

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

Date: 02.03.2016

Title: The culture, ceremonies, literature and architecture in the ancient Norouz

Speakers and panel members: Mrs. K. Keshavarzi, Mrs. Q.Karamati and Mr. D. Farhoud

Beginning her speech Mr. K. Keshavarzi expressed the idea that because the Iranians lived closed to the nature, they were very careful about nature, they knew its rhythm, feeling that it was part of the universal rhythm. The most important event in a year was the Norouz that was celebrated by the ancient Iranians and transmitted to our days.

Mrs. Keshavarzi focused on three aspects of the ceremony-event that are the epic, worldview and ceremonial.

One of the most important questions in her opinion was how after many thousand years and aggressions these ceremonies are still alive? Which were the reasons that allowed the repetition of the ceremonies for thousands of years. Reporting some content of the Avesta (the holy text of the pre Islamic Iranians) Mrs. Keshavarzi reported some information about the argument regarding the Iranians' gene, that is part of a divine and universal power and everyone that realize good acts can reach higher grades in the spiritual life.

Reporting Mr. Shariati, she stressed on the fact that there is a strict relation between the pre Islamic and Islamic era, telling how Islamic events happened exactly in the days of Norouz and this is the reason that it has a special meaning for the Shia Iranians.

The second speaker was Mrs. Karamati who talked about water sources and what it meant for the ancient Iranians. Talking about the technology that permitted the creation of ghanats (subterranean channels) network, she stressed the fact that it was a big technological achievement realized in the Iranian plateau. After some German geographers that studied the geological conditions, the creation of growth of a civilization in the Iranian plateau would be impossible because of the natural flow of water sources out of the territory, but the Iranian engineers succeeded to realize an impossible enterprise. Presenting the Iranian natural characteristics Mrs. Karamati the different climates, turning back to what water sources meant for the Iranians, as a source of light and life.

As she explained the water had a central role in the Iranian religious ceremonies that throw the Romans was introduced in the Christian ceremonies. Mrs. Karamati explained also the relation of the ceremonies and believes of the Iranians with astrology and related sciences, where the number 7 is presented in many explanations of the phenomenos.

The third speaker was Mr. D. Farhoud who talked about happiness and joyousness that are arguments somehow forgotten Iran, and replaced by the sense of violence and depression. He asked himself how in Iran we see the level of these sentiments that are national capitals as social values. He expressed the idea that in the past time the Iranians dedicated more time for happy ceremonies, ignoring the mourning ceremonies, and this approach is logical, because God gave us the chance to live and be happy in this world, where we don't have any reason to cry and mourn.

Mr. Farhoud talked about the happiness and violence external (social) and internal (genes) aspects and then he examined the relation between the sense of happiness and the social status, where in a certain point has a decreasing course. This is the reason that in many rich persons or societies the level of suicide is higher than in poor countries.

Ending his speech Mr. Farhoud talked about the link that exists between spiritual values and happiness, inviting the people to look for ways to find and enjoy the happiness in their lives.