

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

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 31.12.2015

Title: Urbanism in the Iranian southern cities

Speakers and panel members: Mr. S. Bavar and Mrs. M. Fadaie

The first speaker Mr. Bavar began his speech that was expressing the idea that the discovery of the oil sources the Iranian gained money, knowledge and culture on the oil industry, changing totally their lifestyle. He presented the book that he had written and talked about the territory where the oil was discovered.

Following the assertions of a French archeologists that in the southern part of Iran was probable the existence of oil fields, a British called Darsie began to look for oil in the Iranian territory, discovering it in 1908 in Masjed Soleiman.

With the discovery of oil the city is transformed becoming the first Iranian industrial and productive center. This new situation revolutionized the Iranian society pushing it to try to become an industrial society to have the possibility to use the occasion offered by oil existence.

Mr. Bavar explained that for many reasons Masjad Soleiman became the first, copying in some way the western industrial, social and cultural existing traditions. In this situation the local population that was generally a farming society, step by step became part of an industrial world opening the gates for the western mentality and products.

Continuing his speech comparing the past and the actual situation he expressed his regret for the sad situation and conditions that the local people are living. Regarding the architectural traditions and activities he believes that when in Europe the modern architecture movement was making its glorious creations, in Iran too the architecture was inspired and influenced by the modern movement.

Talking about the city of Ahvaz he explained that the conditions were easier to extract the oil and transfer it to the refinery of Abadan. At the same time Ahvaz became a center to distribute the oil products in the entire country.

The second speaker was Mrs. M. Fadaie who presented how the houses were realized for the different grades of the workers in Masjed Soleiman and other cities. The houses were designed considering the families and their social status. Most of the construction material was imported, but the most important characteristic was that in all the constructions the architectural principles were considered and respected.

At the end Mr. Bavar talked about the city of Abadan. He briefly presented how Abadan hosted the biggest refinery in middle east made by the British societies, how the first technical university was established in the city, four years before the university of Tehran was established.