

## **Economics and Architecture: The Impact of the Economic Situation in Qajar Iran on Architectural and Urban Planning Patterns**

### **Abstract**

The arrival of capitalism in Iran was accompanied by extensive changes in the economic system. While the structure of the country's production in the early Qajar period was based on the production of agricultural products and handicrafts and its export, recently with serious decline and damage, the country became a major importer from European countries and Russia. Attempts to internalize capitalism failed with the closure of domestic factories, and the inability of the private sector to compete with foreign capitalism led to the profitability of trade based on imports, rents, and the stock market. As a result, the country's architecture and urban planning are focused on two aspects: one is the increase in the population of cities and the need to develop them, which was accompanied by new street construction and the presence of buildings with new functions. An event that led to the land exchange and emphasized the separation of social classes. Second, the indirect impact of foreign capitalism, which led to the presence of European citizens in Iranian cities and intensified the process of acquainting Iranians with the culture and manifestations of Western civilization. The construction of foreign embassies and houses of European character is one of its examples. In this research, with interpretive-historical methods and logical reasoning, the interrelationship between the economic situation and the architectural and urban development developments of Iranian cities in the Qajar period has been studied. A relationship that not only affects the shape of cities and the appearance of buildings, but is also accompanied by broad socio-political and cultural ties that have made its consequences more complex and influential.

### **Research aims:**

١. Examining the economic conditions and specifically the capital flows to what extent on the developments of Iranian cities
٢. To what extent are the architectural patterns used influenced by it?

### **Research questions:**

٣. To what extent have economic conditions and specifically capital flows influenced the developments in Iranian cities?
٤. To what extent have the architectural patterns used influenced it?

**Keywords:** architecture and urban planning of Qajar period; Fund; City shape; Economic developments;

## **Introduction**

The Industrial Revolution was a launching pad that ushered in a new era of economics, politics and social relations. The rise of capitalist currents, which relied on resources provided by the colonial military powers on the one hand, and relied on cheap labor on the other, with the dramatic growth of machines and factories, brought about a serious change in many social, political, and economic relations. The division of the world into two unequal colonial and colonial parts marked the scene of many conflicts and rivalries between these states and other nations, and the efforts to fully control the natural resources and consumer markets of the second group of countries, this group of countries also underwent serious changes in Faced with this flow. Iran was one of the countries that was soon influenced by the mid-nineteenth century due to its special geopolitical position, which included its proximity to the Russian colonial government, its access to open waters, and its proximity to British-occupied India. The entry of capitalism and capital flows into the country has been agreed upon and emphasized by various researchers. (Nadi, Beheshti-Seresht, Mohammadi and Adelfar, ۲۰۱۷; Farhadpour, ۲۰۱۴; Piran, ۲۰۰۲) The rational capitalist organization of free labor in the city with permanent markets away from political influence that separates the business from the residence and the special place of money as a means of calculation and was itself one of the distinguishing features of the new capitalism. (Mathematics, ۲۰۱۰) Thus, the economic structure of Iran, which was based on the classification of classes into farmers, tradesmen, merchants, clerics and the ruling class, was influenced by capitalist currents imported from the West. The pressure of cheap production, the price of European industrial centers, which was accompanied by the support and all-out pressure of their respective governments, severely put pressure on the traditional system of production and supply and caused it to undergo serious changes. The influx of foreign nationals, although on a much smaller scale than other countries in the region, has raised issues that have had an impact on housing market relations. Thus, in the mid-nineteenth century, Iran was preparing for a new era in which domestic capitalism had to compete with foreign capitalism and a significant increase in urban population - partly due to rural migration due to damage to the crop structure and partly due to natural increase. The population resulting from the developments influenced by the modern world - put the capital and large cities in a new position in terms of urban planning and architecture. However, the study and analysis of economic conditions in Iran in the late Qajar period (practically from the middle of the reign of Nasser al-Din Shah onwards) and its direct and indirect impact can provide significant new points of Iranian urban planning and architecture before the modern introduction of modern ideas. Highlight Pahlavi and give a more complete understanding of the socio-political context of the time.

## **Conclusion**

A review of economic and political conditions and developments in the situation of cities simultaneously and a comparative study of them, shows that the combination of these developments with the inflow of foreign capital, has led to more and more physical issues with economic infrastructure that a different model of the system. Shows the former tradition. These developments are to the extent that they have practically led to serious changes in the architecture

and urban planning of this period and have formed a mixed set of economic, political and cultural conditions in relation to it.

The actions of the government in designing new streets that provided the necessary basis for the growth of new capitalism and brought about significant changes in the body and appearance of the city, while acting as a platform for further developments, paved the way for changes in the attitudes and tastes of elites and the public. Has also been. In fact, the accompaniment of these structural changes with the increasing presence of foreign nationals who have promoted a particular style of their desired architecture has led to the formation of a kind of cultural exchange between indigenous city dwellers and missionaries and foreign ambassadors, although in the first place to meet supply and demand needs The ruler of the market has occurred, but it has taken on a more internal aspect and has spread to other levels of society along with the current of modernity and modernism. However, at this stage, in practice, the elite class with high economic power have been the pioneers of experiencing change.

Comparison of political-economic events with architectural landmarks and urban development developments shows that with the intensification of capitalism and the growing expansion of trade, or in other words, what led the country to economic dependence, more important buildings are built on an urban scale and urban development developments. Is also becoming more important. This issue should be considered because we know that the country, after years of instability and turmoil experienced after the Safavid extinction, needed stability and capital to be able to organize the economy. In addition to changing the demographic composition, cultural influences and political demands determined the shape of Iranian cities.

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