

Assessing the Reformation and Reconstruction plan of the Central Texture of the Town of Kermanshah

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ABSTRACT: The overall aim of this study is to determine the degree of realization as well as examining its enforcers and inhibitors which are in the form of social, economic and physical objectives. The theoretical framework and research hypotheses require that the field research should be applied for collecting and analyzing the data. Data collection was performed through visiting organizations, individuals and distribution of questionnaires. The statistical universe of the research included all residents and shopkeepers based in the central texture of the town of Kermanshah. According to the census undertaken in 2006, the population based in the central texture of the town of Kermanshah was approximately 16000 and 480 were chosen to be studied through simple random sampling and the sampling tables of Kreggie & Morgan. In the present study, the simulative and criterion credibilities were utilized to assess the validity of the research and in addition, the factor analysis was used to assess the structure credibility and more to the point, The Cronbach Alpha was used to obtain the reliability of the research tool. The data were analyzed through the indices of descriptive statistics, crisscross tables, correlation coefficients and variance analysis. Therefore, all of the variables were described in the form of frequency distribution tables by the indices of descriptive statistics and crisscross tables of the statistical samples. Also, as for analyzing the relations of independent and dependent variables, variance analysis, F test and Pearson Correlation Test were applied. Based on the first hypothesis, the research states that, " It seems that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been capable of achieving its objectives and anticipations", which has been verified in six stages of studying. Therefore, the first main hypothesis was supported (HO). Eventually, both hypotheses were supported and their sub-hypotheses were supported, too. As for the reasons for the lack of success of the plan, such items as a lack of favorable political conditions, lack of managers and urban authorities' trust in participation, imposing the opinions of individuals, time, energy and capital shortages, lack of interest in participation on the part of interfering institutions, lack of establishment of participation and lack of trustees can be named.

Keywords: Reformation, Central texture, The town of Kermanshah.

INTRODUCTION

Considering the accelerating growth of cities in recent years, the evolving needs of urban life and the introduction of the theory of sustainable urban development; the reformation and reconstruction of the central textures of cities is of prominent significance and are deemed as one of the main approaches of inner city development to the urban planners and managers. In the reformation and reconstruction plans of the central textures of cities; the goals, obstacles and resources should be examined and assessed first and the proper strategies for achieving goals should be identified and determined so as to involve the effective elements and then, the implementation of urban plans should be dealt with. In this study, it is of prominent necessity to identify the level of the realization of the plan implementation and more to the point, the obstacles which hinder the implementation of the plan should be handled with the aim of achieving better solutions and results.

Reformation means organization, regularization and arrangement in Dehkhoda dictionary. Reformation is composed of two parts of "reform" and "ation" and can be interpreted in a variety of different manners (Erfani Dizani, 2010). Generally speaking, in the area of urban intervention literature, the term "organization" is regarded as the equivalent of the term "reformation", while the term "organization" is interpreted as "the practice of arranging something". This term like the term "reformation" is composed of two parts of "organize" and "ation". The term "organization" is interpreted as establishments, institutions, entities, systems or a specific program of an individual or a group of people. Comparing the two terms of "arrangement" and "organization" demonstrates that the semantic range of the term "arrangement" is far broader than that of the term "organization". To put it another way, the semantic range of the term "arrangement" includes the term "organization" (Erfani Dizani, 2010).

Reconstruction means to create unity in all parts of an organization in such a manner that the blemished totality can be created anew (Habibi, Meshkini and Poorahmad, 2010).

Texture is a connected range of structures, roads, complexes, spaces, urban installations or a combination of them (Habibi, Meshkini and Poorahmad, 2010).

The reformation plans:

In cases that comprehensive plans were not implemented in a timely manner, some physical and structural changes arose in many cities. Therefore, some actions were proposed as reformation plans in the comprehensive revision plans. Tehran plan is the most important reformation plan which became a reformation plan due to the lack of implementing the comprehensive plan (Rahnamie, Shahoseini, 2010).

The comprehensive urban plan:

This plan is created with the aim of codifying the plan and determining the manners of urban development and also meeting their needs based on predictions and goals of urban development (Shie, 2006). The reformation plans may be physical or functional. In the physical type, adjusting the road networks, widening streets, the renewal of infrastructures, immunization of the environment where people travel in and such like are some actions which can be taken into consideration. In functional plans, more attention is paid to improving the functional conditions and status of the urban spaces (Rahnamie, Shahoseini, 2010). In Iran, The term "reformation" is addressed in the context of the rules and regulations and also in urban intervention plans (Erfani Dizani, 2010).

The statement of problem

City centers play a vital and prominent role in urban lives and are deemed as the focal point of cities. This area is the location of occurrence, formation and accumulation of the most important urban activities and holds mixed applications with different functions. The central textures of Iranian cities are always suffering from a good deal of environmental, structural-social, economic and cultural problems. In this regard, the intervention programs in the central textures of cities can be mentioned as some effective policies which can be analyzed in environmental, structural-social, economic and cultural dimensions (Habibi, 2007). Additionally, given the new developments of urbanization which have occurred in Iran, The central textures of cities have been subject to more changes and transformations than any other urban areas (Meshkini, 2007).

The commencement of activities related to the central textures in the country was addressed in the form of renewal plans and projects of urban textures ever since the early periods of the physical reformations of cities and interventions in the old textures of cities in Reza Khan era and the central government created the groundwork for urban transformation through the agency of transformations in the organization of productions (Izadi, 2009). The issue of detailed reformation plans and reconstruction of the central textures of cities were addressed in the late era before the Islamic revolution of Iran, i.e. the late 1950s to the early 1960s (Falamaki, 1996) and furthermore, the planning system in many sectors including the urban development sector was subject to disarray and disorganization due to political circumstances and developments, especially the beginning of war.

After the Islamic revolution of Iran's era, the policies related to the reformations of the central textures of cities within 1979-1989, known as "texture psychology", are regarded as the first people-centered actions on improvement reformations concerning the urban textures which resulted in the formation of a more comprehensive program by the title of the reformation of central textures of cities. With the course of time, alongside the emergence of new standpoints by the titles of structural and systemic perspectives, the reformation measures in cities were discussed with a systematic approach (holistic approach) and its seven dimensions were discussed and studied as following: The studies concerning the underlying facilities, services, environment, society and culture, demography, economy, structures and transportations. According to the mentioned materials in the present study and given the scientific indices, the effective factors influencing the level of realization and lack of realization of this pattern in the central

texture of the town of Kermanshah are studied. Obviously, this measure can provide the basis for selecting the patterns which influence the implementation of the process of urban studies.

Literature review

The international experiences in the field of reformation and reconstruction of old textures are very diverse. Different countries with variant cultures, languages and beliefs have left behind valuable experiences in the history. Such experiences commenced with Hosman's works in Paris and Ruskin & Morris's in the UK. The World War II led to a shift in the trend of urban restoration in the world (Habibi & Maghsoodi, 2007). In the course of time, some experiences in the field of reformation of old textures were put into action in Iran and paying attention to the existing urban textures in general and historical textures in particular dates back to about half a century ago (Habibi, 2007). The issues of reformation and reconstruction of central texture of the town of Kermanshah has a long history. The reformation and reconstruction plan of the city center of the town of Kermanshah was addressed in 1996, but no serious actions were taken in this regard. No studies have been done yet about the present study's topic, but some studies that are close to the present topic are as follows: In Ali Shamaie's Ph.D thesis (2001) by the title of "The impacts of physical development of the old texture of the town of Yazd and presenting some approaches for its reformation and reconstruction", the impacts of unbalanced physical development of the town of Yazd and its old textures were examined and analyzed and in the end, some suitable approaches were provided which were in line with the sustainable urban developments.

In a study undertaken by Majid Ghomami (1992) by the title of "A brief review and criticism about the urban plans", the government's intervention in the trend of development of cities in recent decades was assessed by such mediums as detailed, comprehensive and conductive plans. In Mohammad, R. Rahnama's Ph.D. thesis (1996) by the title of "Reconstructing the old textures and urban developments", the old texture, the patterns of reconstructing the old textures and the social, structural and economic impacts on reconstructing the old textures and urban developments were dealt with. In an article by Bijan Kalthornia (2002) by the title of "The experiences of renewing the old textures in Kermanshah", the executed interventions in the old textures of Kermanshah were dealt with.

In an article by Khalil Kalantari (2005) by the title of "The public's participation in donating identity to the structure and appearance of cities", such issues as the old textures, the appearance of cities and the manner of the public's participation and presence in the process of rehabilitation of the old neighborhoods in the town of Yazd were dealt with (Kalantari, 2005). In an article by Masoud Narimani (2000) by the title of "The prerequisite of participation for intervention in urban textures alongside identification of the existing social entities and institutions in textures", such issues as the social communication systems, social hierarchies, social-cultural groups and local leadership systems were dealt with using appropriate methods and finding practical strategies (Narimani, 2000).

The objectives of the research

The topic of the research is the assessment of the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah and the overall objective of the research is to determine the extent of the realization and to examine its enforcers and inhibitors which are in the form of social, economic and physical objectives.

Providing solutions for:

- A suitable reformation and reconstruction plan for the central texture of the town of Kermanshah
- The Coordination of the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah with the structural, social and economic characteristics.

The research hypotheses

- it seems that the reformation and reconstruction plan for the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been able to achieve its goals and projections.

it seems that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah is not coordinated with the structural, social and economic characteristics.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This is a survey type of research and more to the point, the factors which make using a survey necessary for data collection and data analysis are the theoretical framework and research hypotheses. Data collection was performed through visiting organizations, individuals and distribution of questionnaires. The statistical universe of the research included all residents and shopkeepers based in the central texture of the town of Kermanshah. According to the census undertaken in 2006, the population based in the central texture of the town of Kermanshah was

approximately 16000 and 480 were chosen to be studied through simple random sampling and the sampling tables of Kregcie & Morgan.

In the present study, the simulative and criterion credibilities were utilized to assess the validity of the research and in addition, the factor analysis was used to assess the structure credibility and more to the point, The Cronbach Alpha was used to obtain the reliability of the research tool. The data were analyzed through the indicators of descriptive statistics, crisscross tables, correlation coefficients and variance analysis. Therefore, all of the variables were described in the form of frequency distribution tables by the indicators of descriptive statistics and crisscross tables of the statistical samples. Also, as for analyzing the relations of independent and dependent variables, variance analysis, F test and Pearson Correlation Test were applied.

Analyzing the findings

According to the material mentioned during the present research, the following items are worth noting about the application of lands within the whole range under study according to the report submitted in 2012:

- The residential application has devoted 35.5 % of the whole range to itself with a per capita of 29.15 square meters and the average area of the residential parts is about 133 square meters.
- The commercial application is about 10.26 % of the area of the whole range and including the market area which is mainly considered as commercial, this rate reaches 16.5 %, the per capita commerce is 8.43 square meters and including the market area, it reaches 13.5 square meters.
- This commercial rate is very high for the neighborhoods of cities, but considering the fact that the neighborhoods are based in the central texture of the city and its commercial spaces provide commercial services in cities, regions and beyond regions: an increase in the per capita is normal.
- In terms of educational services, there are both a shortage of educational levels and dispersion and more to the point, the type of educational spaces is not appropriate in such a manner that there is educational space density in some places and there are not any lands with educational applications in some environments.
- The central texture is lying in a good place in terms of religious and administrative applications and the per capita of these two applications are suitable and even more than what is needed.
- The texture is in sheer need of such applications as cultural, tourism, installations, urban equipment and public parking garages and it is necessary to consider such applications in the new detailed designing.
- Practically speaking, it can be claimed that there are no green spaces and parks and more to the point, the shortage of such applications is felt sorely.
- About 6 % of the texture is composed of wastelands which can be utilized as a potential for the establishment of the required services of neighborhoods.

Also, the street networks, which form about 25% of the whole area, are mainly dedicated to the main streets which are narrow and with no suitable hierarchy within the context of the neighborhoods. Table (1) shows the status quo of the present lands' applications within the range of 123 hectares of the texture under study in 2006. In this regard, the important applications related to the physical, social and economic characteristics were explained in tables (2-4) and in terms of educational services, there are both a lack of educational level and also the type of the educational atmosphere is not suitable in such a manner that there exists a density in the educational atmospheres and even no lands with educational applications have been observed in some of the neighborhoods. The texture is suffering severely from the lack of cultural, tourism, urban installations and equipment and also parking garages. Therefore, it is necessary to pay special attention to these applications in the new detailed plan. It has been noticed that the educational application with a per capita of 2.50 square meters, the cultural application with a per capita of 0.80 square meters, the tourism application with a per capita of 0.16 square meters, the green space application with a per capita of 0.07 square meters, the medical application with a per capita of 0.78 square meters and urban equipment and installations with a per capita of 0.02 square meters have devoted 3.05%, 0.98%, 0.19%, 0.96%, 0.08% and 0.02% of the whole range to themselves respectively. In addition, through visiting different organizations and performing a field research by the researcher about such applications, the results can be noticed in table (3).

Table 1. The status quo of the present lands' applications of the whole texture under study in 2006

The type of application	Area (Square meters)	Percentage out of the total	Per capita (Square meters)
Residential	437400	35.49	29.15
Commercial potential	126503	10.26	8.43
Service potential	8502	0.69	0.57
The area of market	77440	6.28	5.16
Educational	37550	3.05	2.50
Administrative	42978	3.49	2.86
Culture	12038	0.98	0.80
Sports	15555	1.26	1.04
Tourism	2334	0.19	0.16
Religious	24533	1.99	1.63
Green space	999	0.08	0.07
Medical	11775	0.96	0.78
Urban equipments and installations	234	0.02	0.02
Workshops	8707	0.71	0.58
Transport and warehouse	30853	2.50	2.06
Parking garages	12936	1.05	0.86
Wasteland	71398	5.79	4.76
Street network	310735	25.21	20.71
Total	1232460	100.00	82.13

Source: The reformation plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah in 2006.

Table 2. The applications which are fewer than the normal level in the central texture of the town of Kermanshah in 2006

The type of application	Area (Square meters)	Percentage out of the total	Per capita (Square meters)
Educational	37550	3.05	2.50
Culture	12038	0.98	0.80
Sports	15555	1.26	1.04
Tourism	2334	0.19	0.16
Green space	999	0.08	0.07
Medical	11775	0.96	0.78
Urban equipment and installations	234	0.02	0.02

Source: The reformation plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah in 2006.

Table 3. Some of the applications of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah in 2011

The type of application	Area (Square meters)	Percentage out of the total	Per capita (Square meters)
Educational	37550	3.05	2.50
Culture	12038	0.98	0.80
Sports	15555	1.26	1.04
Tourism	2334	0.19	0.16
Green space	999	0.08	0.07
Medical	11775	0.96	0.78
Urban equipment and installations	234	0.02	0.02

Source: The survey performed by the researcher based on the statistics of the year 2011.

According to table (3), in 2011, the educational application with a per capita of 2.50 square meters, the cultural application with a per capita of 0.80 square meters, the tourism application with a per capita of 0.16 square meters, the green space application with a per capita of 0.07 square meters, the medical application with a per capita of 0.78 square meters and urban equipment and installations with a per capita of 0.02 square meters have devoted 3.05%, 0.98%, 0.19%, 0.96%, 0.08% and 0.02% of the whole range to themselves respectively. Table (3) indicates that following the implementation of the plan, no observable changes have been created in the above-mentioned applications and more to the point, no observable changes have been created in the above-mentioned applications and additionally, there has been an increase in the population and also in the decrepitude of such applications. Due to making sure of the preciseness of the work, the results of the information in tables (2) & (3) will be compared in table (4).

Table 4. A comparison of the tables (2) & (3)

Year	2006			2011		
	Area (Square meters)	Percentage of the total	Per capita (Square meters)	Area (Square meters)	Percentage of the total	Per capita (Square meters)
Educational	37550	3.05	2.50	37550	3.05	2.50
Culture	12038	0.98	0.80	12038	0.98	0.80
Sports	15555	1.26	1.04	15555	1.26	1.04
Tourism	2334	0.19	0.16	2334	0.19	0.16
Green space	999	0.08	0.07	999	0.08	0.07
Medical	11775	0.96	0.78	11775	0.96	0.78
Urban equipment and installations	234	0.02	0.02	234	0.02	0.02

Source: The survey performed by the researcher based on the statistics of the year 2011.

Table 5. The statistical indicators (Mean, Standard deviation, Standard error of mean and the number) of the neighborhood of Gomrok

	Mean	Standard deviation	Standard error of the mean	The number of sample population
The plan's realization level	2.4857	0.38143	0.04265	80

Table 6. The results of one sample T-test regarding the plan's realization level in the neighborhood of Gomrok

	Test Value = 3			Mean difference	Confidence Interval	
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)		Lower limit	Upper limit
the plan's realization level	-12.060	79	0.000	-0.51429	-0.5992	-0.4294

The results of tables (5) and (6) indicate that there exists a significant difference between the observed mean (2.4857) and the theoretical one (3) and also the negativeness of the T value, therefore, it can be verified and supported that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah in the neighborhood of Gomrok has not been able to achieve its objectives and predictions. Based on the results of one sample student t-test in tables (4-23) to (4-34), the first hypothesis of the research states that, " it seems like the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been able to achieve its objectives and predictions" is verified and supported in six stages of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results demonstrate that:

Prior to the implementation of the plan, the most important applications are the physical, social and economic ones which are deprived of educational levels and atmospheres in terms of educational services, in such a manner that there exists a density in the educational atmospheres and even no lands with educational applications have been observed in some of the neighborhoods. The texture is suffering severely from the lack of cultural, tourism, urban installations and equipment and also parking garages. More to the point, no observable changes have been created in the above-mentioned applications and additionally, there has been an increase in the population and also in the decrepitude of such applications. The results of table (4) indicates that the second hypothesis (NOH) is supported i.e. it seems like that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah is not in line or coordinated with physical, social and economic characteristics of the texture.

As it was explained in the beginning of the chapter, to determine and predict the objectives of the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah from the points of view of the residents in this region, a questionnaire was utilized and not to mention, the Transform-compute command was applied for determining the index of the plan's realization in six stages. Then, in the inferential statistics, one sample student t-test was applied to determine whether the plan has reached its target or not. This test answers these questions through comparing the observed mean with the theoretical one. The statistical universe of the research includes the central texture of the town of Kermanshah. The results of the tables indicate that there exists a significant difference between the observed mean and the theoretical one (3) and also the negativeness of the T value, therefore, it can be verified and supported that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been able to achieve its objectives and predictions.

Based on the first hypothesis, the research states that, " It seems that the reformation and reconstruction plan of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been capable of achieving its objectives and anticipations",

which has been verified in six stages of studying. Therefore, the first main hypothesis was supported (H₀). Eventually, both hypotheses were supported and their sub-hypotheses were supported, too. As for the reasons for the lack of success of the plan, such items as a lack of favorable political conditions, lack of managers and urban authorities' trust in participation, imposing the opinions of individuals, time, energy and capital shortages, lack of interest in participation on the part of interfering institutions, lack of establishment of participation and lack of trustees can be named.

Suggestions:

According to the data attained from tables (4) and (34) and given the fact that the hypotheses (H₀) and (H₁) have been supported i.e. the plan of reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah has not been able to reach its goals and projections. More to the point, the plan of reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah is not in line with such factors as physical, social and economic virtues of the texture. The plans of organizations which are relevant to reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of cities should be in a such a manner that result in increasing the quality of living in this range, because According to the findings of the present study, any improvements in the status of reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of cities can result in an increase in social, economic, political welfare, life expectancy and so forth and additionally, it can continuously lead to the maintenance of human capabilities and advantages.

- it is recommended that organizations which are relevant to reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of cities take some actions to revitalize the central texture of cities and create a suitable scenery for people through the agency of an appropriate combination of constructions, providing support for citizens, reducing taxes in the central texture of cities, protecting the less-paid citizens and so forth.
- It is recommended that organizations' plans which are related to reformation and reconstruction of the central texture of cities should be in a such a manner that result in increasing the quality of individuals' social commitment towards each other and the society.

It is recommended that all of the reasons for lack of success in reformation and reconstruction plans of the central texture of the town of Kermanshah should be considered and studied as a separate plan.

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