

Designing a Cultural–Art Complex with a Sustainable Architecture Approach

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Abstract: *The current research entitled as designing a cultural–art complex with a sustainable architecture approach tries to improve the cultural state of society through the creation of human life spaces as architecture is of critical role in this regard. The aim of the current study is designing a cultural–art complex named as Urmia cultural–art complex, a place for proposing cultural services and suitable way to improve cultural state of people of the city and also to protect local traditions and to create suitable backgrounds for supporting cultural bases among youth people and to make deeper bonds between civilians and also to play a role for introducing local culture and art to tourists. The research method is applicable and its general goal is achieving the correct relationship between skeletal and architectural spaces in designing the cultural–art complex of Urmia and problems related to the society and social culture.*

Keywords: Culture, Local Traditions, Cultural Promotion, Sustainable Architecture, Cultural–Art Complex

1. Introduction

One of the problems of any kind of decision making is representing a clear and correct definition for the problem and characterizing it [1–11]. Without such definition, searching for solution will not be efficient [12]. The process, relying on systematic thoughts, will be able to characterize and explain the constituents of a set, their mutual relations, existed regulations and formation of the problem and its results [13, 14].

Today, society and sustainable societies are among very important issues which have been widely interested [15–19]. Becoming social or urban sociality should be happened according to social and cultural demands of any given region [20]. The associated authorities must teach a series of social lessons, specifically, and a series of methods of social learnings, generally, based on reasonable understanding of demands in each urban area and proportional to the cultural and social level of civilians [21, 23, 25, and 26]. Cultural and art organizations of city are playing the role of a social doctor who must propose behavioral methods and ways proportional to the city and urban life as a note to solve cultural and behavioral problems of civilians and they should act toward negating false cultural models of the city [20–27]. To create such process, a series of spaces and performances for cultural centers to expand socialization and regarding the demands of new generation and complex issues from viewpoint of urban socialism and humanism of social culture and culture adoption, should surrounded all life of civilians [28, 29].

The cultural development is a very sensitive and critical issue since it is one of the basic infrastructures of development [30]. Regarding the importance of this issue and the need for cultural development in our current society, the necessity of creating cultural centers is obviously understandable [31–39]. Finally, architectural studies try to expose their effects in designing and basically, the aim of such studies is creating suitable mental backgrounds and increasing effective knowledge in designing [40, 41]. In the studies performed during current research, it tries to analyze two basic and

effective bases of designing [42–45].

Firstly, mental and internal bases and secondly, external bases and the required information for physical designing [46–49]. The considered cultural center will be an active and alive complex and reasonable use of natural resources and appropriate management of construction in designing of this complex will help protecting the limited natural resources and energy saving (energy protecting) and leads to improving environmental qualities [50]. For example, it will consist of educational spaces (music education and so on), theater and exhibition spaces, restaurant, library, offices and services, etc [51–61].

In these cultural centers, young people and generally, all people can use from facilities [61–65]. It will be designed so that affects the creativity of young people and it will be the cultural symbol of its domain [66–70]. As one of the reasons for creation of cultural and art centers in recent times is filling the free time of people with cultural and art programs interested by young people, such issues will be considered in this research [71–81].

Understanding and investigating the suitable ways for overcoming cultural problems of the society and in turn, designing a cultural–art complex which its goal is improving the cultural state of society and proposing suitable ways for more strong bonding between the people is the subject of the current study [81–91].

In Urmia, there is not a cultural–art complex with architectural approach. Hence, this project and constructing this structure can be completely new and innovative in addition to its beautiful visual scene. However, its structural and architectural design type will be the most innovative aspect of it in the city. It will be designed similar to no any structure in the city and it will be a symbol of beauty, technical design, urban power and urban design and architecture in big city of Urmia.

2. Architecture and Culture

Culture is a contact line between human and the environment through it, his/her root will be strengthened in both the nature and society. Cultural facilities of human are becoming more close and dependent to each other and nation emerges from common mentalities which are born from the culture and its bonding is common in memories and what they beloved and what they hate and common language and so on.

Culture, in its special meaning, is attributed to spiritual capital of a nation which includes their all literature and arts; all that emerge from it and expose in construction.

If this construction focuses on meeting the material and physical demands of the society, it names as civilization, and if focuses on spiritual demands, it names as culture. However, these are bonding together. Civilization is more practical and objective while culture is more mentally and spiritual. Philosophy and literature and beliefs are in culture's territory while civilization is more emphasized on physical demands of human in the society. Architecture is a real tool for evaluation of culture of a nation. Every building is a cultural sign, even in good or bad meaning.

By developing the culture, a system was emerged that tried to create a balance between individual and social demands. This system which determines mutual relationships of people is founded on a valuable system and this system is not constant during time. The architectural genre is in fact a visual plot of this succession which will be varied by variation of proportionality between the ideology of science and art. Based on this fact, the importance of the effect of culture on architecture and its related genres. It should be paid attention to this fact that architecture is not merely a construction activity but a cultural factor is hidden into it. Art is one of the most powerful cultural aspects of any nation during any historical time and is showing the environment of human life.

In the past, this type of art was a function of relatively determined and recognized principles and had a strong bonding with social culture and our behavioral models. In this regard, architecture genre in each period of time was a reflection of culture and art of that time but in two past centuries, especially in last century, the strong relationships of western civilization and culture was copied and widely expanded and at the same time, traditional architecture was motionless and in many fields, it was ignored before that it have opportunity to match with new technologies and conditions.

Urbanism willing to use from local values and culture. Hence, we also use from our local value, think globally and act locally. Utilizing the values and traditions and using our traditional architecture and urbanism is a cultural activity. However, it is not innovative to directly follow them but it should be so that our act can be proposed to the world and that time is when we have sufficient improvement in culture of architecture.

3. Expansion of Basic Concepts in Architecture

Regarding the relationship in the architecture environment of a cultural complex, two effective factors are mentioned:

3.1 Relationship between People of the Society

The most important difference between human and other creatures is the type of their relationships with each other. Although the identity of relationship existence between humans relies on need to have social life, human is not only considered meeting his/her initial demands and is always followed evolution and progression. In this regard, social communications speed up human progressions and govern human on the environment. However, in the case of other creatures, relationship is only limited to meeting the demands. Hence, the most important aspect about the information of people with each other is knowledge and communication with other people. In this regard, the importance of existence of a unique place for communication and information for speeding up the progression and evolution of human is a nectary issue and this type of relationship is the most important role of a cultural place.

3.2 Relationship of People with the Environment

Many demands of human originate from the necessity of relationship between human and its surrounding environment. The necessity of variation in human life and attention of human towards tourism around the environment is one of the factors which its identity is owed to this type of human communication. Humans are always tried to satisfy their aesthetic feelings in addition to meet their demands when they interact with objects and surrounding environment. Creation of decorative, tools and accessories for life with beautiful paintings is due to this aspect of life. In this basis, the existence of cultural complex can be acted as a factor for creating a good relationship between human and the surrounding environment. It can be a personal relationship with green spaces to show him/her the natural aspects of the environment and or an environment to illustrate aesthetic aspects created by other people.

4. Advantages of Cultural Complexes

Each cultural places such a school, mosque, library, cinema and theater can improve the culture and enhance the level of mental creativities when interact with people. However, in recent decades, placing these spaces together and relating them is highly discussed and the most important issue in this regard is more useful utilizing from such spaces. For example, a person who is interested to use cinema or theater will be encouraged to studying about cinema or theater if a library also be there.

Therefore, library and cinema will be mutually interacted and proposed common services which act as supplement of each other. A common question is about intervention of their activities which it can be said that common services will be provided so that their intervention will be avoided. It will be

achieved through appropriate design planning so that spaces are acted as supplement of each other not as intervening issues.

If appropriate succession of design and management is followed, a cultural phenomenon will be achieved. Even people who are entering to the complexes without any planning will not exited without anything.

In the current machine-type lifestyle, which time is of great importance, cultural complexes can be the symbol of useful use of time.

5. Importance of Construction of Cultural Centers

The necessity of considering the art in urban area for the current human is widely emphasized in the past. Art is the factor for creating balance in the society. Look at the subjects such as art and human, art and the society, necessity of art and culture and so on at the other hand, the value and positive effects of paying attention to art distributing are widely mentioned and one of the principles and ways to achieve the principle of art distributing is constructing such cultural-art centers. Hence, construction of such center is of various values.

According to above mentioned explanations, it found that construction of such center is of great value considering the numerous shortages in the city. However, the effects of location of the center on its aims and objectives confirm that the best location for it is Arg and hopefully, this region will be achieved some pre-determined goals in addition to its original and special position due to construction of the center.

6. Role of Architecture in Cultural Promoting of Cities

The details presented in studies about determining the regulations and planning of cultural spaces are mentioned here.

Paying attention to architecture is not only due to the crucial effects of urban characteristics on the quality of free time temporalizing but also it should be considered since the cultural experience of people is strongly affected by the quality of architecture on their daily life and seeing buildings affect their knowledge about art. Therefore, it is clear that not only historic views and memories and even art tools and facilities but also the environment, as a whole, are of importance for cultural life of any individual. Therefore, cultural effect is not only applied through showing movie, music and visual artworks but also through other types of human show off such as constructing the buildings. Even when we won't go a museum, gallery or theater or listen to music, we cannot able to cancel the influence of special relations since we are always surrounded by architecture. Constructing the cultural spaces is the duty of architectures. Architecture is not only one of the aesthetic arts, i.e., a set of learned principles in the University for beautifying the

buildings, but also is a constructive component of the environment of daily life of every one of us. Hence, architecture is not the business of a few numbers of people, but also it should be considered as the interested subject for the people—so that people should be learned to be sensitive to the problems of their surrounding environment. In fact, the goal is that buildings should have a cultural form in addition to a cultural applicability and act as culture-making factors in the environment.

7. Concept of Sustainable Architecture

It means as solutions about skeletal and environmental and continental, social and cultural issues to be able for avoiding problems such as devastation of natural resources, failure of ecosystems, environmental pollution, high rise population, prevalence of injustice, and reduction in quality of life and relationships between humans.

As Tadao Ando said: —Construct buildings to be tolerable in the nature". In other words, sustainable architecture is responsible for constructing the buildings which are tolerable in the nature, in addition to its ability for maintaining the identity and adjusting the exactness with mental images during historical layers, today and the future.

8. Principles of Sustainable Architecture

In order to achieve sustainable development, the following strategies and principles shall be taken into account:

- a) Applying and sustaining the use of renewable resources such as sun and wind.
- b) Optimizing the use from resources and minimizing the use from natural resources so that it should be lower than the level of their natural growing up.
- c) Minimizing pollution producing so that it can be absorbed in local and global scale and capacity.
- d) Providing basic demands of human and the society and creating a healthy environment for the future generations.

9. Sustainable Architecture: A Background (Native) Characteristic

Sustainability, regarding its basic and pervasive slogans, which are global and focused on the problem of earth preservation, recommended local approaches to achieve reasonable and practical strategies and protecting the variation that is existed inherently in the nature and it considers —think globally, act locally".

A sustainable architecture combination cannot be transferred from one place to another as a ready produced product. As previously said, sustainable architecture propose some characteristics but environmental sustainability, social-economical sustainability and so on are content characteristics which are related to local resources or to rights and traditions and demands of local people.

Therefore, it is not possible to categorize a specific construction technology as sustainable architecture technology and not possible to consider it as an appropriate

technology. A valid system which works in a place very well would be inefficient at the future and or in another place due to variations of cultural and social and physical factors in a new field. Therefore, the potentials of those processes, technologies and systems should be considered to apply them in a given place, if possible, since sustainability is a background characteristic.

Although sustainability proposes new methods to reach human-maker environments, more complex products will gradually provide by strengthening of cultural-social components during design process.

Recently, many environmental technologies fail before their successfully completion: it happens due to the inability of their designers in recognizing the continuity and cultural-social architectural content or in understanding the demands and expectations of who are willing to use from it. In fact, here, forgetfulness is focused and how to preserve local culture and values. This issue actually affects the success or failure of a project.

10. Preparing the Base of Sustainability

As previously said, information and knowledge about new ideas and skills and many new technologies cannot be easily transferred to other cultures and countries. Even after introducing to a new cultural field, they were partially performed or not compatible or replaced and or ignored. It seems that the key for solving this problem is in inability of who are not considered the local cultural expectations and dreams and demands during designing and distributing new technologies. Before claims that these technologies are practical and valuable as a fact, it should be understood that they are bonded to the culture in a complex manner and technologies that are accepted by a group of people will not necessarily accept by another group.

In a subject who its pressure focuses on issues such as the future, better design and public planning strategies, the following are interested:

Key logics are urbanism-architecture and sustainability concepts which are strongly bonded together. Neither ecological methods nor cultural sustainability can take responsibility, individually and separately. Environmental guarantee responsibility means as cultural sensitivity and sustainability which must include ecological knowledge. Cities without compatible combination of these two factors are not durable in the future.

Therefore, it is necessary to understand the background and content of local culture in order to successful performing and transferring the technologies. New technologies and practices shall be along the expectations and demands and knowledge of people and culture which possibly using it if they want to be accepted and worked. When think about what techniques and methods can be generally accepted and proposed a sustainable architecture which satisfied the mentioned demands, the following criteria can be used as the basis for evaluation of sustainable architecture:

- Appropriate use from the available material and local transportation vehicles;
- Use from resources with sufficient availability in order to satisfy general and basic demands so that the environment will be safe;
- Independency from hardly available equipment;
- Using skills which can be practically developed and distributed in the society;
- Can be obtained according to local social-economical fields;
- Create valuable results;
- Respond to the effects of local climate;
- Have a sufficient flexibility to adjust according to local demands and behaviors;
- Can be repeated by local people.

Traditional strategies lead to dwellings which have been stable during centuries but they cannot satisfy the current demands based on the currently available resources. In this environment, finding new actually sustainable solutions is very difficult. If we have to adjust ourselves with fast growing of demands, we should grow up them in a place where solutions are available.

At the other hand, knowing of the environment and architecture is only possible with understanding the human activities in the surrounding world and the goal of architecture is creating human ideas in a skeletal form. Hence, if we accept that architecture is the skeletal reflection of human life: life with its all features (demands, beliefs, and generally, values), we must understand that our current and future architecture cannot independent from past architecture.

In formation of local architecture, some social and economic relationships with natural environment and cultural symbols are skillfully reflected. This type of architecture satisfies the natural and spiritual demands of a society and its people.

11. Sustainability Indices

The presence of six indices is necessary for evaluating the urban sustainability in the considered region. These indices should be contained a set of issues such as environment and economy and should be reflective of the current trends, qualitative and quantitative objectives, specific regional conditions, and applicable for available information and understandable for the people. It should be noted that tourism is a precursor leader for economic development in many places, with numerous environmental advantages and use from cultural legacies as an economic property.

12. Conclusion

Regarding the general issues presented about culture and art and some factors such as human, educational relationships, cultural values and the environment, it can be concluded that for cultural and art promoting, firstly, it is necessary to maintain the past cultural and art values and regarding the subject, past architecture should be specifically considered and then, past architecture should be preserved and used as model and finally, make a more strong relationship with the current problems and new technologies to achieve an

appropriate architecture with the current Iranian culture. Hence, to construct an appropriate cultural and art space, we must achieve to appropriate rich Iranian culture since culture is creator of the environment and the environment forms the culture of society.

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