

Comparative Analysis of Cultural Factors of Kormanj and Turkmen Ethnic Groups in the Formation of the Architecture of Settlements in Bojnourd City of the North Khorasan Province

Abstract

Kormanj and Turkmen are two major ethnic groups in the geography of Iran. Due to the distribution of these tribes in geographical areas, they behold their own culture and cultural elements. The housing of these communities bestows specific coordinates and features. Subsequently, the construction of a house and its body and spatial order is strongly influenced by the environment and culture to which it belongs, reading and analyzing the structure and body of the architecture of houses based on the needs and culture of the indigenous people that construct that community can aid designers and assisted planners in achieving the pattern of housing structure in that border and climate. This research is theoretically applied in terms of type of purpose and in terms of method combined with a descriptive and analytic outlook. Results indicate that in the old houses of Kormanj tribes, the role of privacy and gender characteristics in the separation of spaces and boundaries are more noticeable than the houses of Turkmen tribes. Features such as privacy, gender roles, the structure of family relationships and social relations and lifestyle are among the cultural features that have played a significant role in the formation of settlements in Kormanj and Turkmen.

Research aims:

١. Comparative study of cultural factors of Kormanj and Turkmen ethnic groups in shaping the architecture of settlements in Bojnourd city of North Khorasan province.
٢. Recognizing the priority in physical and spatial elements in the architecture of Kormanj and Turkmen ethnic groups.

Research questions:

١. Which cultural factors in Kormanj and Turkmen ethnic groups are influential in shaping the architecture of settlements in Bojnourd city of North Khorasan province?

٢. Which cultural factors in Kormanj and Turkmen ethnic groups have the greatest impact on the physical and spatial elements of houses in these two ethnic groups and in this region, respectively?

Keywords: Kormanj and Turkmen tribes, architecture of settlements, Bojnourd city, North Khorasan, culture and tradition.

Introduction

Studies show that housing is one of the most complex buildings in regard to design. The cultural characteristics of each era can be recognized in its architecture since when this phenomenon is created under the influence of diverse conditions of a period including political, social, economic and cultural traits, and as soon as it is created, it can be recognized as an independent and thriving feature. To study any type of architecture, it is significant to distinguish the environment and its factors. Therefore, research in contemporary or past architecture is incomplete without contemplation on folk architecture and understanding of its socio-cultural characteristics. Consequently, it can be acknowledged that daily behaviors that are based on human-environment interactions, along with socio-cultural norms, are considered as an important factor in the formability of residential architecture. Today, Kurmanjis, Kurds, Persians, Turks and Turkmens are the largest ethnic groups in North Khorasan Province. However, the housing in this area is not suitable for the presence of different ethnic groups and rich cultures. According to such a background of comparison, careful study and analysis of cultural characteristics of different ethnic groups and the formation of settlements in the city of Bojnourd can help the researcher to achieve the principles of optimal housing design. Conferring to the presented materials, this study seeks to investigate this issue in order to make a comparative comparison of cultural factors of Kurmanj and Turkmen ethnic groups in shaping the architecture of settlements in Bojnourd city of North Khorasan province.

Regarding the research background, no independent work should have been written so far, but articles have examined the relationship between culture and architecture. An article entitled "Turkmen Indigenous Identity and Architecture" by Mohammadi (٢٠١٤) examines the formation and location of housing patterns and the method of construction influenced by Turkmen indigenous

culture; however, it lacks comparative research, a feature that is the main focus of this study. The present study is theoretical applied in terms of type and interdisciplinary or hybrid (descriptive-analytical) method. In this paper, after reviewing the systematic studies and basics of the work, in accordance with library research and documentary studies to comprehend the characteristics and cultural traits of the tribes and their features, data is extracted, next, in the field observations, direct observation, interviews and logical reasoning were applied. The findings show the achievements of this study have been in applied in the creation and improvement of the residential areas of the province of Bojnourd in the North Khorasan district and this has been successful in achieving the approval of the residents.

Conclusion

By systematically reviewing the available documents and backgrounds, it can be concluded that the cultural characteristics of each nation include behaviors, beliefs and attitudes, social and cultural activities, individual and social relations and influences. There was somewhat exceptional about the body of buildings and residential units in each nation. There is a close relationship between the cultural characteristics of Kurmanj and Turkmen ethnic groups (such as gender characteristics, social interactions, living characteristics, confidentiality and privacy) and the physical structure of the building. These cultural features in each nation on the construction and how to build residential buildings over the years of settlement of these tribes in this area has remained a tradition among them, and it can even be said that the design of such buildings in some way are somewhat impressive. Although over time and for many years, some of the cultural characteristics of these tribes, including the livelihood and gender of these tribes, are diminishing, a number of these characteristics and cultural characteristics of these tribes can be exemplified considered the art of building the body of this area. Reviewing systematic documentary research and studies, as well as observations and interviews conducted with experts and indigenous peoples of the two ethnic groups of Kurmanj and Turkmen in relation to ethnic characteristics and its impact on the body of public buildings and old houses in Bojnourd can become the basis for the formation of the design of the body of the building with respect to the significant role of characteristics such as gender characteristics, privacy and discretion and livelihood characteristics of each nation. These indicators have been able to have their effects on the buildings of this region.

It can also be noted that re-reading the cultural characteristics of these tribes in their traditional architecture can be a basis for applying the methods and details of building new homes in this area. Confidentiality as one of the indicators studied in this study is one of the basic principles governing relations and interactions between individuals in each ethnic group, whose effects on the physical structure of traditional architecture in these ethnic groups are undeniable, and architecture as a body of thought is always a tool. To express the attitudes and thoughts of each nation. The creation of the inner, outer, introverted and extroverted features all arise from the world view of the people and any tribe; also, the preservation of confidentiality and hierarchy in personal spaces in the architecture of each tribe is evident.

The issue of confidentiality and maintaining sanctity in the attitude of the Kurmanji tribe has caused the establishment of two different types door knockers in diverse shapes. Those with a lower pitch were exclusive for men and those with a higher pitch were for women and this feature is manifested in the houses of the Kurmanji tribe than the Turkmen. In the houses of the Turkmen tribes, this case is less visible and the emphasis of the privacy index is more on the issue of security and freedom, which is stricter among the Kurmanj tribes than the Turkmen tribes. In the Turkmen tribes, the public and private spheres of houses were less respected, and conversely, in the Kurmanj ethnic group, this issue was more emphasized. Also, the architectural body of the building in both ethnic groups is formed under the influence of gender, which has cultural, environmental and social origins of that ethnic group; A face that is characterized by climatic extraversion and cultural introversion compatible with climate and culture. In Turkmen houses, the private spaces of the building can be combined or separated from the public space during the day, nonetheless in the Kurmanj tribes, this issue is less intuitive and occurs only in special circumstances. Likewise, in the residential buildings of Kurmanjis, the guest room is located near the entrance and the guest enters the guest room without entering the privacy, but then again in the Turkmen tribes, these areas are also more connected with each other. There are also significant variances between the two ethnic groups in terms of lifestyles. Cooperation of men and women in the Turkmen tribes in providing livelihood is basically a kind of solidarity and interaction, the effects of which on the body are such that it leads to a reduction of gender barriers inside and outside the body of residential buildings and a clear example is the porch as the connecting element of private and public spaces, and the guest house is in direct contact with public spaces, which is the result of reducing gender roles and restrictions and the issue of privacy. In Kurmanj tribes, domestic chores

are reserved for women and public areas are limited to men; hence, a monogamous lifestyle or gender segregation can be observed, which is also evident in the body of residential buildings and leads to the separation of private and public spaces; for example, the private living room that has an indirect connection with the external arena and the discussion of gender characteristics and patterns is more significant and privacy is also rather visible.

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