

Assessing the Criteria of Social Sustainability in the Historical Context of Yazd; Sahl-ebne-Ali Neighborhood



Fatemeh Sadat Goldansaz¹, Mohammad Hasan Talebian², Fereshteh Sadegheih³, Seyyed Keyvan Goldansaz⁴

1 Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

2 Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

3 Imam Javad Educational Institute, Yazd, Iran

4 Cultural Heritage Organization, Yazd, Iran

fateme.goldansaz@ut.ac.ir

ABSTRACT

Historical neighborhoods are one of the urban spaces that contain a set of social, cultural and economic values and are a suitable context for social sites. They are not only a desirable context for living but should also be combined with the contemporary life of societies and their needs over time to form an effective interaction between communities with historical sites.

The development of cities, industrialization and the phenomenon of tourism on the one hand and the inability of historic neighborhoods to meet contemporary needs on the other hand is a threat to the two-way interaction of communities with historic sites that has reduced residential housing in the historical context and thus reduced sustainability. Thus, sustainable conservation as a comprehensive action by emphasizing the concepts of "social interaction and sustainability" can improve the quality of life in historical sites in accordance with contemporary needs and lead to the continuation of a dynamic presence and life in the historical context. In order to increase the sociability and social interactions of spaces, three physical factors should be considered the physical body of the historical sites (as a suitable platform for voluntary activities), environmental activities (by holding purposeful gatherings and seasonal gatherings and the realization of civic participation), and human factors (to meet psychological needs).

The potential of neighborhoods, in addition to being the bedrock of internal development and physical cohesion and social solidarity of cities, on the other hand have been the source of creating a space of remembrance and connection between the past and present. Among the social spaces in the neighborhood, we can mention Ab Anbar, Mosque, Hosseinieh (Ritual gathering place), Saqakhaneh (a place for drinking water) and Hammam, which in the past caused willing or unwanted encounters between neighbors and over time, it has been effective in forming a communication network and becoming a place for social interactions. But today, with the spread of modernism, neighborhoods have undergone extensive changes and the function of some of the social spaces mentioned that had the role of creating social interactions has been greatly diminished. Therefore, this study intends to measure social interactions and sustainability in this neighborhood by measuring the criteria of the physical body, environmental activities and human factors in the social spaces of Sahl-ebne-Ali neighborhood located in the historical city of Yazd, while preserving its cultural and historical values, causing vitality and promoting social interactions in the neighborhood.

Keywords: Historical Neighborhoods - Yazd - Social Interactions - Social Sustainability - Social spaces