

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

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 06.09.2018

Title: Iranian architecture based on literary texts.

Speakers and panel members: Mr. H. Soltanzadeh and Mr. M. M. Falamaki.

The first speaker of the session was Mr. Soltanzadeh. Talking about young people, he divided them in two categories of old and new generation. In his opinion people belonging to the old generation more or less remember the past experience as part of the life that they have spent, but the new generation don't have a comprehensive experience of the life and the spaces that they live in. In order to remove this kind of difficulty Mr. Soltanzadeh proposed that the young people must pay more attention and spend more time to consult and read the texts belonging to the past generations. Mr. Soltanzadeh explained that because we are living in a country with geographical and cultural varieties, it becomes more important to focus on the content of the related texts, in order to know better the roots of our present and future. Regarding this assertion Mr. Soltanzadeh explained that in many cases we don't have access to many regional sources that presented the cultural heritage of Iranian large society composed by different ethnic groups, because of war and destructions that the country has experienced.

Talking about lexical problems Mr. Soltanzadeh expressed the idea that in many cases we have a lack of words to express various ideas, situations or locations, like the case of the square "the meydan", where using just one word we express many conditions and locations, meanwhile for the case of the garden, we have twenty different definitions that satisfy particular necessities of expression.

Mr. Soltanzadeh gave some examples of how he works with the texts that he work with and how they permit him to acquire knowledge regarding the architecture from a text that treats other arguments like poetry. He has shown how it was possible to read some of the Iranian huge poetic heritage and get interesting and important information about the nature and the characteristics of the Iranian art and especially architecture. Of course the main direction that must be observed is the interest of the author, in this case the architecture.

Presenting the case of the lecture of Ferdowsi's "Shah Name" he explained how he has been able to extract important and precious information regarding Iranian architectural characteristics and details that in other sources would not be available and accessible. These information regard the process of the construction of monument, the way the employer selected and commissioned the work to a specific group or expert person. He reported the case of the construction of a monument, where through the lecture of the text it's possible to know the process that the architect followed in order to respect the construction rules, to obtain a good level of quality for an outstanding architectural monument.

Continuing his speech Mr. Soltanzadeh told that he has begun a study dedicated to the world of house in Iran, from the ancient times to modern times. Mr. Soltanzadeh showed the different case

where the word house has been used to express different situations, where we understand the role of natural resources in our life and architecture, and how our ancestors used this word to express not only regarding the construction field, but also other spheres of their life. In his opinion an interesting case of study could be the case of ideal house in Iranians' mentality and historical beliefs and capacities. Regarding the mentioned case Mr. Soltanzadeh explained that he has found very interesting sources and results reading the house of Afrasiab, that has most of the elements, like water, connectivity, light...to be an ideal house

Mr. Soltanzadeh believes that the researchers must find how meanings and expressions have continued their route and existence during the centuries, and it's the duty of the young students and researchers to study the old and ancient texts and find the interesting connections that exist between texts' content and architectural constructions and concepts.

The second speaker was Mr. Mohammad Mansour Falamaki. He talked about our approach when we are in spiritual and physical contact with the objects. In this situation we are inclined to use our memory and the five senses that permit a complete comprehension of the object that we are considering. To explain and present any object that we are interested in we use the mentioned capacities as tools for the presentation.

Mr. Mohammad Mansour Falamaki explained that poetry and architecture have the capacity and potential to act as tools for the presentation of forms and objects, even though they are not able to present final answers and pictures of what they present, because our approaches change continuously in base of our mood and enhancing philosophy.

Talking about academic approach and education Mr. Falamaki expressed the idea that today in our universities and academies the students are requested to present a material content of the project that they are working on, ignoring or paying less attention to the spiritual content of the project that they are presenting. Presenting the idea that he has treated, Mr. Falamaki explained that the material aspect of the project is part of a larger concept that can be considered invisible, because the base of the work is a spiritual comprehension and presentation.

Talking about the relationship that exists between the design-construction process and the poetry, Mr. Falamaki believes that poetry can be useful and source of inspiration, because the both creative processes have many similarities. In both cases the authors try to express their ideas and spiritual feelings through a process of communication, that permit other persons to live and experience the same route and messages of the authors.

Mr. Falamaki stressed on the fact that is very important to follow the educational process of the students not only regarding the material aspect of the education and instruction, but it's very important to focus on the spiritual aspects and dimensions of students' preparations. Only in this case the students' formation can be considered satisfying and complete

Concluding his speech Mr. Falamaki talked in particular about the Iranian architecture, where we can't ignore the factor of time, because if this factor is ignored our interpretation will fall in a wrong direction. This is right approach that Europeans succeeded to achieve in the first half of the 20th century.

The conclusive part of the program was dedicated to the presentation of the questions that the participants had, satisfied by the answers of the speakers of the session Mr. Mohammad Mansour Falamaki and Mr. Hossain Soltanzadeh.