

Conclusion

In contrast to the people's viewpoints that regard the thousand-year medieval period as the era for the Church domination, various events and systems dominated people's lives at that period, and the shapes and structures of cities were not exceptional to that. Despite the beliefs that were unchanged in that era, the general construction of medieval cities that were irregular had three eras of dominance that dominating each one provides changes in the urban systems. During the medieval history, no precise conception existed by the name of the city, before the formation of bourgeoisie governing cities. It means that the community in that era consisted of feudal villages or towns (formed cities in the first half of the medieval period), where church authorities were considered as one of the major rulers. In fact, to establish power for the feudalists, the Church became the basis for their communities. However, the concept of medieval city was accomplished when the feudal community was collapsed, and commune society was formed. In that period, the cities were established with their modern concepts, and according to the mentioned points, democracy, and municipality building were considered as the principles of this community. Moreover, capitalism did not fully negate its full support from the Church. Thus,

the Church was also considered as an urban community basis, and it is one of the important buildings in that era. However, the indication of the two powers in the medieval bourgeoisie community with tall minarets for the municipality buildings is observed against the churches. This situation continued until renaissance and prioritizing of intellectuality on spiritual aspects and the municipality building was considered as one of the important bases of the medieval urban community. The city of Siena that was formed in the second era of the medieval period did not have the municipality building until before the formation of the commune society and capitalism, and Del Campo Square opens towards the natural landscapes. However, by the emergence of the urban democratic ruling in the 12th century, the municipality building was formed in the turning point of the square, and the direction of the square and other routes and urban elements towards it indicate its importance and dominance on the community. The palace is built in Gothic era in the time of democratic system formation. Thus, it can be expected that its existence in the city to challenge the city cathedral board, and parade against it, while the presence of the church on top of a hill overlooking the square still shows and indicates its important presence and power in the city.

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recting towards the municipality court in such a way that shows its dominance prominently. Formation of bottom lines ending to the water canal induces the feeling of limited space to the viewer, and this feeling is intensified by the city hall on the fourth side, i.e. the southern side (Fig. 3). The city access routes that intersect with each other in Del Campo Sq. are completely shaped according to the land topography condition, and since most of the passages are narrow, passing from them and reaching the widespread space of the square is quite exciting.

The utmost glory of Siena was in the 12th, 13th, and 14th century, when the cathedral and the city hall were the symbols of religious aims and considered as the urban power. The cathedral is extended on the top of the city, and a little lower, the city square and its neighboring hall are constructed on the hill slope, as a scenery for the presence of the people and social events, and the bell tower, with a special grandeur, is standing on top of this square. The city hall and its tall minaret have an imposing state relative to the church on the top of the hill, constructed with a higher height than the bell tower (Figs. 4 & 5).

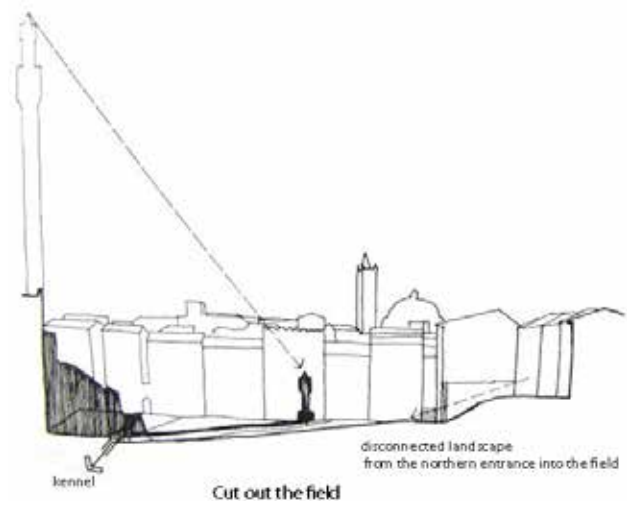


Fig. 3. Cross-section of Del Campo Square. source : <http://www.noandishaan.com/forums>.



Fig. 4: City cathedral on top of a hill overlooking Del Campo Square. source : www.khabarfarsi.com.

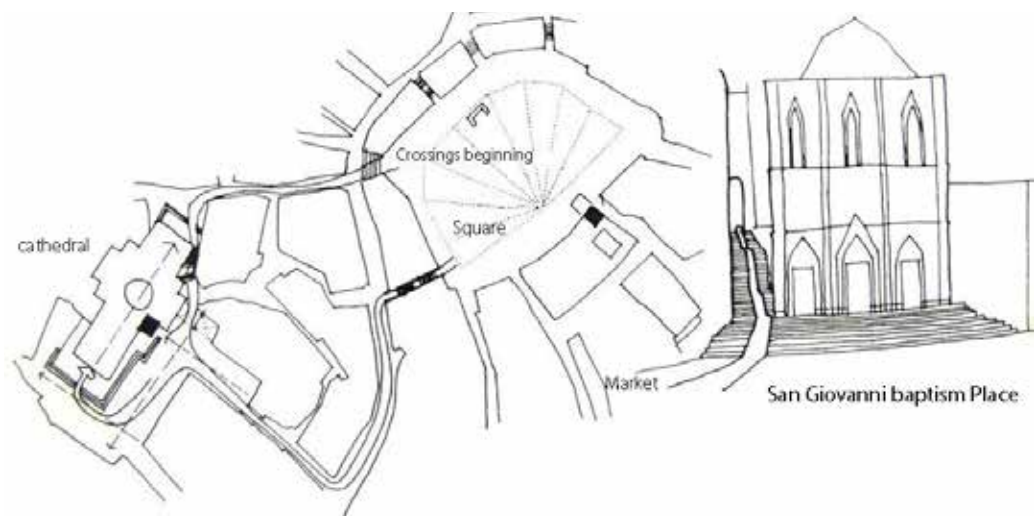


Fig. 5: Access route and the location of the city church on top of a hill overlooking Del Campo Square. source : <http://www.noandishaan.com/forums>.

tween Italian cities, this city was built with twisting lanes, and with tall and symmetrical castles. This structure is similar to a spinning thread that can be undone by a definite way. The contrast of this structure is exactly seen in Gothic era De Gallespalace in the city of Venice, which due to canals, the security and defensive ability of the city is increased, having a void, free and elegant architecture.

Piazza Del Campo, the shell-like square of Siena is in the form of snail shell, surrounded by medieval buildings, and located in the cultural and physical center of the city of Siena at the top end of a valley, and there are important buildings such as Palazzo Pubblico with the Mangia Tower (tall minaret) in its vicinity.

St.Maria Church (Duomo of Siena) is located on top of a hill, overlooking the square. Apart from the small changes in the body of the square, the square has been remained in general about seven centuries. Primarily, this square was one of the Roman forums considered for the resting of neighboring cities travelers and the central market of the city. Then, by building the municipality building in the 12th century, it was transformed into a center for urban life, and it became the place of holding Palio horse racing.

Lacking the spatial limits or common shapes and symbolic equalities with religious and dem-

ocratic powers, this square revolves the idea of medieval squares by directing its buildings and passages towards the city hall building.

The square site was used for exhibitions and markets up to 1270A.D, and after the end of aristocratic autocratic 24th government, an independent regime from the Church and aristocracy was established. This place was transformed into a prominent urban project by ending the construction of the municipality building as the Campo urban center. This square was completed in the 14th century, and was then gradually modified and developed (Fig. 2).

All the eleven lanes ending to it are directed towards Palazzo Pubblico (city hall), and by creating arches or bridges on the square entrances, the visual gaps resulted from the narrow lanes are eliminated, and hence, the intensity of enclosing the square space is increased. They are the transiting passages for reaching the place that is Campo Square in front of the Palazzo. The directing, passages, regular sky line, secure and controlling access, lack of the nature, and existence of the solidity of the walls, regular geometry, minimum decorations, the square slope towards the water canal in front of the Palazzo and its solidity and permeability testify the importance of democratic ruling, which mixes the city organic structure di-

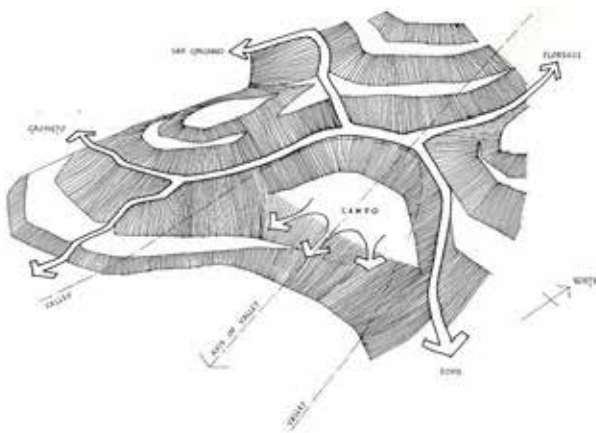


Fig. 1. Location of Siena city on top of the hill near the connecting roads between Rome and Florence.
source : <http://www.noandishaan.com/forums>.



Fig. 2. Aerial image from Del Campo Square. source : <http://www.noandishaan.com/forums>.

Table 1. Political and economic characteristics in the mediaeval cities (Benevolo, 2007)

1-	Disorder in the streets as in Islamic cities were at that time, but, with the orderly streets that provided directions and concepts of districts for the people. Hence, public areas were developed all over the city. The balance was because of the compatibility of public and private laws, and the Municipality used to analyze the connecting domains of the interests, with great care. For instance, the projection of the houses covering a part of the lane can be considered.
2-	Due to following different powers, such as cardinals Governance, municipality, religious sect powers, and trade unions, the public spaces of the cities had complicated multi-central structures. However, despite intervention between them, no discrepancies could be observed between religious and civil powers of the ancient era.
3-	Construction of tall buildings, such as Municipality Hall Tower, or the Cathedrals Tower indicated the importance of these city areas, the third dimension of the city, and the unity among the citizens in the city center.
4-	Known mediaeval cities found their certain forms only after the next centuries, when their fundamental areas and facilities were properly stabilized, i.e. 14-17 centuries A.D.

Table 2. Political and economic characteristics in the mediaeval cities (Khorramshad, 2012)

Factors	Symbols
Living based on trade	Streets and squares Establishing trade unions for administering the affairs related to business
Attempts for acquiring civil rights	City wall Strategy of city councils and municipalities
Catholic Christianity	Church
Attempts for improving living conditions	Constructing gardens in some cities

Analysis of the medieval period specifications in the city of Siena

The city of Siena is located on the top of the ridge on the verge of the connecting roads between Rome and Florence. This city is around Del Campo Square (Piazza Del Campo), like an artistic work, and has proportions and mixed with the surrounding landscapes. Romans established Siena as a military base in 30A.D. and the city was then developed commercially.

By the aerial view of the city of Siena, it can be observed that Siena city is established in some different parts. Each section has a small central square that are focused towards a large turning point, called Del Campo Sq. (Piazza Del Campo). Campo Sq. is one of the most famous non-religious architectural examples and the

best point of gathering in Siena, affecting the urban plan. Rugged places and access roads are connected with each other in such a way that in addition to a prominent sight in the city, the city square indicates social relations between spiritual life, daily activities, and business transactions, by replacing the church, Campo, and the market around it. With many rulers from the 14th to the 19th centuries, Siena developed with economic power, providing employment and security for the citizens for many years with its famous bank “Monte Dei Paschi di Siena”(Fig. 1).

The turning point of the city in Siena has governmental structure instead of religious applications, while the city cathedral, on a hill, is overlooking the square, viewing the people’s activities in the square. Regarding the internal competitions be-

the remains of old cities, but with modern social characteristics and architectural plans. These cities were conformed with the uneven lines of the lands as well as regular Roman construction patterns; thus, the difference between the nature and geometry was completely demolished, among which, the cities such as Siena, Viterbo, Gubbio, Chartres, and Bruges have still maintained their medieval identity, but some others are transformed into metropolitan cities, such as Paris and London, where their medieval parts are located like a small stone in their centers (Benevolo, 2007).

In contrast to the cities established in empires and constructed by the governments, these cities were administered by the city members, having maximum supports by the neighboring feudal cities. These independent cities were the place for gathering of business and industrial people. They were scorned by the feudalists; hence, the term “bourgeois” that indicated citizenship was referred to the city businesspeople. A mutual dependence was gradually established between economic activities and the governments, so that in case of not supporting bourgeois by the feudal people, they were deprived of their commercial interests that were contributed to them as taxes, or, they were confronted by the objections and riots by the citizens. The people in these cities fought against feudal aristocracy and the Church since the Church ideology both approved feudal aristocracy and was also against bourgeois avarice and materialism. In conflicting with cardinals and feudal lords, this movement caused the emergence of Italian “commune”; a democratic government that in addition to respecting the economic privileges of people, applied the rights of governing various people and groups by its legislative actions. Along with the civil powers, religious cardinal and systems also had specific dominations for themselves in the cities. Thus, the government that used to have a divine basis previously with the pope found a humanistic and worldly basis. In such governments, the representatives of people or some of them used to determine what the governors should do to provide the interests of the cities and citizens. Formation

of codified civil rights and the two organizations of the city council and municipality for administering the city were indeed a response to the existing dissatisfactions in the feudalism era.

Medieval cities are divided into two categories: Large cities such as: Venice, Bruges, Bologna, and Florence that are founded in old ages or in the first half of medieval period. They are indeed considered as the large villages of feudal communities that were changed in the second half of the medieval period. The smaller cities were founded once forever, in the second half of the medieval period. Various conditions are considered in formation of these cities that include nature, local traditions, external effects and even religious symbolism (Benevolo, 2007). However, a medieval city is a rather perfect example of a self-growing city against a designed city. Twisting narrow lanes of medieval cities and beautiful but not foreseen symbols of their buildings are the signs of figurative life that romantic writers considered them as the identity of medieval life. Hence, “organic growth” is the general characteristic of a medieval city (Barash, 2006). However, some of the political and economic features in these cities are as table1: Hence, the factors playing role in formation of medieval cities are divided into four groups (table2):

A direct experience can be relied to understand the active and alive medieval cities that have still continued their living with the same conditions. For instance, in Del Campo Sq. for those who visit Siena and spend time in there they can imagine how their ancestors were exactly living. Regarding the visiting of medieval cities, the main and important elements of these cities in that era are as follows: religious spaces, commercial spaces, and governing spaces that have important roles in organizing and finding the location of the squares, and valuable buildings are placed around the squares; sometimes, a church is located by the square side, and sometimes, similar to Siena, the municipality court shows itself by the squareside, and moreover, apart from the squares in front of churches and forums, the remaining of the city included non-detached tall houses with narrow lanes.

The second era is between 800A.D to 1342A.D: the first consistent widespread royal system is formed in the West by a person called “Charlemagne” in 800A.D. The medieval period finds a consistent and institutional form. The feudal ideology is flourished in that period, and knighthood is developed.

The third era is between 1342 A.D and 1374 A.D and it is the era of the collapse of the medieval period when feudalism collapsed and the “capitalism” economic system prevailed.

How are religion and the philosophy of medieval period understood?

Medieval period is an era, when expert ideologists talked about religion, nature and supernatural aspects, humans, and community. After the extinction of different Christianity sects, Catholic Church was established in the 4th century. It was after that, when churches became the definite places and temples for propagating religion and founded their proper establishments; they were exempted from paying tax, and were allowed to solve the disputes between the believers, and it can even be said that governments were relying on churches in the medieval period (Nozari, 1994).

Catholic Christianity intended to maintain theoretical viewpoints to serve for Christianity ideologies and beliefs. Thus, philosophy, science, and mainly any type of theoretical ideologies in that period were either serving the religion, or established in that respect. Hence, some of the new historians or philosophers believe that the term “philosophy” is not appropriate for that era.

The thought that medieval period is a religious phenomenon is false. Medieval period was never a religious phenomenon, and in fact, the spirit of medieval period indicates mutilated Christianity from Greek/Roman heritage (Zarshenas, 2008). In Christian theology, faith is prior to intellectuality, and intellection is worthless without faith and before having faith. The boundary that church build around itself caused the Christian world to cut its links with the past and other communities, limiting itself within special religious customs and worshipping ideas (Norouzi, 2015).

Feudalism and its effects on medieval community

West Roman empire collapsed in the 5th century A.D, but due to the conditions in Europe, the period of collapsing of this empire continued, and feudalism was formed. Instead of the ruler/follower, or government/citizen, the relation in this system is between lords and vassals.

The advantage of feudalism was in creating a fixed local government in the lack of a powerful kingdom. Despite the existence of feudalists, medieval period provided the possibility for the religion to parade. In fact, it can be said that: the new principles of feudal community primarily required an infrastructure to help it in being strengthened and developed. Churches and other religious organizations were considered the infrastructures of the feudal community in that era; feudalism was however considered a powerful school of thought that was operating multilaterally for the development and strengthening of the infrastructure (Ibid: 15). The government was directly selected by the pope and churches in that era in order to remain feudal domains of the empire that admitted Christianity and was trying to propagate for its developments.

The 12th century is known as the “spring of feudality”, and the 14th and the 15th centuries are called the “autumn of feudality”. At that time, the Catholic Church was confronted with crisis, losing its dominion to a great extent, so that the primary elements of establishing the new capitalist community was born, developed, and evolved, and eventually destroyed the feudalism system (Kosminskii, 1974:5).

Bourgeoisie and formation of cities in the medieval period

Continuous feudal life in a long period had formed regulations and norms, and the possibility to govern all over Europe with one or more feudalist people was ruled out. Instead of establishing a new empire in such a condition, and by gradual quantitative development industrial people beside rural feudal units, independent cities were established, such that the fighting of citizens against their feudal bosses began in the 12th century (Ibid: 93). New cities were founded on

Introduction

During the Medieval era the modern west was formed based on the religious beliefs. In that era, religion dominated all the community as a general school of thought, and no action could be expressed outside that. Religion had an epidemic power, supervising and precisely controlling the politics, economy, culture, and people. In that era, religion became a highly worldly aspect more than any other time. Religion was not spiritual, but it managed the body of the community. One of the major subjects in that era is formation of feudal villages and the support of church which were being destructed about 1000A.D, by the opposition of bourgeois government, and thus, the primary roots of modern European cities were established in that era, and the democratic governments were formed. Since a great part of medieval architecture either

had security/defensive criteria or holiness and religious aspects, a great difference can be expected in the city structure in comparison with Greek and ancient Roman civilizations. It means that the medieval artistic and architectural shapes show less inclination towards sculpture. Thus, instead of 3-dimensional objects, humans confront with 2-dimensional facades. Del Campo Square in Siena city in Italy that was built for holding Palio horse races, is an example of the architecture in which the design and designing subjects indicate not the external, but the internal space of that construction, as opposed to Greek and ancient Roman classical architectures. The square and municipality court with its tall tower in the middle of the city of Siena is located in such a way that their presence imposes its dominating system on religion and the existence of church.

Research Question

What was the reason behind placing Del Campo Sq. and hence, the municipality court at the center of this medieval city instead of directing it towards the church?

Hypothesis

Siena is a symbolic medieval city that in contrast to other medieval cities, places Del Campo Sq. in its turning point, directing towards the municipality court with the tall minaret of the municipality court.

When was the medieval time and what eras did it consist of?

There are times in the history of human beings that could be called “the turning points” of human history. Some periods end in each of these points and some other periods start. The first one of these points was the destruction of “ancient era”, the social/economic concepts of which was based on the slavery system that was replaced by the feudal system. The second turning point in human history was the era when the feudal system was replaced with a more developed system called “capitalism” that originated renaissance (Kosminskii, 1974).

Historians introduce medieval period as the era between Greek-Roman era, called the old era, and the modern contemporary era. The 4th to 14th centuries are called the medieval period. Some also consider 1453A.D, the year of invasion of Constantinople by Sultan Mohammad Fatih, or 1492A.D, the year of discovering America by Christopher Columbus, as the base point and consider the 15th century as the end of medieval period.

We can observe three powerful bases in the medieval period: Church, feudal and bourgeois aristocrats. These three powers were contested with each other, and in fact, the conflict between these three groups was one of the reasons for the collapse of the medieval period (Zarshenas, 2008).

Medieval history is divided into three distinct eras:

First era starts about the 4th century A.D and continues to the 9th century. The church ideology is formed in that era and medieval social systems is not established significantly. This era is the collapsing period of slavery and the start of formation of feudalism.

The Role of Medieval Beliefs Information of The City of Siena and its Direction towards Delcampo Square

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Abstract

The city of Siena is a medieval city that was built in 30A.D, with the aim of being a military base near Rome, by the Romans. After that, this city was developed in the medieval time and it has continued its life with the same medieval structures. Siena is one of the few cities with such a spatial organization. The considerable characteristic of this city is large a urban square with the important municipality court on one side of it. The whole city has presumably directed towards this square. The religion is considered as one of the prominent governmental elements in the city. Accordingly the aim of this study is to find a logical relation among the medieval beliefs and formation of Del Campo Square in the urban design of Siena. Regarding the municipality court structure in the southern part of the square and the direction of the square towards this building, it is found that its formation, even in the Gothic era, is occurred, when the capitalist system was dominating the medieval community, which has caused the formation of the community and construction of municipality courts to support the democratic governments. The present article uses a descriptive/analytical research methodology, and data are collected through observations and using of library documents.

Keywords

Medieval Period, Siena, Del Campo Square, Church, Feudalism, Government, Rocky Landscape.