



Editor-in-chief

The Caucasus, Land of Mysterious Churches

Study Group of research center was in the study trip to the Caucasus witnessed Christian-religious architecture nature was formed in the shadow of the legendary Ararat that guided questioner viewer to original works of the past and the memories of land that long ago was a part of Iran.

The old churches were introduced rituals and secrets that were raised from Iranian beliefs and have taken root between the peoples of East and West. These rituals have been transformed in the West Christian and the Armenians and Georgians Christian in different ways. Reflection of ancient rituals and ideas on architecture and ornament is obvious.

New look at the churches of the Caucasus in comparison with its past caused MS and PhD degrees in art and architecture fields to prepare reports after 18 days of research in cities and villages of Armenia and Georgia with taking photos, discussion and expert analysis that became the modern articles with return from a journey. Architectural analysis of lighting and decorations in the Orthodox churches, political exploitation of new churches in Georgia, preservation of cultural-religious authenticity in ornament of old and new churches of Armenia, Architectural challenges in Caucasus region with new ways after independence were the key fields of the reviews.

These articles with the subject of "Art and Architecture of Caucasus" represent the other dimensions of art and culture of this ancient region with relying on the religion and beliefs and their reflection in religious architecture. In addition, two independent statements on art and architecture groups summarize the articles.