Reconstruction of Zanjan City Neighborhoods in Accordance with the Characteristics of the Iranian-Islamic City (Case Study: Hosseinieh and Nayeb-Agha Neighborhoods)

Abstract

Urban regeneration in order to revive historical structures and monuments by emphasizing the preservation of cultural values and protection of indigenous wealth can, in addition to preserving and strengthening the main ossification of the city, lead to economic growth and urban development and appropriate economic groups to promote and generate municipal revenues. On the other hand, the Iranian-Islamic city is a reality that exists and it is necessary to formulate and specify its rules and regulations according to its attributes, values and language of design. In this research, which is an applied research based on documentary studies following a survey-descriptive method, while explaining the criteria and indicators of the Iranian-Islamic city, an attempt has been made to study the current situation in Hosseinieh and Nayeb-Agha neighborhoods in Zanjan. Factors involved in urban regeneration that are in accordance with the characteristics of the Iranian-Islamic city have been identified, followed by criteria for the regeneration of historical sites, which will be more compatible with the principles of Iranian-Islamic city. Findings indicate that in the study area, preservation of the historic tower and fortifications of the city and reliance on Tekyeh Hosseinieh as the main principles representing the Iranian-Islamic city should be a priority. Therefore, accurate knowledge of the characteristics of the Islamic Iranian city is a vital step in recreating the city model.

Research aims:

1. Familiarity with the principles of architecture of Iranian and Islamic cities.

2. Finding desirable criteria for recreating historical sites based on the principles of Iranian-Islamic cities.

Research questions:

1. What are the criteria and characteristics of an Iranian-Islamic city?

2. In urban regenerations, can the pattern of Iranian-Islamic cities be chosen as the design pattern?

Keywords: Reconstruction of urban model, Iranian-Islamic city, historical neighborhoods, Zanjan city.

Introduction

Undoubtedly, "alteration" is a requirement of human life and continuity and evolution, and with a diverse amount and acceleration, it leaves its mark in time and place. In recent decades, the rapid growth of urbanization has led to the uncontrolled development and expansion of cities, bottlenecks, problems and complexities. One of the consequences of this phenomenon is the intensification of the rhythm of spatial-physical "change" of cities in general and urban centers, ancient textures and especially the central parts of cities in particular, which often leads to declining social status, physical-spatial organization, economic decline and inefficiency; hence it has become a function in these areas. The process of change and transformation is always a function of special mechanisms and forces, the study of which can determine the logic and spatial pattern of the city in each period. Iranian-Islamic cities have faced profound physical and spatial changes in their evolution in the last one hundred years. One of the factors that can be considered as a criterion in the way of transformation is the analysis of the physical spatial structure of the city. The city as a bed of collective life has had dissimilar characteristics in different communities. Examining the process of formation of various cities in history shows its influence on climatic, environmental, religious, historical, economic, social and religious components. An examination of the history of the city and urbanization in Islam shows that the basic foundations of the city were initially formed for political, military, economic and cultural purposes. With the political consolidation and emergence of powerful Muslim states such as the Umayyads and Abbasids and the emergence of regional powers and empires such as the Ottomans and Safavids, a clear and defined model of the construction and shape of the city was presented which was used many times in the realm of governments. Today, the lack of a model appropriate to the social, economic and geographical context of the country and relying on imported models, has faced problems for decision makers and this is one of the factors that has minimized the implementation of programs and plans. In Iran, contrary to the Iranian-Islamic urban planning tradition, new elements modeled on the West, such as streets, highways, residential apartments, commercial and office towers, etc., have attracted the attention of officials and managers of today's cities and are becoming more widespread every day. Destroying existing neighborhoods; a process that has caused the rupture of social relations and the creation of anonymity in the inhabitants of cities and its continuation will have many dangerous material and spiritual consequences, so conducting basic research in creating a suitable spatial structure can be an significant step in achieving a proper urban spatial structure.

In recent decades, researchers have conducted many specialized studies on the Islamic city and its characteristics, all of which aim to identify and analyze the mechanisms that have been involved in the formation, evolution and development of the Islamic city. These studies have focused more on the typology of the urban areas and the recognition of principles related to urban design and construction (Akbar, 1988. Hathioul, 1996; Ben-Hamouche, 2003; Hakim & Zubair, 2006; Hakim, 2007). Koneo (2005) in his book "History of Urbanism in the Islamic World" believes that the complexity of Muslim historical cities in addition to texture, has also affected the construction and spatial distribution of city elements; In such a way that the characteristics of urban spaces of these cities have been formed and manifested based on the quality of architectural spaces and their skeletal structure. The most important feature of these spaces is the spatial arrangement of the city with full awareness of nature, development, social activities and its appropriateness to individual activities; As observed in functions and proportions, each function is directly related to its scale. Shokouei (1999) in his book "New Thoughts in the Philosophy of Geography" believes that physical structure is the result of natural, social and economic processes; due to its nature, character and function, it can be considered as a basis for the transformation of the Islamic city.

The present study aims to investigate how to recreate old neighborhoods. In this context, this research, which is an applied study is based on documentary studies and a survey-descriptive method grounded on

general knowledge of the subject, types of contexts and intervention methods and founded on field studies and review of documents and information obtained from library sources. With the structure shown in Diagram No. 1, it seeks to find desirable criteria for the reconstruction of historical sites based on the principles of Iranian-Islamic cities. It goes without saying that the authors' experiences and reserves in reviving and renovating worn-out areas have played an effective role in conducting this research.

Conclusion

One of the macro-strategic policies of the government is the policy of the National Strategic Document related to the revival, renovation and empowerment of the worn-out and dysfunctional old structures of Iran's ancient cities, which was approved by the Honorable Cabinet in 2014. This policy follows the failures of the previous performance of the government in the face of historical contexts, the approach of which has been mainly based on commanding approaches and focused from the top down. Although there is decent experience in the global view of developed countries on the preservation of historical cultural values in urban environments, this view has been held in developing and backward countries, which also happen to have valuable textures, and all its historical textures have not yet been resolved. It has taken on inappropriate and intolerable dimensions. This is the situation in an environment that targets the historical identities of cities. Without doubt, the experiences of ethnic civilization are accumulated in the context of that nation's history, and the severance of societies from history will also lead to the rupture of culture and civilization. The creation and evolution of ancient cities cannot be an exception to this rule. In other words, since cities appear in the long run and slowly, in accordance with the social, natural, economic, cultural, etc. conditions of its inhabitants, so compared to cities that have been created quickly and without regard to these phenomena; therefore, they are more efficient and stable. From this point of view, the historical contexts of cities are important in various dimensions and it is necessary to pay attention to them as a necessity of urban management, since the establishment of historical contexts in the city center provides unity to the city and prevents its rupture. Historical areas, structures and builds place valuable historical-cultural symbols and offer the highest signs of urban identity and bring to life the urban memories of citizens. The presence of elements such as historical mosques, bazaars, husseiniyahs, shrines, water reservoirs, caravanserais, government houses, valuable historical houses, etc. in these neighborhoods and the importance of the cultural, artistic and traditional burden of the city in promoting urban civilization is unique. The standing of these neighborhoods in service-related programs in the event of natural and man-made crises and solving problems related to the inefficiency of communication networks and compensation of municipal services for citizens and residents of Baft is investigated. The results of the case study of the Global Experience in the Improvement and Renovation of Ancient Urban Textures show the fact that many questions remain unanswered and dynamic theories of intervention in historical and worn-out textures, especially in developing countries, are abstract in solving problems. The resulting ineffectiveness is expected, but the occasional use of these theories in combination can be useful.

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