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Culture-led regeneration of urban centers with emphasis on reviving historical elements and creating identity spaces (Case study: city center of Takab)

Davood Eynollahi*, MA in Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture & Urban Planning Engineering, Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, Tehran, Iran

Hamid Ghanbaran, Associate Professor, Department of Urbanism, Faculty of Architecture & Urban Planning Engineering, Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, Tehran, Iran

Introduction

The historical elements and cultural spaces of the identity of the cities that were located in the center of the city and once, as the main member, caused its life, are today the physical and spatial treasures of the cities. The contexts in which these elements and urban spaces are located are valuable cultural, social and identity resources for cities; Today, for various reasons, they have lost their efficiency and vitality and are struggling with gradual decline. Therefore, the reconstruction of historical centers and urban textures is of great importance. Meanwhile, the culture-based regeneration approach, as a modern and integrated approach, places cultural activities and events as a facilitator and driving force of urban regeneration.

Considering the cultural capacities and rich historical heritage in Takab city, the culture-based recreating approach by using cultural resources and capitals within the city center can lead to the revival of the historical center of Takab city. In order to study this approach, the central part of Takab city, which contains historical context and valuable elements, was selected as a suitable background for this research. The main issue of this research is how to use socio-cultural components in the re-creation and renovation of urban centers to revive cultural-identity spaces and historical elements, and in particular the city center of Takab. Therefore, this study tries to explain the position of culture-based regeneration in the revitalization of urban centers, to examine the possibility of restoring the role and position of past urban elements and improving their performance in the current urban system while preventing further recession and restoring efficiency and prosperity. These historical and cultural spaces in the heart of the city of Takab.

Methodology

The research method of this study is descriptive-analytical. On the other hand, this research is one of the applied researches in terms of goals. Data collection was done through field methods and libraries and the necessary tools for this include: study of various sources such as books, articles, dissertations, etc., documents and urban development plans in accordance with the range from macro to micro level, conversation with the owner Comments, questionnaires, in-depth interviews with residents and observations.

In collecting data, techniques and methods appropriate to the research topic have been used, including consulting relevant experts and localization of criteria with Delphi technique, and then the SWOT method has been used. The process of Delphi technique in this research has been done using a questionnaire in three stages. Research data were collected in three consecutive rounds and the questions obtained from the questionnaire in all three rounds were analyzed using SPSS software. In the first stage, only descriptive statistical analyzes, i.e. three indices of mean, mean and cumulative frequency were measured in the second and third stages by calculating the Kendall coefficient, and finally stability in the second and third rounds was measured by Spearman coefficient. Swat method is also one of the methods used in this study, which will be used to analyze the general characteristics of the area in the form of strengths and weaknesses as internal factors and opportunities and threats in the form of external factors affecting the area. The importance of each item in each index is examined and by examining them, factors of high importance and value are expressed as the most important type of measures in the form of offensive, contingent, adaptive and defensive strategies.

Given that some of the data of the present study were collected through a questionnaire, it is necessary to assess their validity and reliability. In this research, to evaluate the validity of the questionnaire, the content validity technique has been used in such a way that by judging the experts about the research questions, it can be determined to what extent the questions are consistent with the content and objectives of the research. In this regard, several experts confirmed the content of the questionnaire in terms of content and validity by applying suggestions and modifying cases. Cronbach's test was used to assess the reliability of the questionnaire in this study.

Descriptive statistics is also one of the techniques used in the analysis of the questionnaire. Among the descriptive statistics indicators, the indicators of average, median and cumulative frequency have been used to determine the degree of elite consensus. Finally, the information obtained after classification is analyzed. The method of analysis of this research is both quantitative and qualitative, so SPSS and Excel software are used to analyze the data.

Results and Discussion

According to the cognitions and analyzes performed in 11 indicators identified to recreate the base culture in the historical and central part of Takab city and in summarizing the analyzes performed by different methods, it can be concluded that many strengths in the field of historical elements in the city center on the other hand, there are opportunities in the field of creating infrastructure and social and cultural capital that can pave the way for the creation of various ideas and thoughts in this regard.

Examining the analysis performed by the Delphi method, it can be concluded that the indicators of building index buildings and infrastructure, planning for large-scale events and increasing the quality of the artificial environment are in the first to third priorities, respectively, which requires special attention to each.

In the second part and in the analysis of SWOT method, the main strengths can be

mentioned the existence of historical and identity elements and the role of the market in the functional and social field. In the field of weaknesses, he pointed out the forgetfulness of identity and the lack of use of historical resources as a result of the destruction of urban elements such as the market. Opportunities in this area also included the use of historical resources as tourist attractions, as well as threats such as the gradual disappearance of existing cultural and identity resources and monuments.

Conclusion

Principles and criteria used in the design of public spaces in the historical area of downtown Takab are based on 11 criteria for the reconstruction of culture. Among these four criteria have been to pay attention to the existing capacity of historical and valuable elements, planning international and large-scale events, thematicization and creation of cultural areas based on the purpose of preserving, reviving and providing spatial-physical structure and identity of Takab city. The three criteria for planning local and popular activities and events, creating cultural uses and facilities, and improving the quality of the artificial environment are based on the goal of promoting and improving social interactions and increasing the sense of belonging in the use of urban spaces. The four criteria are the design of signature buildings and infrastructure, planning for the creation of recreational and consumer activities and uses, the creation of creative industries and cultural products, and the development of public art based on the goal of increasing cultural sustainability in coordination with physical and functional structures.

Keyword: Culture-led Regeneration, Downtown, Historical and Identity Elements, Takab City

*Corresponding author: davoodeynollahi@gmail.com

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