

Professional scientific sessions for art, architecture and urban planning Thursday evenings

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 19.11.2015

Title: Architecture teaching and instruction in Iran, quality or quantity?

Speakers and panel members: Mr. A. Qahari, Mr. M.R. Soltandoust and Mr. N. Norouzi

The first speaker was Mr. A. Qahari who began his speech considering that the activity of 800 faculties of architecture is not a tragedy, because at the same time there are many students studying in the universities of the neighbouring countries, where there is no control on the quality and methods of learning and teaching. This is the reason that when this group of students come back to Iran, their preparation has not the proper links with the Iranian architecture, culture and history, causing the loss of links with our identity and history.

Talking about the quality on the educational process Mr. Qahari said that the excessive number of faculties is not a reason for the teaching level, because when there were just three faculties, the problem of quality existed in the same way and nobody paid enough attention to the quality level. In his opinion one of the important reasons is the Iranian revolution, because many teachers left the country, creating a serious lack.

Mr. Qahari believes that the problems existing on the Iranian architecture depend on the policies of the governors that from the Safavid era they ignored that they could have on the protection of the arts like it happened in Europe. Unfortunately the Iranian cities are not anymore a reflection of the past, because the architects and the planners didn't follow the routs linking the present with the past.

Mr. M.R. Soltandoust was the second speaker who believed that the excess of quantity permits selection of the best experts, who find their proper position on the market. Mr. Soltandoust expressed the idea that in many fields there is a lack of instruction that are reflected in a negative way on the quality of the buildings. In his opinion the students that should learn technical and electrical principles regarding the quality of the building don't receive what is really necessary for their professional future, and this the reason that the new buildings have not the quality level requested by the local and international standards. One of the most important lacks in his opinion is that the different faculties don't work in coordination following the same general policy regarding the instruction and educational process, so every faculty has a different way to prepare the students.

Mr. Soltandoust showed pictures where the ignorance and the irresponsibility of the builders where reflected.