

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

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 18.09.2014

Title: The Restoration of the Dowlat Abad Garden

Speakers and panel members: Mr. P. Talae, Mr. E. Mokhtari, Mr. H. Moslehi

A summary of the speeches is presented as follows:

The first speaker was Mr. P. Talae began his speech showing pictures. First of all he presented the geographical location of Dowlat Abad garden, situated in the city of Yazd. Talking about the foundation of the Garden Mr. Talae explained that the garden was built in the 15th century and is one of the most beautiful examples of the Afshar and Zand dynasties era's architecture. After the history Karim khan Zand spent 40 days in this garden. During its long life the garden has been subject to many changes, especially regarding the decorations. During the kingdom of Ahmad Shah (Qajar), the garden has been used as barracks and made many changes to adapt the garden for the stay of the soldiers. The majority of the damages caused to the garden occurred in this period. During the pre-revolution period the garden was assigned to the scouts organization and just in 1973 the garden was restored by the Iranian national organization for the protection of the Iranian historic monuments, and the monuments began to have its main role as a national monument.

The second speaker was Mr. E. Mokhtari who stressed the importance of the Iranian garden in general. None of the researchers and historians that study the history of the architecture in the world, cannot ignore the importance of the Iranian garden that is one of the principle elements of the Iranian architecture, as part of the Iranian cultural heritage. Mr. Mokhtari spoke about the evolution of the Iranian garden from the Achemenians era in Pasargad to the present Parke Shahr in Tehran. During all the centuries and the numerous transformations, the Iranian garden maintain its style and continues to be recognizable , in spite of the forms variety(The Chahr Bagh, Baghe Takht, Baghe Mazar,) the Iranian garden maintains its particular manifestations and many of the Iranian gardens have been recreated in the Iranian carpets.

Mr. Mokhtari finished his speech classifying the different elements that form the Iranian garden phenomenon, that are as follows.

- 1-The location of the garden (that influences the characteristics of the garden).
- 2-The water and water sources.
- 3-The boundary walls.
- 4-The geometrical characteristics of the garden.

5-the building of the garden.

6-The plants and their positioning in the garden area.

7-The water movement.

8-The sounds and the odors influenced by the movement of the water.

The third speaker was Mr. H. Moslehi that spoke about the garden of Dowlat Abad focusing on the lighting characteristics. He shown and explained how the lighting in this garden and its building is particular and genius, especially in the ceiling lighting, that it is not similar to the traditional solutions.in the central part of the building the widows have been excluded, but the sunlight penetrates in the interior throw a series of channels, filtering the strong desert light in a pleasant and soft light in the building.