

**Professional scientific sessions for art, architecture and urban planning Thursday evenings  
Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers**

**Date: 29.09.2016**

**Title: Exam on architecture, from past to our days**

**Speakers and panel members: Mr. M. M. Mahmoudi, Mr. Y. Hooshvar, Mr. B. Janipour  
and Mrs. A. Vaezi**

Beginning the meeting Mr. Mahmoudi presented the speakers that accessed the university in '60-s, '80-s and 2000.

Talking about the persons who had the responsibility to head the faculty of fine arts, Mr. Mahmoudi named A. Godar, M. Foroughi, H. Sayhoon, M. A. Minfenderesky, M. Koassar, M.R. Lotfipour, H. Ayatollahi, G. Mojtahedzadeh, M. Chamran, M.K. Seifian, M.H. Jebini, M. M. Azizi, M. Habibi and Mr. S. Heydari.

Mr. Mahmoudi presented the photographs and in case of lack the works of the presented persons, also the photograph of some of the first students. He also talked about what they have done during their professional activity.

The second speaker was Mr. Y. Hooshvar who began his speech reviewing his memories to the periods before and during and after the Islamic Revolution, expressing his happiness to participate to such a meeting. It was very touching when he talked about the memories regarding the Islamic Revolution, when the students participated actively to the fight and popular insurrection against the regime of Shah. Continuing his speech he told about the history of the foundation of the faculty of fine arts, that happened during the last period of Qajar era, when many students were permitted to go and study in the European universities, in order to transfer the modern knowledge, like architecture, painting, sculpture, music etc... into the Iranian society. The beginning of this process was the foundation of the first school of music in 1934, followed by other faculties that included also the architecture. The date of foundation of the faculty of architecture was 1939, when 20 students began their studies without any preliminary exam of admission. The necessary condition was to have frequented technical superior schools. Of course the fact that the students were admitted without any exam of admission was claimed by many responsible persons.

Mr. Hooshvar presented the different steps that followed the foundation of the University of fine arts during the first period, who played a fundamental role, who provided the necessary financial sources etc.

The second period in 1942-1943 is when the students must have a preliminary preparation and knowledge regarding the architecture and have to sustain an exam of admission that included the relative matters such as mathematics, trigonometry, physics and design. This process continued until 1949 when Mr. Hooshvar accessed the University.

Talking about his personal experience he explained the teaching and studying process during the different levels that the students followed and how it was useful and successful for their artistic and professional preparation.

To achieve better results the administration of the university programmed and organized a group journey for the students to Europe, in order to create the conditions for the students to better know and understand the Europeans' achievements regarding the arts in general and architecture in particular. The series of the journeys continued to other countries like Iraq headed by architect Sayhoon.

The third speaker was Mr. B. Janipour who began his speech talking the admission exam to the university after the Islamic Revolution in 1984 preceded by four years of universities closure. 1984 was the first year when the students of architecture were admitted to the university. He told about his personal experience, how and why he decided to study architecture, in a period when it wasn't clear what really meant architecture. He explained that in that period there were three universities (University of Tehran, Beheshti and Elm-o-San'at) that organized admission exams. Because of the previous closure of the universities there were many applicants that had to pass two phases of exams that included general and test levels. After this level the students that had succeeded the exam had to pass an exam regarding specifically architecture designing a traditional yard, an alley that hosts a mosque and another design of a rural area and village. For all the mentioned arguments the students had 3-4 hours to complete the requested works.

When the students were authorized to access the university they had the chance to select different universities, and most of the people preferred the universities in Tehran. Mr. Janipour talked about his first professors and the others that came after the first generation of professors. Of course the teaching methods were the continuation of the pre-revolution period.

Mr. Janipour talked about the period of war, how the students participated to the defense of their country, how some of them to live the studies and the country because they didn't want to combat the war.

Ending his speech Mr. Janipour told how he was graduated from the university and how long it took to complete definitely his studies on architecture in 2002.

The fourth speaker was Mrs. A. Vaezi who began her speech talking about the critics that the professors turn to the students that are not able to design properly, because they don't have the necessary backup education regarding the study of architecture. The main problem is that in the world there are more than 50 architectural teaching directions that all of them pursue to achieve a common goal which is to have sustainable architecture between men and the environment. In many cases this goal remains unreachable.

She explained that in '80s and '90s the students of architecture learned how to develop the design process from the beginning to the completion, how to work freehand or with CAD. Each student learned individually the process and there wasn't an interrelation with different groups and students. Because of the high numbers of the students there wasn't the possibility to deepen the learning process, the alternative chance was to contact and get help from other students in order to achieve better results.

Mrs. Vaezi believed that during her studies maybe the student could do an acceptable freehand or CAD design, but nobody paid really attention if the content of the work as an architectural value was valid and important. In other words the external aspect was more considered than the main content. The problem that many of the students of architecture face is that when they complete their studies, maybe they know the theory of architecture, but they are not able to design, to create an architectural work, based on technique, imagination and other principal factors. In her opinion the gap is created because the students don't know enough about the environment, the urban planning and sociology. Their works must be reviewed, controlled and filtered by different groups with different views. In her opinion there must be an interaction between the student and the professors, in order to enrich the general knowledge and culture of the student regarding the entire process that the architecture must face.

Concluding her speech Mrs. Vaezi talked about Wikipedia where it is possible to get the necessary information about any argument, without limitation for the use or spread.