

Paradoxical Landscape

Today Caucasus's streets, production of accumulation of communist ideology and capitalist

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Abstract

After the communist states, took Sovereignty the Caucasus cities, urban spaces were a lot of changes. Street as one of the components of the urban landscape that much of perception is dependent on it that in strategy of Sovereign states such as the Soviet was used; so that producing streets came out the main principle to introduce a new face in town to show power. Order and geometry in a direct structure with Governmental landuse such as office buildings, religious and government of the obvious physical characteristics of this streets. Considerable point is Presence of such streets in the cities of the Caucasus today's perspective that only flavor of Interest globalization and modernization have been added. It seems urban management of Caucasus adopted the same approach to organizing a street perspective, with a different purpose from the socialist era, that achieving the government's goals has priority over urban life. This article is a comparative view of the streets of the Caucasus in the socialist period and thereafter, provides the phenomenological analysis of urban management approaches towards designing street.

Keywords

Urban landscape, Street, Socialist landscape, Caucasus.

Introduction

Streets are one of the elements of the urban landscape that Intellectual Foundations of Urban Management and cultural life is emerging in it. In period of tradition, spatial structure of the street consistent with the paradigm and behavior and held gradual with the organic order. Streets of tradition period reflect the social, economic and cultural community more important than the physical structure of the city. Whereas, Modern thought shape the Street as geometric and logical, with the specified width and consistent sidewall. The human scale of the Street change and Functional status takes priority. Since the characteristics were considered by Socialist ideas of the Caucasus, therefore sovereignty was introduced into the main street of town that was built Sudden and rapid away from the lives of people. At the time of independence, despite the changing political face of the city, the streets is Caucasian, with its socialist bodies play a central role in the spatial organization of the city. In contrast to the political rhetoric and the status quo of the city's urban management policies implies that the dichotomy facing.

Hypothesis

Excitement caused by the desire to globalization and aftershocks of weak economy of the post-communist caused reduction of urban Management's attention to the streets. The streets looked terrified product emerged from the socialist and capitalist view that mental characteristics of citizens had the least role in their creating.

Research Methodology

The present paper deals in Phenomenology of Caucasus streets in three-step analysis:

first, study of Literature: Theoretical Investigation of Urban communist, socialist characteristics and the role of streets in socialist city.

Second, Field observations: Analysis of Visited samples in Caucasus to verify the theory.

Third, Conclusion: interpreting the results for reading urban management approach in organizing the today's streetscape of Caucasus.

Street in the socialist City

Communist had a great impact on the urban landscape of its dominated town, is an ideology with the aim of establishing a society without class differences that has its origins in Marx's statement back in 1848. Social equality, harmonious distribution

of facilities and the elimination of social classes in the urban development of the socialist city was the most important actions of socialist urban managers that the realization of this formed Uniform and homogeneous landscape (French & Hamilton, 1997). The same Residential neighborhoods, inexpensive, usable for all classes is feature of the urban landscape Where expanding cultural administrative departments of the general public and keeping the business sector small (Atashinbar, 2010: 72). Of course, at first glance, this policy seems to justice and Its supporters believe that Social equality in a socialist city clearly will be seen in preferred walk on personal vehicle; The development of complex applications, makes it easy to access to public facilities; also Public transport reduces the need for private cars would have The same distribution and Coordinator of Facilities (Myers, 2008: 1). Undisputed dominance of the state over the city development, unilateral and severe control of government over the citizen's life led to Many local structures are being replaced by Residential formats like puzzles, without regard to principles of town planning, urban development, according to Human-oriented (Askarzade & Khademi, 2010: 70); (Fig. 1). Gutnov identify four main features of the spatial organization of socialist cities (Gutnov, 1971: 117):

1) Equal mobility for all: Residential sectors are at equal walking distance from the center and from the forests and parks surrounding them.

2) Distances are planned on a pedestrian scale: No home is so remote from the center or from the park area that it cannot be reached by a reasonably short walk.

3) Elimination of danger from vehicular traffic: Rapid public transportation operates outside the pedestrian area.

4) Green belts: Every sector is surrounded on at least two sides by open land.

The role of communist planners during this period was to focus on location selection of factories and industrial plants, arrangement of service facilities, design of the layout of industrial towns, functional division of urban land use zones and development of residential districts (Tang, 2000, Xie & Costa, 1993: 103). Therefore the factories were placed in key areas and residential areas around the city and the city has grown with the addition of circumferential rings (Bertaud & Renaud, 1995: 3). Densities and land allocation to different land uses was result of state decision (Kornai, 1992) that Due to drowning in the implementation justice thought, forget the needs of the urban structure of urban

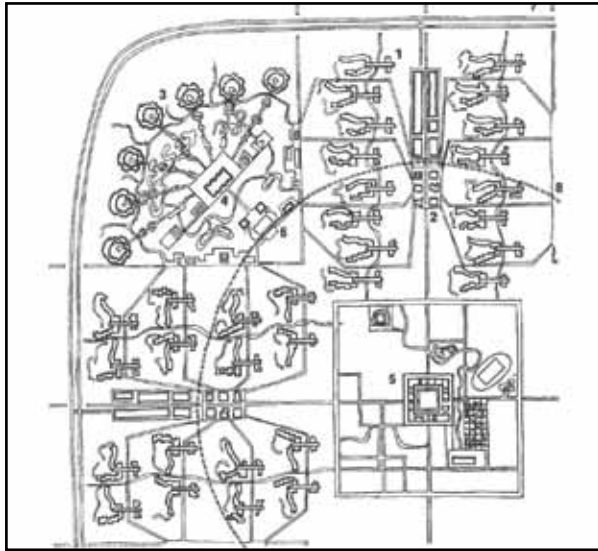


Fig.1. Plan of small socialist city: 1. initial housing units 2. community center 3. school 4. Science Center 5. New residential units 6. Center sporting 7. Highway 8. Public transportation Outside the scope of pedestrian. Source: Gutnov,1971.

Fig.2. The socialist residential complex behind the Streets wall. Tajikistan. Monday. neighborhood behind Rudaki Avenue. Photo: Mohammad Atashinbar, archive of NAZAR research center, 2011.

life. Homogenous texture of residential units Was formed in order to Achieve the socialist social justice To improve the abnormal situation of the working class, Street as one of the key elements of the urban landscape Was implemented rapidly that would not emerged from the community. The streets were made which Due to imposed land use, governmental and religious, life of the city was hidden behind its wall (Fig. 2). While the Street with all the physical and non physical properties reflect the social, economic and cultural characters of community. Collective feelings such as happiness, sadness and anger over anywhere are expresses in "street language": setting up street celebrations that sometimes lasted for weeks as Brazilian carnivals, festivals, especially national mourning, offer apparently image of the street function (Fakouhi, 2004: 314). So the social dimension of street is effective dimension in recognition of quality of city in which formed citizen's collective memories by occurrence of social interactions. But in the physical dimension, Desire of the central government in communist ideology was use of classical architecture. Classic architecture is rooted in historical mythology of civilizations that its characters seek to imprison the environment; the architecture that its



large scale and exact proportions, Represent power (Bannimasoud, 2006). This architecture creates a unity of form and color for street wall and repeating elements in harmony. Large scale is the most prominent feature in the first place Induce the authoritarian spirit of the street. Linear and regular geometry of the street shows that is not formed based on people living on and their needs, but a command prompt and implemented. Linear streets implies of involvement a unit power That anticipated needs of the majority population, and according to a certain order to make the streets (Gideon, 1986).

Gorky Street and Istiglaliyyat Street are examples of socialist street; In the early 1930s the Russian plan of widening Tverskaya Street from the city of Tver who have been through the streets of Moscow by Arkady Mordvinov is presented that is cause and the theory of socialist realism in architecture ideological climate of constructive set theory That something fans of modern architecture Le Corbusier's architectural style Bauhaus school in Russia, they will win. In this scheme, many of the build-

ings damaged that were had no architectural and artistic importance and replaced in the great buildings: combination of Italian Renaissance architecture and the architecture of the Russian Empire created. Other buildings that were important isolated from its foundation, and on a set of railroad track to the new site. Gorky Street looked much as it does today and was referred to as the "Champs Elysées" of Moscow. Gorky Street is a triumph of the Bolsheviks in architecture; where the Series of regular columns and capitals of Leningrad House originated of Classicism and Renaissance in Italy (Kopp, 1989: 28); (Fig. 3). The sculptures can be seen above the buildings do not represent the Greek and Roman mythological gods; They are real or imaginary heroes of the Russian industrial and economic plan includes statues of workers, peasants and soldiers of the Red Army, a witness to an era in which it was attempted reconciliation between architecture and social goals emerge. Street in the socialist city is a product of Hasty action by the central government to achieve justice, that create

Fig.3. The architecture includes the entire history of the city's Gorky Street: Institute of Marx, Engels and Lenin (1926), building a telegraph (1927), a national monument building that members of the Soviet government and the families were in place, Old luxury hotel in the years before the war and until 1943 the communist militants and the staff was welcoming, luxurious restaurants, the historic statue of Prince Yuri Dvlgvrky years before the revolution and founder of the legendary city of Moscow. Gorky Street in the late 1930s. Source: www.livejournal.com /Kopp, 1989: 29.



very quickly and no related to Surrounding tissue, and the current residents live. This approach makes the urban landscape that is not only consistent with the primary goals of the rule but also to inspire the Authoritarianism to audience. Socialist streets with large scale, huge buildings and uniform walls Portrays the unity that Represent the governmental urban landscape.

Caucasus's Streets during the communist

The Caucasus is one of the areas that experienced two distinct periods of political (socialist and then), shows two different approaches to organizing streets. Coordination between the building's color unity, alignment, large scale, no fill and empty, the sky and landed smoothly without tipping are the features of Caucasus's streets during socialist. This wall has formed by Massive buildings, office and religious uses and no sign of urban life is current. While the streets of historic contexts are not only formed based on people's needed also the geometry of the street affected by audience's life, so Opening Space create in proportion of an ongoing activity and Unlike straight line and uniform geometry of socialist streets, in historical urban fabrics streets form based on organic geometry (Fig.4). Street leading to the Prince Dadiani Place in Zugdidi in Soviet times due to having old trees were selected to become the city's main streets and Green Old axis of the Street formed in straight geometry of Soviet period. Unity of form and color, the skyline with office and state buildings, close the street to the boulevard Nifeskya: " Nothing can be more interesting than Nifeskya Blvd At least in St. Petersburg, it is ... in Boulevard Nifeskya what is seen is full of elegance and Preciosity ... Anyone who passes the scenic boulevard Nifeskya infinite variety of hats, skirts and blouses, light and dark stares So that the effect of person remains in mind up to two days"(Gogol, 2012: 1, 54). David Agmashenebeli Avenue in kutaisi has a view point that In the socialist era the great statue of the King of Georgia (David, the builder) is located on top of it. The statue despite all community-based interpretations in during communist is Reminiscent Looking from the top to the bottom of government (Fig. 6). Finally in the Communist period Tigran Mets Avenue in Vanadzor in Armenia emerged with a predetermined command as separate and unrelated part to the around texture. Street walls are luxury and fine materials compare to building facades in the around fabric that are Very simple, pure, and

without the decorations. elements of Caucasus's streetscape during the Communist period is only a set of physical components that Refers to a predetermined order and ongoing activities of its citizens coming into The least important element. Socialist ideology discipline all the components of Street, Even historical and natural elements remaining from previous periods which are arranged in the form of organic geometry. The street wall defining identity; to the extent that turns harmony, rhythm, architecture style to the second-degree elements.

Caucasus's streets during Independence

Independence of the Caucasus can be seen as the beginning of modernism in the streets due to the floor and the furniture. During this period, although the concept of street depends on to the physical elements but this time, as during the communist planning structure, geometry and scale solution isn't considered It focuses on the use of materials, colors and modern products on the floor and walls over the street. The physical changes in this period are accession of the modern elements such as signs, advertising panels and furniture made to imitate the West. In Tbilisi, Rustaveli Avenue with its grandeur and glory of communism, the main street of the cities is the best areas for today's Caucasus approach. Despite the famous brands, luxury shops and boards, modern restaurants and a large advertising panels, the streets is empty of urban life and only the passage of the machine (Fig. 5). Additionally urban furniture are located in urban space to imitate European example in form, materials and colors to present the modern face of the city (Fig. 6). Main Street City Zugdidi is just a passing street;

Fig.4. David Agmashenebeli Avenue in city of kutaisi, the height of the authoritarian of regime was thinking by creating a large-scale Statue of David, King of Georgia David, the builder. Photo: Moloud Shahsavargar, archive of NAZAR research center, 2013.



the only changes during independent are add the tourists's needs and chairs in the middle of the green axis, resting place for pedestrians. Although this street is more live than other examples such as the David Agmashenebeli Avenue in kutaisi and Rustaveli Avenue in Tbilisi, because of The presence of small utilities such as micro shops, salons and food vendors but Wall Street is still dominant the spirit of socialist. At Rustaveli Avenue in Tbilisi is not seen the effect of urban life and the community except a few vendors against Sioni Cathedral. Even openings are suited for social interaction, are

Empty of the features that lead to the formation and growth of these communities.

At the time of independence, developments like renaming streets and buildings and pulling down statues of socialist happened (Palonen, 2008: 221) but still big factories, public buildings and residential units in the urban landscape remain, and used (Light & Young, 2010: 7). Although these measures are quick and easy, but do not seem to influence the social and economic well-being is considered more valuable than erase the socialist perspective.

Fig5. Vanadzor's main street, Tigran Mets Avenue. Juxtaposition of two different approaches to organizing street. In both urban life citizens is considered insignificant. Photo: Moloud Shahsavargar, archive of NAZAR research center, 2013.



Fig.6. Collective space in front of the City Council kutaisi. modern approach in furniture design. Photo: Moloud Shahsavargar, archive of NAZAR research center, 2013.



Conclusion

Although the street (both Objective and Subjective aspects) is naturally a gradual product of urban living, But in the socialist regimes the streets was created in fast process based on Theoretical of ruling government and changed into the field of power. Many old streets with small-scale public spaces are replaced with the straight geometry streets with Governmental spirit. Although large-scale of socialist streets provide an opportunity to planning social activities, such as public service units and the experience of urban life in the streets, but due to modern approach of urban management, is sufficient to create a modern streets wall. Western approach in organizing Caucasus's street with its socialist background has changed unity shape of the wall into diversity and the presence of micro-scale commercial and service activities is even more Dynamic Street (Table 1). But what is important is people's attitudes and cultural patterns has isolated because of the impact of communist and Today's managers and city planners disregarding.

Table1. Many physical features have sustained because of the socialist buildings. Source: Authors.

Street order	Street form	activity	scale	Granulation	Land use	Time period
Linear and straight geometry	Uniform Street walls and unity of form and color	Without activity and urban life	Huge scale	Coarse aggregate buildings	State-governmental and religious land use	Communist
Linear and straight geometry	Modern elements caused diversity of color	Without activity and urban life	Huge scale	Coarse aggregate buildings	In addition to state and religious application, Commercial and utility applications have formed.	After Communist

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