

Conservation of Kashkan Sassanid-Islamic Bridge in Lorestan Province with Cultural Landscape Approach (Artistic)

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Abstract

Lorestan province in west of Iran, with its rich rivers, established links between the capitals and important cities of Iran during different periods. The need for quick and easy access and permanent communication between these areas with rich rivers and deep valleys, has led to the construction of huge bridges. The undiscovered identity and value of these works for the indigenous people of the region, the country and the international community, destruction of the works and the natural environment associated with it by indigenous people, Absence of the program and the necessary funds for conservation and restoration by trustees, to ignore the natural environment and the natural context of bridges in conservation, all have made these valuable properties destroyed. Accordingly, the purpose of this study was to identify the cultural landscape of the studied bridges and their challenges of conservation in order to provide a basis for a systematic model to conserve them. In this research, information gathering was carried out in the form of library and field studies, and four important bridges were identified on the Kashkan River. Ultimately, the Kashkan Bridge was chosen as a case study due to its location on ancient routs, Sassanian architecture roots and unique architecture. In the following, conservation challenges of cultural landscape of Kashkan historic bridge were identified, analyzed and categorized using qualitative research method, data analysis and its related coding.

Research objectives

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1. Identifying the cultural landscape of the Sassanid-Islamic historical bridge of Kashkan.
2. Identifying the challenges of Conserving the Sassanid-Islamic historical bridge of Kashkan to achieve a systematic framework to Conserve its cultural landscape.

Research questions

1. What is the definition of the cultural landscape of the Sassanid-Islamic historical bridge of Kashkan and what are the effective factors in forming this landscape?
2. How can one understand the challenges of Conserving the cultural landscape of the Kashkan Historical Bridge?

Key words: Cultural Landscape, Historical bridges of Lorestan, Qualitative data coding, challenges of conservation, Kashkan Historical Bridge.

Introduction

Lorestan province in western Iran, with rich rivers and because of being located on ancient routes between capitals of a different era, has established permanent links between these areas through the construction of huge bridges. Identity remains unknown and high value of these properties to the local community, the country and the international community, the destruction of these properties and their associated natural setting by indigenous peoples and tourists, the lack of an appropriate plan and budget to conserve and disregard the natural setting of the bridges, all have caused these valuable properties to be destroyed.

Studying these properties and the challenges of conserving their cultural landscapes can in addition to conserving the bridges themselves:

- To clarify and conserve the different historical layers of the region;
- conserving the natural environment (including rivers, valleys, etc.) where bridges are located;
- to read and safeguard the region's Indigenous culture;
- Bridging technologies for future conservation and restoration of these properties and
- Finally, it will be a Logical framework for understanding the conservation and management of these cultural landscapes.

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In the meantime, due to being on the path of numerous ancient routes, Kashkan Bridge was chosen as a case study due to its roots in Sassanid architecture and unique architecture and the challenges of conserving its cultural landscape through qualitative research method, data analysis and coding were obtained.

There has been no discussion of the cultural landscape of historic bridges as a new branch of urban studies, research, and studies. Nina Almassifar (2010) in her research "Takht-e- Suleiman's Cultural Landscape Revitalization with Emphasis on regeneration and Heritage Conservation Approaches" to the Regulatory Process in the Restoration and Revitalization of Cultural Landscape with Emphasis on the Historical and Natural Identity of the Site in an integrated way, it pays. Hassanali Leghaei (2013) has investigated the importance of cultural tourism in the research "Improvement of Historic Landscapes and Cultural Heritage of Sustainable Tourism Development". In his research "Recognizing the Elements of Creative City in Relation to Traditional City Cultural landscapes (Case Study: Isfahan)", Mino Gharabagloo (2014) identified cultural landscape as one of the most important sustainability factors in the creative city approach. Maryam Farhadi (2014) has also studied the process of formation and continuation of landscape in the research "Salman's Cave and Cultural landscape, A Review of the Elamais Temple in Izeh City from Continuity of cultural Landscape and Tourism". Shirin Hassnavand (2013), in his study "Mountain and Water Holiness in Ancient Cultures and its Impact on the Formation of Bisotun Cultural Landscape", has focused on the relation of landscape culture with the ancient culture and the sacredness of its constituent elements.

As can be seen, the meanings and concepts of cultural landscape are common to all of the studies mentioned, with the aim of resolving or recognizing the shortcomings of a small part of the cultural landscapes. The present study, besides being comprehensive and taking into account all the features of the cultural landscape of Kashkan Bridge, considers the bridge to be valuable only as a part of the cultural landscape of this area which should be identified and conserved under the scenic umbrella along with other constituent features of its cultural landscape.

Results

Cultural landscape has very complex definitions in terms of understanding its meanings. The first step conserving cultural landscapes is to identify and evaluate cultural

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landscapes. Evaluations and conservation plans for the Kashkan Historic Bridge so far have failed to protect the cultural landscape due to its lack of cultural features. In response to the first part of the research question, the constituent elements of cultural landscape were identified through library studies, field studies and the analysis of various concepts in the subject literature. In response to the second research question, with regard to data analysis and a different view of field studies, because these challenges are identified, evaluated and evaluated from the context of the property and the natural and social environment associated with it, they have been analyzed and can be used as a systematic framework to understand the conservation of the cultural landscape of the Kashkan historic bridge over the different times. Finally, the most important suggestions regarding the research findings can be stated as follows:

1. Investigate the development of an existing conservation paradigm based on a historical conservation chronology and attempt to combine cultural and nature paradigms to conserve the Sasanian-Islamic cultural landscape of Kashkan;
2. Acknowledge that the essential components of conservation existing in theory and practice, the definition of cultural landscape (including research case studies), their evaluation and management are changing;
3. Finding the place of landscape culture in conservation theory and practice and trying to propose a new conservation paradigm for the Kashkan Bridge;
4. the cultural landscape is a complex phenomenon, with a tangible and intangible identity. These intangible elements come from local community ideas, beliefs, and responses that influence observation and cultural landscapes formation. Understanding both aspects of this identity is essential.
5. Finally, it is worth noting that partnerships take time to conserve cultural landscapes. Time to build the scientific foundation for collaboration, build trust, hear stories, find common goals, and plan for the future. Participation does not move linearly and should be shared by everyone in the local community. Local communities should, therefore, be involved in every aspect of identifying, planning and managing areas, as they are the Most effective guardians of cultural landscapes.

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