Open Space as Departure Point for Flexible Spatial Configuration of Housing, Iranian Large-Scale Housing Models Since 1972

**Keywords:** Traditional Persian Housing Architecture, Spatial Configuration, Open Space, Changeable Space, Polyvalency, Transition.

**Architecture Department – Chair of Housing**

**Area of Research:** The Architectural Project and its Foundations - Buildings and interiors: types, models, contexts and people

**Research Summary:** Every year there are needs of many new houses, constructed in developing countries mainly in the form of large-scale housing models, to respond the growth of urban households inside and outside cities. Affordable housing is one of these models to solve the problem of families with low incomes, providing long-term settlement and adequate accommodation. This means that house designers are faced with the task of giving form to a shelter, which over time should meet the changing needs of inhabitants and their living habits. At the same time, designers have to determine the spatial layout of buildings, considering housing quality and sustainable development, by configuration of interior spaces in relation to exterior environment. Consequently, “Flexibility” and “relation with open space” are the keywords, if architects deal with the notions of affordability and sustainability in housing design.

**Main Question:** To what extent has the concept of *Pairidaeza* constituted the frame in design of affordable housing in Iran since 1972?

**Research Methodology:** This research attempts to discover the origins of spatial flexibility and understand its relationship to open space, considered as fundamental quality of space for the matter of designing for unknown. This means the abilities to change and adapt interior spaces regarding exterior spaces as well as their mutual relationships in the context of housing by users. This approach is conceivable by exploring the phenomena of polyvalency and frame theory thorough analytical research on case studies and critical reading on configuration of traditional Persian housing architecture, as an ideal model for living.

**Key Publications:**


*Sedighi, S.M.A, "Phenomenology of light in perception of space"*

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