

VILLAGE HABITATIONS OF HOWRAMANAT VALLEY, IRAN

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Abstract

In immigration habitations for supplying vital needs such as primary needs, foods, security, and rest, human being could find habitations which they didn't require to long-term immigrations and meet his needs from potentials of the selected nature. These habitations are often called village in different cultures, which this term means place of growth and spring in Persian language.

Villages are considered as centers for agricultural, livestock, handcrafts, and food needful production needs of 75,000,000 population of Iran. In the other words, they can be considered as a center for producing wealth and value added of the country because there is gained about one third of Gross National Product (GDP) from villages, despite low investment comprising with cities. Values of such habitations are decreasing by considering unbridling system of early efficiency and promoting consumer patterns.

Village of Howramanat Valley in west of Iran within Zagros Mountains are part of these habitations which they have kept traditional permanent system of their life, because of very difficult access. They have used from local knowledge and technologies of very rare available materials, because of natural resource limitations, which this matter must be considered in permanent development.

Introduction

Village is resultant of artificial and natural heritage which it is programmed and constructed based on a comprehensive system. Artificial heritage is formed based on tradition. Tradition is a hidden and direct factor which it is current in heart of the society culture which it is emerged as affected material and spiritual forms from needs and values and based on requests and desires of people. It is finally combined with happiness, pains, and rest of human beings and creates an ecology pattern which following this pattern guarantees survival and developing life of people in each region. Experiences and findings of deceased support from this pattern which it is for permanent exploiting from environmental resources and avoiding natural obstacles. Sometimes the patterns seem illogical and/or severe, but clear reason of these severs is long alternation of occurring environmental obstacles. These environmental patterns are often explained as local knowledge in facing with all life's dimensions which its training and transition method is as word-of-mouth as which its understanding is difficult and time-consuming technique for un-local people.

Word-of-mouth training method is more possible in rural social systems because inhabitants of a village are considered as a united society from different ages in these systems with common interests and their survival is depended on collective life, because rural social

system can response to nature potentials. They cooperate in conducting works and they train each other by considering age level and all of them, from a child to an old man are responsible for a work. Although this powerful education system has been cut by considering immigration of adults to cities which this matter threatens future of rural habitations and production system.

A part of these habitations is their architectural body. Rural architecture has a simple and uncomplicated in first vision, but by searching its depth and scope shows that it is a complicated and shaped result of thought, effort, and error of human beings in scope of rural regions. Rural architecture is result of thought, cognition, and experiences of continuous generations which it has been appeared in thoughts of the current generation and used in creating inhibitions. Briefly, rural architecture is easy yet difficult to imitate which rural wisdom and thought has responded to the complicated problems of housing and environment through effective solutions of the environment materials and facilities. Rural residence and architecture response to needs of rural society about natural factors, living type, and production form and it has qualitative, spiritual, and social requests. This architecture is emerged by integrated cooperation and management of rural people in scope of function and experience. It inspires from their daily life and it is united with its environment without any ostentation, and it creates an appropriate space for living finally.



Chart 1: Effective Factors on Configuration of Rural Body

Rural body is affected by geography, economy, society, and culture factors in the worldwide. Although there is available other effective factors, but don't have continuous effect and are studied as case studies.

Howramanat

Plant growing structure of the Iranian Plateau includes mountains which they have effected emerging environmental resources and habitations regionally and locally. Zagros Mountain is one the most important these mountain chains which it has provided Mediterranean and the Black Sea flows because of its location against Mediterranean flows and appropriate height. It has created appropriate ecological conditions (temperature, humid, raining rate, radiation rate, and wind) in its eastern side which has prepared environmental resources for humans and animals with special obstacles. Howramanat is a long valley in this mountain chain which it is beginning from Zor city in Iraq and it is entered to Iran through western sections of Kurdistan and then it continues from Kermanshah to Paveh as linear.



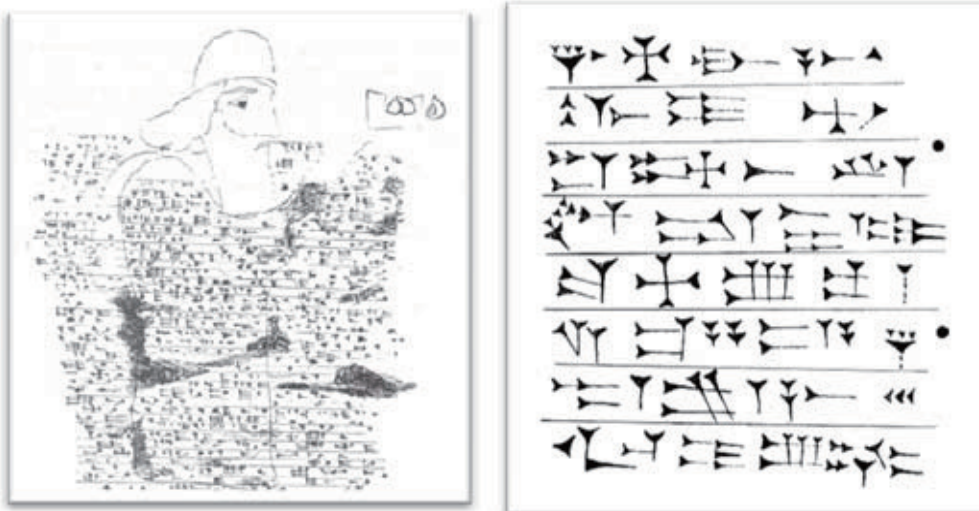
Figs. 1 and 2: Location of Auramanat in Iran and Iraq
 This picture shows approximate location of Auramanat according to studies of the writer and based on Howrami dialect, because of lacking necessary and appropriate studies for identifying careful location of Auramanat

Howramanat is a wide scope of the Iranian Plateau which most of it is a valley shape, in the other words, it is located between two mountains (Koh Salan and Shahoo) and its another part is as plain. This scope has been one of the major habitations of ancient Iranian people and then it was habitation of Aryan immigrant tribes. Reason of such a complaint is the valid archeological documents which there are pointed out two cases in the following:

1. Howraman deeds
2. Raised Design and stone epigraph of Zeinaneh Mountain in Howraman.



Figs. 3 and 4: Tittle Deeds of Howraman
 Part Era (88-87 BC); Topic: selling a land piece in Auramanat; Calligraphy: Pahlavi Party;
 Discovery place: Auramanat; Keeping place: Museum of London



Figs. 5 and 6: Petrograph of Zeinaneh Mountain in Auramanat
Media Era (2500 BC); it can't be provided a careful report, because of lacking archeological

Rural habitation of Howramanat

Habitations of this scope have been formed as rural structure, because of limitation of natural resources and lacking focus available resources on a special field. Villages have been formed based on special resources such as water, appropriate agricultural land, security possibility, grasses, long distance from environmental obstacles such as flood, avalanche and earthquake.

Local population have habituated in three types, because of distance between the resources due to natural specifications and lacking providing a rest scope in a place due to geographical specifications:

- rural
- villa
- mountain summering place (Hawar)

Settlement type in rural habitation

(Winter place) is as nucleus (houses near each other – Fig. 7), as scattered in villa habitations (include farms with separate houses – Fig. 8), and as wide and located near agricultural lands and grasses in mountain habitations (Fig. 9).

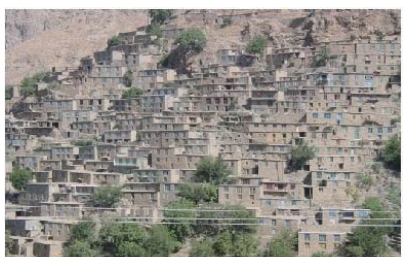


Fig. 7

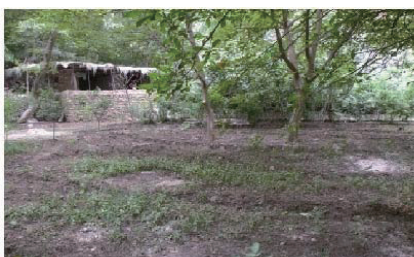


Fig. 8



Fig. 9

Purpose

Such habitations about place finding, architectural technology and life conditions has special points which all of them have been formed based on long-term experiences and permanent patterns in connection with the nature, purpose of this article is to express these points too.

Research Method

The writer has conducted field studies during seven years and has spent long time for gaining patterns and experiences in different seasons and very difficult conditions. He has also done laboratory studies by considering to rare of resources in Kurdish and Persian languages, and has taught local architecture in Faculties of Architecture and Urbanism for five years.

Findings

Although distance between Howramanat rural habitations between 3 and 10 km, but they are very different with each other because of natural and ecological conditions. Some of them are located in high gradient slope or naked mountain peak (fig. 10), some in covered slopes and beside river (fig. 11) and some in uncovered slopes (fig. 12), which they have different form and body by considering to the mentioned effective factors in chart 1.

There is observable unity of artificial and natural elements in Howraman habitations. The both are to take place in the frame, prayer, humility, and uncomparison himself with the God. Such secrets in phenomenon which recall to human beings to travel in the earth, and sometimes which it is coordinated with wisdom, creativity, and secrets, it can provide a time for thinking and recalling the God. They are final goal of Aurami Philosopher.

Aspect of Aurami habitations consider viewer as main player of the scene through a smart relation; set him to search by its attractive landscape; provide long-distance perspectives in order to think deeply; present the place marvelously; the viewer will be free, apogees, but finally he admires the landscape and the Creator.

Communicative artery of the structure is based on or parallel with rate curve and it follows with topography completely. Passages are narrow and short and their direction is often eastern-western.

Bed of passage are often roof of the opposite neighbor or natural stone. There is used from surfaces for involving feet in passages is vertical rate cure which their direction is northern – southern. Arteries is vertical slope are sharp and long which they are often for guiding floods, transporting animals, and sewage disposal. Main communicative arteries between villages pass from the highest village height rate (villages near river) to the lowest one (villages in heights) and this artery doesn't often break nuclear artery (except in special villages). There is a center of quarter in villages. This center is very important for village because of its unity functions, providing consumed and service needs of quarter and daily social communications. Limitation ratio (ratio of buildings' height to wide of passages) is larger than 2 and smaller than 8. The passages have perspective in one side and it is observed back of the opposite building in the other side.



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

Conclusion

Local knowledge has been able to keep life continuous in this region despite all natural obstinacies and ecological problems, so it is very important and must be considered in development programs. Matters such as considering to the land apparent potentials, considering to resources' survival for future generations and appropriate exploitation from these resources, avoiding natural obstacles which they are providing severe threads for human and animal life, usage from local materials, and considering to cultural and social matters can result permanent development for this region and avoid from consuming threads and destroying these habitations.