The Study of Safavi Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, Iran; from the Standpoint of Integrated Conservation and Development Based on Historical Urban Landscape Approach

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ABSTRACT: The historical urban landscape is a new approach towards the historical city as the product of human interaction with micro ecosystem over the passage of time that has recently gained a special position in urban conservation. This paper begins with raising the question that how this approach can be used to solve the challenges of conservation and development of historical cities. Exploring the conservation documents indicate that viewpoint to historical city has shifted from ‘the atomistic perspective to holistic’, ‘static to dynamic’, ‘product-oriented to process-oriented’, ‘conflict with micro-ecosystem to interact with micro-ecosystem’, and ‘the contrast of conservation and development’ to the integration of them. The purpose of this paper is to review the northern Safavi Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz in the city master plan to find out how the street conservation and development is based on historical urban landscape. The data for this research were collected through observations and documents review and were analyzed qualitatively. The survey results show that the new doctrines of urban conservation seek to integrate conservation and development based on historical urban landscape; however, the definition of the Historical city boundary in the master plan of Shiraz is still based on static and atomistic doctrines that consider historical cities limited to the historical wall. This is while the northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz which was the main historical axis of the city during the Safavi period was located outside the historical wall of the city. Not paying attention to this street has caused the gradual destruction of this historical urban landscape, despite the individual protection of some of its elements. Reviewing the case study based on the historical urban landscape approach reveals the need for a reconsideration and revision of the developments urban plans.

Keywords: Heritage, Authenticity, Conservation, Cultural Landscape, Stability, Dynamism.

INTRODUCTION

Shifting the traditional patterns of conservation to change management indicates the considerable effort that is being made to determine new management patterns and processes. Integrating time (the past and present), as well as integrating natural and cultural heritage can be considered as the fundamental concepts in the preparation and codification of new management plans (Bandarin & Van Oers, 2012, p. 191). This paper, by using qualitative research methodology, logical reasoning strategy and content analysis technique; the historical urban landscape approach, as a new viewpoint toward historical city, is reviewed in the international documents and conventions; in order to analyze how to integrate the conservation of historical cities with the development that inevitably
occurs in it. Then, by using case study strategy and reading and evidential observation tools, the historical background and current status of the northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz is introduced. This paper reviews and analyzes the capability of the realization of integrated conservation and development based on the historical urban landscape approach in the northern Chahar-Bagh street.

**The Review and Analysis of the Historical Urban Landscape Approach**

The historical urban landscape is the product of the interaction of culture and nature in the context of a city over the passage of time. The human culture, forming an urban cultural landscape, gets affected by the natural context; and also affects it. Hence, in the formation process of a historical urban landscape; both micro-ecosystem and culture change. So it can be said that HUL is the result of change. But it is obvious that achieving such a definition for city in urban conservation documents of UNESCO world heritage centre which has managed to include the dynamics of culture and nature, does not occur at once; nearly eighty years of international consultation and efforts and the achievements of various worldwide experiences has provided the required context for its manifestation. In table 1, the charters, recommendations, and documents, in which the issue of historical city has been noted, are introduced in chronological order and their most important points are examined.

**Table 1. The International Conventions, Charters, and Recommendations in the Field of the Historical Urban Landscape**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name of Document</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>The Most Important Points of the Documents Related to the Concept of Historical Urban Landscape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vienna Memorandum</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>- Presentation of the basic definition for historical urban landscape;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Identification of the dynamic nature and living historical city as a principle;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Calling attention to urban landscape, urban heritage, and valuable layers of the historical city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Regional Seminar on Historical Urban Landscapes in Central and Eastern Europe</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>- Management and conservation of the centers of historical cities registered in the world heritage list;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Bringing up the relationship of historical urban landscape with cultural landscape;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Conservation tools of the historical urban landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Recommendation of Zanzibar (Recommendation on the Application of the Concept of the Historical Urban Landscape in the African Context)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>- The emphasis on the application of landscape-based approach;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The emphasis on the application of the historical urban landscape in environmental planning and management schemes;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The integration of urban development based on cultural values with sustainable regional development;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The relationship between the historical city, its territory, and developed parts of the city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Recommendation on the Historical Urban Landscape</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>- Presentation of the supplementary definition for historical urban landscape;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Giving attention to comprehensive and integrated approach to identification, evaluation, conservation and management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Giving attention to historical urban landscape in the context of sustainable development;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Giving attention to the dynamics;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Giving attention to both current and future generations simultaneously.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Application of the Historical Urban Landscape (HUL) Approach in China</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Key topics include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The definition of historical urban landscape;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The three aspects of historical urban landscape approach including change management, and improvement of living conditions for local communities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Development of tools for application of historical urban landscape approach.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the conglomeration of documents related to historical urban landscape, it can be concluded that the newly established concept of historical urban landscape plans a different attitude about the city than it ever has been in conservation international documents, especially in documents of the UNESCO world heritage centre. As Jokilehto 2010 notes that in the past thirty years of international conventions, charters and documents, a more comprehensive definition of the city is obtained. The bases of this definition are on the landscape-based approach toward the city which considers the city as a historical continuity of layering culture and nature that its dynamics inherent has created a new attitude in the conservative doctrines. This paper continues its way attempting to answer this question that how historical urban landscape approach can be applied in order to manage and solve the challenges of development in historical cities.

How Can the Historical Urban Landscape Approach be used to Integrate Conservation and Development?

Integrating conservation and development is a later approach in response to the numerous challenges that historical cities face in the conservation process of the changeable developing context. According to Trow, the member of english heritage, “the countryside of the future cannot be a replica of the countryside of today or yesterday- nor would that be desirable”. For him, “the challenge is to strike the right balance by planning and managing change in order to retain the best and most significant of historical features and allow the historical grain of the landscape to guide its future evolution” (Trow, 2002, p. 8). This view has been raised when the traditional theories of conservation, which considered the historical city as high-value products that have passed its birth and maturation process and tried to have this precious product with minimal change for the future generation; faced successive failures in practice in different parts of the world. And this main default in urban conservation was generally accepted at the international level that “cities change, sometimes in ways that are faster or more unpredictable than the planners expect or can manage” (Bandarin & Van Oers, 2012, p. 190). Therefore, UNESCO world heritage centre accepted the change in the idea (Bandarin & Van Oers, 2005, p. 53) to the point that Bandarin, the head of the UNESCO world heritage centre in 2010, declared that: “The latest challenge to UNESCO world heritage centre is to preserve the value of the changeable environment” (Bandarin, 2010). Thus, the concept of change management found a special place in the new approaches to conservation.

Meanwhile, the result of international experience in conservation of historical cities revealed the need to achieve a landscape-based approach for integrating culture and nature in the definition and management of historical cities. Thus, historical urban landscape approach was designed as a new method that subsumes all aspects of conservation in an integrated framework. This approach sees the city in connection with many other cases and provides a management tool for conservation of urban heritage values as a whole and its integration with development goals. This approach is an attempt to break the wall of separation between the conservation and development that considers the changes as the inherent part of the formation process and the survival of the dynamic and alive phenomenon of city in its own natural context. Thus, historical urban landscape has a holistic view to identification, planning, implementation and management of the interaction with ecosystem that sees the historical city as the continuous and indivisible phenomenon at the heart of past, present and future axis. So, from this point of view conservation and development of components which are simultaneously combined, integrated, and indivisible can be named as conservation management. In short, based on historical urban landscape approach, the necessary condition for the success of strategies for integrating conservation and development is ensuring the sustainability of the interaction of cultural and nature over the passage of time. In the following, the northern axis of Safavi Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz is presented to evaluate the success rate of urban projects in achieving conservation and integrated development based on historical urban landscape approach. This axis, located outside Shiraz historical walls during Safavi period, has been extended across the end of today’s Vakil Bazaar to the north and continued to Qur’an Gate as the main
gateway to the city which is located in Allah-O-Akbar Gorge in the north of Shiraz. Both sides of the street were surrounded by the formal gardens.

**The Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, Iran**

Shiraz is one of the historical cities of Iran from the pre-Islamic period; that has always been known for its gardens. The formation origin of Shiraz in relatively dry plateau of Iran, more than anything else, is based on its viability due to be extended at a plain with a relatively high water, fertile soil, and air conditioning that provides a suitable natural context for gardening in this city. In addition, the indescribable interest of people in Shiraz, called Shirazi, for gardening has helped to expand the gardens in this context throughout the history. This interaction of Shirazi people with micro-ecosystem has been a sustainable engagement that passes from generation to generation and chest to chest. Shiraz has experienced one of its most prosperous times in the Safavi periods. In this era, Shiraz was the center of focus of the Safavi rulers for two major reasons: First, because of the strategic importance of Shiraz - for the king that would rule over the entire country of Iran. And on the other hand, because of its proximity to the city of Isfahan which was the Safavi capital. Herbert, the english tourist who traveled to Iran with the accompanying delegation at the time of Shah Abbas, described Shiraz as an old city and the country’s second city in terms of beauty and glory at that time (Pope, 1965).

The power of Safavi kingdom was reflected in the structure of Shiraz (Bonyady, 1992). Among the main elements which were added to the structure of Shiraz in the Safavi period is the ‘Chahar-Bagh street’. The Chahar -Bagh street is a pattern in street design that was formed for the first time in Safavi period and its finest example was used in Isfahan. This street with many government gardens around it was designed as a public urban space. About the Safavi Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz, some experts have pointed to one Chahar-Bagh street that had been stretched from the historical center to the north, perpendicular to the ‘Dry River’ from ‘Isfahan Gate’ to ‘Allah-O-Akbar Gorge’ (Bazregar, 2003, p. 104), and others experts have referred to two streets, one northern street was perpendicular to the river and another western street was extended to the west and along the river (Tavassoly & Bonyady, 1992, p. 164). As shown in Figs. 1 & 2, both of these streets which were outside of the historical city’s wall at the time of their formation, are currently located within the city boundary as a result of the city expansion. The focus of this paper is on the northern Chahar-Bagh street. Despite the lack of attention to this street after the Safavi period, especially due to developments started from the pahlavi era and have continued to the present day, there are still valuable historical monuments such as ‘Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge’, ‘Ali Ibn Hamzeh Holly Shrine’, ‘Silo Garden’, ‘the National Garden’, ‘Jahan Nama Garden’, ‘Sepah Garden’, ‘the New Garden’, ‘Baba-Kuhi’, ‘Gahvareyeh Did’, ‘Allah-O-Akbar Gorge’, and ‘the Qur’an Gate’. Fig. 3 shows these historical elements on the current map of Shiraz; in Figs. 4 to 12 historical and contemporary images of this street are displayed.

![Fig. 1. The Location of the Northern and Western Chahar-Bagh Street in Relation to the Historical District in Safavi Period and the City of Shiraz in 2016, (Authors Based on RMPSH, 2007; Bonyady, 1992)](image-url)
Fig. 2. The Historical City of Shiraz Limited to the Historical Wall
(The Rehabilitation Plan for Cultural-Historical Scope of Shiraz, 1992)

Fig. 3. Significant Natural and Cultural Elements of the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz which Still Exist
(Authors Based on RMPSH, 2007)
Fig. 4. View from Allah-O-Akbar Gorge to the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, After Islamic Revolution of Iran, UDRO

Fig. 5. The Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, View from the Adjacent Heights of Qur’an Gate to the Historical City, Work of Chardin French Traveler 1671 BC. (345 Years Ago), (Iranians Illustrated Documentation, Fig. 10 Cited in Sedaghat Kish, 2004, p. 173)
Fig. 6. The Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, View from Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge to Qur’an Gate (South to North) in the Qajar Period (1796-1925); Qur’an Gate is Visible at the End Point of this View, (DCNLFP)

Fig. 7. The Current State of the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, View from the Middle of the Street to Qur’an Gate (South to North); Qur’an Gate is Visible at the End Point of this View, (Authors, 2015)

Fig. 8. Hafez Tomb Garden in the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz (After Islamic Revolution of Iran), (UDRO)
The Study of Safavi Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz, Iran

Fig. 9. View from Baba-Kuhi to the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street (North to South); Jahan-Nama Garden, New Garden, Ali Ibn Hamzeh Holly Shrine, Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge, Dry River, and Historical City of Shiraz are Visible (Before Islamic Revolution of Iran), (DCNLFP)

Fig. 10. View from Silo Garden Tower to the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street (North to South); Ali Ibn Hamzeh Holly Shrine, Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge, Dry River, and Historical City of Shiraz are Visible (After Islamic Revolution of Iran), (UDRO)
Fig. 11. View from Silo Garden Tower to the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street (South to North); National Garden, Silo Garden, Hafez Tomb Garden, Sepah Garden, New Garden, Jahan Nama Garden, and Qur’an Gate are Visible (After Islamic Revolution of Iran), (UDRO)

Fig. 12. View from the Quran Gate to the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street (North to South); The Dome of the Ali Ibn Hamzeh Shrine is Visible at the End Point of this View, (UDRO)
Having presented the historical and cultural significance of the northern Chahar-Bagh area and its position over the passage of time, the most important conservation and urban development schemes of Shiraz which include the northern Chahar-Bagh street are introduced. In addition, one of the main schemes which is called ‘revision of the master plan of Shiraz (RMPSH)’ and known as ‘structural-strategic planning scheme of Shiraz’ is analyzed in terms of the ability to realize the integrated conservation and development approach.

**Reviewing the Condition of Conservation and Development of the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz in Urban Plans**

This section of the paper attempts to examine the conservation and development in the northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz. Studies show that since the city plans have been presented in a new method, during both the pahlavi and the Islamic revolution periods, different organizations and institutions have been involved in the management process of the northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz and its elements. The most important contemporary urban conservation and development projects of Shiraz which also include the northern Chahar-Bagh street are as follows:

- The first and second comprehensive plan of Shiraz (1975 & 1989)
- The rehabilitation plan for cultural-historical scope of Shiraz (1992)
- The master plan of Shiraz (1995)
- The improvement plan for cultural-historical scope of Shiraz (1998)
- The tourist attractions plan of Shiraz (2002)
- The comprehensive plan for green space of Shiraz (2003)
- The revision of the master plan of Shiraz- The structural-strategic plan of Shiraz (RMPSH) (2007)

The results of reviewing projects show that only in the ‘The Tourist Attractions Plan of Shiraz’, performed in 2002 with the aim of ‘preserving the visual corridors with high quality of the natural environment and strategic landmarks’, the need for a comprehensive view to conservation and urban development of the northern Chahar-Bagh street can be observed; however, this plan like other projects does not directly refer to this street. ‘The Rehabilitation Plan for Cultural-Historical Scope of Shiraz’ (1992) and ‘The Improvement Plan for Cultural-Historical Scope of Shiraz’ (1998) that particularly investigated the historical context, from the atomistic view have not considered the Chahar-Bagh street in the spatial organization of the historical city of Shiraz and believed that historical scope is limited to the context of the historical wall as well as single buildings out of this context. Low attention to this rich historical axis is such that in the master plan of Shiraz done by Naqsh-e-Jahan-Pars consulting engineers in 1995, 15 meters widening is suggested for this street that already has a width of 20 meters; it means the destruction of the historical structure of the street. In following, the project of RMPSH done by the Shahr-O-Khaneh planners, architects and engineers in 2007 will be examined more closely. This project with an analytical look at previous plans tried to improve their weaknesses and is known as the most important urban project for the current implementation measures.

According to the objectives of this paper, the plan report was first examined. Then 30 main points about Chahar-Bagh street were extracted. The criterion for choosing these points is the historical urban landscape approach and the components that are effective in defining it. The points are presented in table 1. These points were classified into three scales: Large (the city of Shiraz), middle (the northern Chahar-Bagh street area street), and small (elements of the street). Sixteen of these points are directly related and fourteen of them are indirectly related to the northern Chahar-Bagh street. Table 2 summarizes the positive and negative aspects of these points on the conservation and development of the historical urban landscape of this street, and shows for what points the plan has proposed an integrated conservation and development approach.
Table 2. Review of RMPSH from the Viewpoint of the Integrated Conservation and Development Approach Based on Historical Urban Landscape Approach in the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street of Shiraz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>The Most Important Points Emphasized on the RMPSH</th>
<th>The Type of Relationship with the Northern Chahar-Bagh Street</th>
<th>Strength / Weakness</th>
<th>Integrated Conservation and Development Approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Process-oriented view in evaluating the values of natural and man-made environment;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Long-term view in evaluating the values of natural and man-made environment;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Simultaneous attention to both natural and man-made elements of urban landscape;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>The need to recognition of cultural heritage of Shiraz and their surrounding area;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Attention to the formation and evolution processes of Shiraz;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Considering the meaning of the people of Shiraz mental images of landscape physical elements;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Referring to the connection and blend between the living space with nature as a strong tendency in Shirazi people and its impact on of the city appearance in previous periods;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Attention to garden as an element in the urban landscape of Shiraz;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Attention to the city expansion as the cause of gardens destruction;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Referring to the Dry River as an important edge in the city landscape;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Referring to the mountains and northern hills of Shiraz as the most clearly defined edge by the mountain;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Referring to forest park of Gahvareyeh Did, Baba-kuhi and Quran Gate as green entrance of Shiraz;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of attention to the Gahvareyeh Did, Baba-kuhi and Quran Gate based on historical review;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Referring to Isfahan-Shiraz axis as one of the tourist entrance gateway to the city with the proper green space;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of attention to Isfahan-Shiraz axis as one of the tourist entrance gateway to the city based on historical review;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Consideration of Quran Gate-Bazar axis as a corridor with cultural-tourism and economic functions;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Consideration of the Quran Gate complex as a landmark that dominates the city and the plain in the entrance of the city;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of attention to Chahar-Bagh street as the North-South green corridor;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of attention to the historical northern Chahar-Bagh street as an integrated whole;</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Does Not Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>The emphasis on the visual and ecological corridors ('Quran Gate-Bazar’ axis and ‘Dry River axis');</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of particular attention to the northern Chahar-Bagh gardens as an interconnected collection;</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Applies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Referring to the conflict and contradiction in maintaining ecological values of gardens and taking advantage of the economic value of land as an incentive for non-normative land-use change of gardens;  

Referring to ‘Hafeziyeh’ (Hafez Tomb) regardless of its location in relation to the northern Chahar-Bagh street;  

Lack of attention to ‘Allah-O-Akbar Gorge’ and the special view it has toward the city;  

Atomistic viewpoints toward Quran Gate complex;  

Referring to Jahan-Nama Garden as an example of the interaction of people of Shiraz with nature;  

Atomistic viewpoints in reference to Jahan-Nama Garden as an example of the interaction of people of Shiraz with nature without regarding its role in the northern Chahar-Bagh street;  

Attention to the Jahan-Nama Garden and Hafeziyeh Tomb-Garden as the green spaces with dominant ecological and environmental functions;  

Consideration of Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge in the main entrance of the city to the city center;  

Consideration of Ali Ibn Hamzeh Bridge in the main entrance of the city to the city center, without any reference to the Northern Chahar-Bagh street;  

The analysis of the above table particularly rows number 19 and 21, shows that this rich historical axis has been neglected due to the atomistic view in cognition of upstream projects and has not been considered as an integrated axis. Its examples include management measures such as the development of Ali Ibn Hamzeh Shrine, the restoration of Jahan Nama Garden, the construction of documentation center of fars, the construction of famous people museum, the construction of Baba-Kuhi park within the area of Quran Gate, the convert of the street in front Hafeziyeh to crossing pedestrian and etc. All these examples are indications of atomistic doctrine and done regardless of historical character and their role in structuring historical city of Shiraz. Such management measures are indicative of the failure to achieve integrated conservation and development approach. Although rows number 1 to 11 of table 2 show the integrated conservation and development approach at large-scale in Shiraz, the approach has been considered with very little attention in the middle and small scales (based on the analysis of rows number 12 to 30). This means that the integration of conservation and development could not be achieved in the northern Chahar-Bagh street.  

For instance, comparison of rows 10 and 29 shows that although the role of the Dry River as a natural defense barrier in the north of the historical city of Shiraz on a large scale has been taken into consideration, at small scale Ali Ibn Hamzeh bridge, as the main point of passage across the river has been ignored (Fig. 4). As the study of rows 23, 24, 25, 27 & 28 of table 2, indicates that the main drawback of this plan is ignoring the Chahar-Bagh street, as the connecting axis of the natural and cultural elements shaping this historical urban landscape shown in Fig. 3.  

Also, the study of rows 15, 18 & 30 indicates that the lack of an integrated plan for conserving this street and the development of the city has made another street (located west of Chahar-Bagh street) the main entrance to Shiraz from Isfahan. This transfer has caused the elements located in the Chahar-Bagh street not to be affected by the negative effects of development; however, it has undermined the position of this street in the city’s spatial organization as one of the main corridors in Shiraz (Figs. 6 & 7). Row 13 of table 2 shows another drawback that the intangible values of the elements of this street, such as the role of Allah-O-Akbar Gorge in travelers mental image, the look-out at the hill near the gorge (Gahvareyeh Did), and the defensive aspect of the Quran Gate for the city have been less considered. The plan emphasized more on tangible values (Figs. 9, 10 & 12).  

Under the influence of conservative and developmental
measures, the historical cities are subject to change at the different macro and micro levels. Although the integrated conservation and development attempts that conservation and development measures concentrate on a common goal and ultimately adapt to the change management, but the reality is that in the city of Shiraz conservation measures in the urban scale are generally limited to the context inside the historical city walls. Thus, as a result of atomistic view to the city, the different aspects of integrated conservation and development cannot be achieved in practice. Atomistic view to the historical city of Shiraz cannot reveal all aspects of the historical town because the city itself is a product of a complex and multi-layered process and for its recognition needs to explore the city from the point of view of historical urban landscape. Obviously, historical urban landscape of Shiraz cannot be restricted to the historical wall because it is the product of the people interaction with micro-ecosystem over the passage of time.

CONCLUSION

Analysis of urban development plans in Shiraz demonstrates that the conservation and development planning schemes of Shiraz that involve the northern Chahar-Bagh street were not developed on the natural and cultural bases of historical urban landscape approach. Review and analysis of RMPSH based on ‘integrated conservation and development’ and ‘historical urban landscape’ approaches in this paper, indicated that although it seems that the integrated conservation and development purpose of the plan is followed in large-scale but gradually its significance is reduced in middle and small scale; as far as the Northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz even at the cognition stage is limited to the exploring of its valuable components and gardens due to the atomistic doctrine. So it is not investigated and planned as an integrated whole. Therefore, it is necessary that the objectives of the Master Plan of Shiraz to be used beyond the theoretical level and in small projects in the northern Chahar-Bagh street. To accomplish this, there is a need for a deep understanding of the natural-cultural context of the street throughout history.

The studies also show that the performed measures in the northern Chahar-Bagh street of Shiraz do not have the requisite link with the city limited to the historical wall and natural environment of the city. In other words, in the best condition, the street values are identified as a separate scope, so planning, design and implementation in the street have a lower level of sensitivity in comparison to areas inside the historical wall of the city. Whereas, the northern Chahar-Bagh street connects the city that is limited to the city historical wall to Quran Gate as the main entrance of Shiraz, and therefore ignoring it would face the review of the Historical city with fundamental problems. Therefore, it is necessary to review the city’s historical boundaries and consider the northern Chahar-Bagh street as a part of the historical center of Shiraz. Such revision in the historical center boundary is not limited to this street and should include the western Chahar-Bagh street and other natural and cultural foundations of Shiraz, which requires having a holistic viewpoint.

The result of reviewing the case study shows that first step to achieving integrated conservation and development is the identification of those values that must be protected. Then the development should be conducted in a way that while preserving those values, they will also be reinforced. Through limiting the definition of the historical city to a city within the historical wall, some values of the historical city are not subject to recognition and conservation. So, it is clear that during urban development projects they would be neglected and undermined. One of the most important obstacles in the integration of conservative-developmental measures in historical cities of Iran is the determination of the historical city scope through the historical wall as the criterion. Thus, its change could be the first step toward the achievement of integrated conservation and development. This matter needs the change of view toward the historical city in the theoretical and practical approaches. Historical urban landscape approach through an integrated and holistic look at the historical city can be considered as an effective way in the integration of conservation and development; otherwise, there is a fear that the integration of conservation and development would remain as a theory and not be practical in reality.

REFERENCES


Declaration of Savannah. (2013). Savannah Declaration on the Historical Center and the Next City, 4 May, Savannah, Georgia, USA.


