

Organizing Plan of Amir Sara and Timcheh Complex (Bazaar of Tabriz)

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ABSTRACT

Bazaar is one of main elements of old and historical city context that is a feature of Eastern-Islamic regions and has deeply rooted in Iran as well. As the important city economic center Bazaar with other elements such as Jamee masque, Imamzadeh, schools, palaces and government seat and city gate at the center of city or as a connection of city gate with city center has a special value and thus can be considered as the chief priorities for restoration of historical context of cities. Iranian bazaars were regarded as an important and alive part of city and generally economic, commercial, social and cultural element in past. Today, with recent changes, bazaars can't carry their previous function in cities anymore and this causes a collapse in relationship with other city elements and social lives of people. This collapse that itself is a kind of a gap in bazaars lives consequently leads to gradual death of some of them. The grand Bazaar of Tabriz today regarded as a city block inside historical context of Tabriz and the most important element certainly. Amir complex inside Bazaar is one of most coherent and most beautiful complexes of bazaar of Tabriz that its permanent trade is goldsmith. Research method of the present article is descriptive and data are collected through library documents and field information. This paper aims to present a comprehensive image from Amir complex architecture that include a big commercial Sara (warehouse) at center, goldsmiths Rasteh (row) in west and two Timcheh (arcades) one in northwestern and other in south of the Bazaar of Tabriz complex and forms one of important parts. People can respect to cultural and national places as well as mosques and religious places since they show national identity of each state. The Amir complex is seriously facing with erosion danger; in case of ignorance it will be destroyed. Therefore, prevention or revival of this historical complex that is a symbol of history and more importantly a part of pure Iranians identity means making it alive.

Key words: Bazaar, Tabriz, Amir Complex, revival.

INTRODUCTION

Because of locating on the silk road and other connection ways of Eastern-Western and Southern-Northern always have possessed a special place in a way that during different periods was the capital of Iranian governments (Navari, Khalil zadeh, Tehrani, 2009).

Amir bazaar, commercial Sara (warehouse) and Timcheh (arcade) in history of Tabriz has a special position from dimension and economic, commercial and architecture point of view.

Amir bazaar was the economic element of domestic and foreign textiles and national and international tourists have frequently admired the huge amount of wealth and trade in this bazaar in their books or traveling books. From the moment that some parts of firms and shops moved to new made streets, malls and bazaars, the textile business of Amir bazaar lost gradually its value and importance and replaced with gold and goldsmith business in a way that at present there is no trace of cloth shops and all of shops changed into jewelry and goldsmith.

The Amir Timche and Sara have been a center for carpet business in Azerbaijan and is one of main export centers for Tabriz and country made carpets to all around the world. Many famous businessmen and persons have been doing carpet business in this Timche and Sara. The Amir bazaar is the historical bazaar of Tabriz that the founder of Sara, Timche and bazaar of Amir is Amir Nezam Zanganeh.

His father Sheykh Ali Khan was the minister of Soleyman the king of Safavi and his grandfather Ali Beyg Mir was the Mir of Safi king's stall .Mirza Mohammad Khan came to Tabriz at time of Abbas Mirza the crown prince, and respected by the crown prince and received the Amir Nezami degree. In 1253 Hejra at time of entry of Naser-al-din Mirza , the Qajar crown prince to Tabriz he hold responsibility of Azerbaijan army and state affairs. Also he had another important mission after the murder of Garibydiv the Russian ambassador in Tehran for conciliation from Russian emperor went to Petersburg and backed successfully. He stayed in Tabriz for a long time and died in 1260 Hejra.

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Research method in this article is descriptive and has been carried out with use of library texts review and collecting field data. The general aim of this study is an attempt for evaluation, readout and a documentary report from existing situation of Amir complex in bazaar of Tabriz as an alive creature, that knowing each alive existence is impossible except knowing its spirit and body (current activities in structure and its body). Although, a comprehensive understanding of it is difficult, totally it leads to evaluation of substructures and the effective factors and different forming dimensions resulted. With presenting proper approaches for Amir complex of Tabriz and according to that the practical and systematic actions proceed for repair of mentioned complex and with new usage definition. On the other hand, higher awareness of this place and presenting solutions due to improvement of physical appearance and flourishing the complex.

To achieve this aim and a proper answer, it has been tried with geographical and historical studies of the area in searching in this historical building with considering climate conditions, the advantages and disadvantages get identified and by a proper and comprehensive understanding proceed a tough evaluation of construct and damages and consequently it is possible to present principal approaches for offering the repair and prevention plan of the complex in order to keep destruction process with attention to research purposes and in line of preventing from cultural and religious believes.

2. Definition and meaning of bazaar:

What comes to mind from bazaar concept, include two rows of stores across each other that often are connected via a roof and creates a special structure that buildings such as inn, Timche, Darband, Charsough, mosque, school, water storage and like that are as its supplements.

In a broad sense, according to Khan Mohammadi(2008) it is referred to squares, and every open space used for business, and especially to some shops in a line next to each other

(Khan Mohammadi, 2008).

Many families consider bazaar as going out. The word bazaar in middle Persian language is used like (waazaar) and combinations such as "wazarag"(Bazaari) and "wazaregan"

(Bazargan, businessman)and in Parti language was used as "Vazhaar" this Iranian word has been entered those lands had commercial exchange with Iran like Arabic, Othman and even European countries. In Persian literature the word Bazaar means a crowded and busy place that has a significant position in determining economic, social and political future (Esmaeili, Emrani, 2009).

1-2: the historical complex of Bazaar of Tabriz:

The historical complex of bazaar of Tabriz as an urban block and the most complete social organization among bazaars of Tehran (Tehran markets) has been located in the historical context of Tabriz that is the most significant element of this context which its social management as the only complete social management of bazaars still is ruling. The bazaar of Tabriz is the best and most practical center for trade and work. In fact, it is the best center for production and distribute of products and transactions. The bazaar activists in addition to economical behavior, carry over the cultural behaviors from one generation to another or from one ethnic to the next and cause the cultural propagation. The bazaar of Tabriz recorded as national heritage in 1976. The international record of historical complex of bazaar of Tabriz in list of global works in July 2009 by help of the Cultural Heritage organization and other authorities is one of effective actions in future of the county, city and bazaar of Tabriz.

The process of bazaar of Tabriz formation in relation to city structure and government centers:

Formation of primary core of city: Mid 3rd to mid 5th Hejra

City development with centralization of Jaame mosque and government complex as the government center of region: from mid 5th to late 7th Hejra

Changing into one of important and largest cities of the world from political- economical point and the formation of invaluable urban complexes with several poles and cores: late 7th to 10th Hejra.

A: the 8th century: either when it was the capital city of Ilkhanan or when it was as one of most important commercial and economic centers of the world, it was a grand museum of urban constructions like large residential complexes, palaces etc.

B: 9th century to late 12th Century: living as a locally significant commercial-political center: the transfer of palace from Sheshgelan to Saheb Abad by Jahan Shah Qaraqayounlou and formation of government and religious buildings and parts around a grand square in Saheb Abad and transfer and aggregation of important city poles(with cross-regional and state function)in northern Mehranroud and along with bazaar as the most outstanding permanent city poles in history of Tabriz by Hasan Aq-Qooyounlou the king.

The continuation and expansion of Saheb Abad complex as the center of Azerbaijan province and then move to southern Mehranroud river and establishing and replacement of Sadeghiyeh complex: from late 10th Hijra.

Destruction of Tabriz in earthquake of 1194 Hijra.

Establishment of new commercial complexes following Sadeghiyeh complex and southern Mehranroud

3. METHODOLOGY

The importance of research methodology is that in a correct research with having a proper ideogram it is possible to classify and place materials easily. Here, it has been attempted to use all of research approaches such as descriptive and historical as much as possible and according to existing description from building proceed to identify different functional dimensions ,treating damages, and finally presenting a restoration and protective plan appropriate to the topic.

4. Scope of research (Amir complex):

Entering goldsmith raste (row), immediately on right hand we arrive to Amir Timche entrance and then AmirSara entrance and after end of goldsmith bazaar (gold bazaar) we get to shoe makers' bazaar. Turning right and moving in shoe makers bazaar on our right there is Amir corridor entrance (northern Timcheh) that belongs to carpet bazaar functionally. The founder of Amir Karvan Sara and Timcheh is Mirza Mohammad Khan, the Amir Nezam of Zangneh that passed away in 1260 Hijra His father Sheikh Ali Khan was the minister of Shah Soleiman. Mirza Mohammad khan came to Tabriz at time of Abbas Mirza. The famous architect of this complex was "Samad Memar" that his life story was well-known among Tabriz architects. In spite of being a very grand complex, when passing Jomhuri street, the Timcheh entrance has no attraction (2).

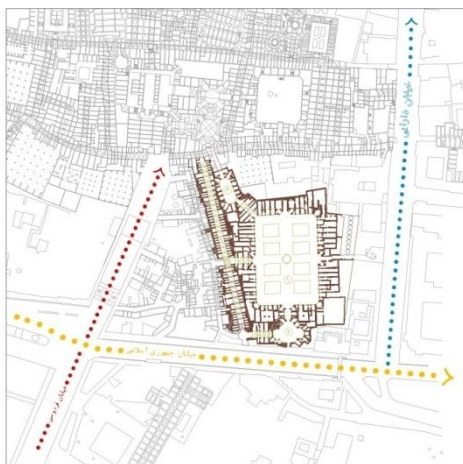


Figure 2: the study region (Amir Complex of Sara and timcheh



Figure 1: Bazaar of Tabriz region

Amir Sara and Timcheh complex is located in most southern part of bazaar of Tabriz confined to gold bazaar (Bazaar of Amir)in west, shoe makers bazaar in north, Modares street in east and Jomhuri street in south (Ganjnameh, encyclopedia of Islamic architecture works of Iran: bazaar buildings,2005){1}

The southern Timcheh(arcade) is two story and its base has an unusual but pretty regular and symmetric base.this Timcheh is a consistent space that analytically can imagine its base as the combination of an eight and a semi- eight at center and four semi-eight around it. The interior façade of Timche is made of dark brick with white pointing. Among both Hojreh (small shops) there is stairs that connect them together. The arches of all of small shops are in two floors. The arch in down stairs is inscribed in a rectangular frame and in upstairs in an ogee arch. In past the southern Amir Timche was the carpet bazaar that at present time has been changed into gold and jewelry bazaar. Unfamiliarity of private owners in repairing the building and replacing the materials have no harmony with its original form lead to contrast in its façade that if it happened with private budget , it would lead to better result.

Necessary to say that in 1985 some actions occurred due to restoration and revival of building by the Artifacts Protection Office and with help of Hojre and Timche owners. The Amir Timche (gold) has been recorded in August 16th, 1975 with registration number 977 as one of national works of Iran.what is interesting here is the record of this work prior to national record of bazaar of Tabriz complex that happened one year after the mentioned date. The Amir Sara (4) located in heart of complex include a broad courtyard with approximate

area of 3400 square meter (42.5×72.5). With a Kashkuli base and a four balcony plan in north of main Timche (imminent to street) and east of gold raste.

The Sara totally has three access ways and from its four balconies, three balconies act as entrances and it's only the northern balcony that has a Hojre in itself. The southern balcony that is in connection to southern Timche directly and by a corridor acts as the main entrance. This entrance is in front of Jomhuri street in south of the complex. The western entrance that is defined with western balcony is the indirect entrance of Sara that in first stage provide the relation of Sara with gold Raste and second its relation with Raste entrance and other parts of bazaar.

The eastern entrance also opens toward Daraee Street through a short and approximately long corridor. This entrance because of the obligatory body changes to building structure and lack of being observable has been disinterested and less citizen pay attention to it. The Amir Sara has a northern-eastern extension therefore; the northern-southern walls are smaller than eastern-westerns.

The walls of both parties of balconies are two story and their arches are similar. The span width of Hojreh arch is 3 meters and the entry arch of access elements (include stairs and entry of Hojreh) are ogee and their width is 1.5 meter. The balconies arch also like entry arch of access elements entry is ogee. Each balcony in itself has a Hojre around and one span at the center that this central span except northern balcony that consists of a long Hojre ends to a corridor that acts as the access point of buildings to their around environment.

The entry of all of Hojres was from the interface spaces of anteroom in such for each two or more Hojre there was a row of stairs in the past, but today some of these entries are closed and the access route of Hojres from corridors has been moved to direct entry from courtyard side. The Hojres are totally arch covered that some changes have been happened on them.

Doors and windows were wooden in past and at present with some changes, the metal and aluminum profiles are seen in façade.

The central broad courtyard has eight rectangular little gardens and a central basin that in past it had an eight and semi eight form.

Around the central basin the eight small gardens in two 4 rows have made a green space and fresh air around the central courtyard (Rozati et al).

First floor windows are opened and closed completely and semi completely. Also a little hatch has been installed on top of some of windows used as an air conditioning. The second floor windows generally are like two part and three part domes that goes up and down on wooden frame of windows. Also some of second floor windows have tie making that the form of ties on fixed parts of windows are in the same form and rhythm and on the second floor brick work of top of windows unlike (first floor that is flat) is in arch shape . A number of old windows are changed currently and windows like Amir Mozafariyeh Timche windows have been installed (1).

The northwestern AmirTimche belongs to carpet sellers and carpets are spread around inside the corridor. The northwestern Timche has a two story structure has been designed with dark brick and white threatening as well. This Timche has a long base that in the middle becomes wider. The long base and similar arches and arcades show Timche like western corridor of southern Timche. Every of arches have a simple threading.

At center of arcade shamsa there is a polygon hatch with a beautiful cap and in two sides of each arcade there is an ogee arch hatch, likewise, the central arcade has been determined as the center of space.

The beauty of brick façade with white threading and polster Tuoyzeh has a dominance over the environment. Combination of arches and frames is like southern Timche that following these arches, the entry of corridors of two sides of Timche has been divided into two with arches that lower part has the Kelil arcade and upper part an ogee arcade (1).

5. Analysis and pathology of Amir complex:

Amir complex as said before is a complex constructed in 1255 Hejra or 175 years ago with that time technique and technology. Therefore, it would be natural if some changes happen in its structure. These changes might have lead to original identity of building. Changes like deletion and addition, time passage, exhaustion of bricks, and loss of mortar. Now after getting familiar with general process of pathology, consider it in Amir Sara.

Internal factors: factors that is because of lack of knowledge against architecture technique and art and residential complex at time of establishing the building.

External factors: all of factors rooted out of building.

In a general list the damages to Amir complex can be summarized as follows. Necessary to say that following these factors we do a precise assess and better understanding of these issues with their origins and causes and knowing side effects of them as well.

Existence of exterior walls has no architecture and historical value that because of lack of originality is considered as a serious damage to body of historical context of bazaar.

- Existence of structural damages in some parts of building like cracks and damages of humidity
- Lack of installing portal appropriate with complex in connective parts with outside environment
- insignificance of complex entries
- car entering inside the environment that is the direct result of lack of proper parking space. This leads to vibration in the building.
- damages related to external façade of the building such as canals of heating and cooling systems, electricity, and telephone cables, gas pipes, advertising boards, and Hojres' show windows
- existence of inappropriately designed urban furniture that are spread around.
- human interference occurred in Hojres and remove and extensions: like changing old wooden doors and windows with metal ones which mismatch with the façade that has disturbed its totality and has made the façade as an asymmetrical complex.
- inappropriate courtyard flooring
- pollution and existence of polluting materials in the air because of locating in city traffic rout.
- lack of a proper swage system and running of rain water on the streets.
- damages to façade because of pollutants, humidity, and change in materials.
- lack of use of potential facilities in complex such as little gardens, and basin for freshening the complex
- existence of façade damage from inside to outside view due to disturbing city sky line
- changing and dividing warehouse into several shops and public corridor to shops.

Restoration plan of Amir complex:

Repair plan of a historical building consists of all of works proceeds for protection, carring and improvement of ecological conditions of a historical work by keeping its original function or changing it in direction to restore plan and its revival for guarantying its life

Improvement of damages derived from humidity such as raising humidity on the foot of walls with designing the water disposal channels keeping the capillary property and correction of damages resulted from falling humidity through improvement of isullation of roof, suitable slope rating of roof, improvement of sky light openings for prevention of rain water penetration etc.

Omission of façade damages like electricity and telephone cables, heating and cooling systems and transfer of them to a proper place.

Deletion of human interference shaped on walls such as holes of bodies and breaking bricks for passing of telephone and electricity cables, cooling systems and air conditioners.

Washing of walls for purring from plutening materials and darkness

Changing of old bricks with improved ones and new threading

-Injection of resins and anti humidity materials for confronting with damages derived from penetration of rain water to walls

-Removing of expansions and adding new removing such as: adding separating walls and metal doors and windows for backing the building to its previous condition

-Organizing exterior walls has the cheap architecture value that influences the general view and caused the original identity of the building.

-Organizing the entrances and indicating the entrances doors especially eastern entrance door to Sara according to comprehensive plan of organizing plan of exterior walls for restoration of body identity.

-Prevention of motorcars entrance for confronting with environmental and acoustic pollutions inside the complex and solving the parking space problem in region of historical context of bazaar of Tabriz based on comprehensive plan of organizing context of bazaar of Tabriz

-Organizing the functions and their homogenisation for better function of complex based on current historical patterns in the complex and keeping from asymmetrical pattern in context of prevention after restoration

-Presenting appropriate solutions for coming up with electric and mechanical and other city systems

-establishing the environmental façade with designing the proper flooring and removing the current coverage

-Organizing the small gardens and basins and designing new decorations for freshening the environment around

-Organizing downpipes and improvement of their function due to prevention from rain water condensation and penetration of falling humidity

-establishing the surface water and improvement of courtyard steeping for prevention of rainwater and of raising humidity on walls foot

Designing and installing required parking, dock and green space in remote lands or at least destruction in cheap or disturbing buildings

The systems pass way have to be determined carefully. It is recommended except city gas pipe lines they pass underground.

Designing and installing city equipments should be in accordance with traditional structure of bazaar: therefore, installing fire fighting cylinders, rubbish backsets and skylights, drinkers, information and advertisement boards have to be organized accordingly and keep messy.

All of restoration works such as prevention, repair, and revival of worthy buildings in study region have to take under planning, organization.

All of maintenance, changes and expansions of parts should be under the supervision of technical office of Cultural Heritage organization and the cooperation of other institutes like municipality, Housing and Urbanism ministry, Water and Electricity authority is mandatory.

Restoration of old and damaged buildings have to coordinate with worthy context of bazaar and the construction of mismatched buildings with bazaar context like normal malls and polluting buildings have to be banned.

Construction of any balcony, digging hole and basement must carry out under the control of Cultural Heritage organization's experts.

The structure of bazaar management has to be formed through voluntary management of support of the province's cultural Heritage organization

Prediction of green space and seating places is very important that can be achieved through different brick forms.

Conclusion

Three last decades of Pahlavi period, not only in architecture and urbanism of Tabriz, but also in all of Iranian cities, it is considered as a cheap work in architecture and urbanism and separation of national and local originality. In this period the bazaar of Tabriz was rushed with massive and frequent changes, frequent separation of different parts of bazaar by new built streets and trends in opening shops increased and deprived the bazaar from reasonable growth. The bazaar of Tabriz, in spite of strong attempt in keeping its own values and identity has faced with damages because of indifference.

These damages that in the first stage were economic rooted in a tendency towards least up of its political, religious, and cultural role and function. This resulted to a separation of unified bazaar because of these pressures. In spite of all of problems, bazaar of Tabriz with its unique brick construct and architecture is the most salient historical monument and the most beautiful and comprehensive bazaar of Iran. The historical remaining of this worthy bazaar is in extent that can keep its glory.

Relative beauty of Amir Sara and Timche in bazaar of Tabriz and its historical record has made the necessity of its prevention and restoration. By summarizing and analysis of different stages of restoration we reached to the following proposed plan:

Connection of urban installation to underground channels with easy access

Improvement of walls, emphasize on time identity of added element and determining of suitable height and size by help of valuable samples

Connection of subject body to Jomhouri St. and emphasize on historical elements and elements from today architecture and underground plan for cars

Freedom and simplicity in new spaces based on social, cultural concepts and theories of modern architecture in indigenized form

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