bazar confirm the feasibility and even necessity of improvement and participation in it, their perception from these indices are different from each other.

This can be utilized by making a relationship between perceptions of a special group with response to a specific question.

Responses to the method of substantiation of participation of tradespersons, generally have an appropriate agreement and direction. Therefore, it seems that required setting is available in Kermanshah, while emphasizing on the fact that a considerable part of tradespersons view improvement as minor changes and consider participation as financial aid.

Recommendations

Plan of Organization of Kermanshah Bazar

In introduction, two main strategies for revitalization of buildings are noted. They are:

- a. Body improvement and treating depreciations by this view that it leads to flow of new life in bazar.
- b. Comprehensive solution and seeking roots of inability of bazar in interrelated cultural, social, economic, political and managerial fields and following a trend compatible with semantic environment of bazar and its body.

The first strategy for separation bazar from city is changing. The boom of bazar is being decreased and its performance is being assigned to sidewalks. However, in second viewpoint, bazar is a live phenomenon of the city and it doesn't consider its revitalization apart from that of city.

Therefore, the solution for bazar inconveniences in accordance with city's current needs. The vision governing the plan of organization of Kermanshah bazar is urban reparation and this bazar is classified in the category of reparation and protection of old textures which belongs to cultural heritage organization. In this plan, besides criticism of exclusively body methods of revitalization and reparation of bazar, it is attempted to perform a phenomenological view regarding bazar, its activities and inconveniences.

In summary, it can be concluded that:

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1. Kermanshah bazar which is located at the center of city whose street is one of the main paths of the city. Its width doesn't support the traffic and results in a heavy traffic in all hours. This prompted officials to take it into consideration this issue to keep the bazar as an important and historical elements of the city and at the same time, overcome the difficulty of traffic. For this purpose, in one period, they widened the street and this was accompanied with destruction of some of the shops beside street. Unluckily, only shops were destroyed and this virtual widening added to sidewalks and it became a place for exhibiting commodities of shops and therefore, they abandoned this solution.



Figure 3: Kermanshah bazaar

2. Relevant organizations, by giving inappropriate permissions for construction of commercial complexes, not only failed to control the traffic, but also added to the difficulty and deregulated the appearance of street and skyline. Furthermore, it must be noted that despite of construction of buildings, this part of bazar, was not welcomed by residents and majority of commercial units of building remained evacuated or transformed into a center for false jobs.

3. More attention of city officials to other historical items such as Tagh Bostan and Bistoon led to isolation of bazar as well as using inappropriate materials or even in contradiction with bazar materials resulting in its damage.

4. Location of Friday Mosque of city in this city, led to entrance of a lot of people in Fridays and religious events into this street whose consequence is the blocking of street due to its narrowness.



Figure 4: Friday Mosque of Kermanshah

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CONCLUSION

Complexes which act in city scale and in ancient cities of Iran, are located at the backbone of the city, are in fact very valuable elements of architecture which provide the city with a lot of attraction from outside. It is better that such complexes are combined with new appropriate applications since they are important turning points from body of texture's point of view.

In Kermanshah bazar, making new applications may prevent current isolation of bazar which is being continuously increased since bazar is transformed into a place to which villagers come for transaction. New attractions must be made in bazar so that revitalize it through drawing main residents of city to this part. It must be noted that maintenance and reconstruction of historical complexes of the texture have close relationships with social and cultural items and must be seen in increasing trend of development in city for the sake of an active protection.

In the plan of revitalization of a historical complex, it must be provided by available utilities and spaces so that by elimination of destroyed buildings in its path, can add to its penetration range. In revitalization plan, it must be kept in mind that revitalization of urban complex, not only contributes to body and skeleton of complex, but also significantly affects the appearance of complex and city.

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