Rethinking the architecture of the Bazaar
(A critical reading on the primary spatial idea of the bazaar and its persistency)

Keywords: bazaar, Infrastructural archetype, territory, Iranian city, persistency

Architecture Department / Public Building

Area of Research: Design and History

Research Summary: Bazaar has been described and romanticized by different travelers and urban historians; usually as an astonishing urban structure which seems to be too complicated to be grasped easily. This is while it is said to be the backbone of [Iranian/Islamic] cities' social system and the pedestal of economic and social life of its citizens. This research aims at developing a theoretical framework for studying the architecture of bazaar within the notion of Iranian city. The intermediate position of the bazaar, its relation to the territory and being a fore of public and collective, movement and place, architecture and city, deviates the study of the bazaar from pure typological or urban morphological studies and demands a simultaneous attention to the people as well as the numerous interrelation within its environment to be able to comprehend the changing nature and the reality of the bazaar through the time. That means the possibility of a generic structure which might respond to various enquiries. An infrastructure within the architecture of city which enables, on one hand, the connection, integration as well as confrontation within the city and on the other hand, establishing a relation through the unfolding of its economic administration.

Research Methodology: The research combines the archive and interpretive- historical study with certain case studies (as an object oriented research). While the use of primary materials (literary and representative) are considered of importance. To develop a proper theoretical framework related to the context of study, parallel to the literary and historical research, the similar case studies are being studied.

Key Publications:

Main Question: How the architecture of bazaar can be studied in relation to the notion of the Iranian city?

Deliverables: Developing a theoretical framework to Iranian bazaar within the notion of Iranian cities and their relation within their territories.

Link(s): www.tudelft-architecture.nl/chairs/public-building/staff

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