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Typology of the Texture of Iranian Mountain- villages (Dashtak village, Fars province)

Behzad Vasigh¹

1- Associate Professor, Department of Architecture, jundi_shapur University of Technology, Dezful,
Iran. vasiq@jsu.ac.ir

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ABSTRACT

Natural and human factors, including climatic characteristics, cultural contexts, livelihood types, and various other elements, have led to the formation of two types of rural layouts in Iran: flatlands and foothill settlements. The spatial organization in foothill villages in Iran is predominantly terraced, characterized by roof-yard layouts. However, some foothill villages exhibit unique features that differ from this dominant pattern. This study, focusing on the village of Dashtak, examines the ratio of mass to space in buildings, as well as their spatial organization, to analyze the differences compared to prevalent examples. The research method is based on field studies, with data collected through library research and direct observations. The objective of the study is to identify the factors shaping the distinctive architectural layout of Dashtak village. In the initial stage, a map of the village houses was created through field observation. Among the existing houses, only those with historical value, valid documentation, and the possibility of repeated visits were selected and analyzed. The analysis of architectural organization, the arrangement of mass and space, and access types revealed that the presence of a central courtyard in addition to the roof-yard layout indicates a unique spatial organization in foothill villages. This arrangement can be attributed to factors such as blocking undesirable winds, creating a private boundary against the public area of the roof-yard, and providing secondary access during emergencies through eastern and western balconies.

Keywords: Typology, Village Texture, Dashtak, Foothill Village.

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Introduction

The main goal of typological studies is to find cultural and livelihood trends and how a form, decoration, and structure can be diversified in the physical form of organizing space. These studies, relying on comparative analysis, try to examine the similarities and differences of previous theories. One of the most important types of rural architecture is foothill architecture. In all these types, the courtyard is mainly used as the roof of another building, and the courtyard does not have an independent personality from the roof. Based on field studies and qualitative observations, the author tries to understand the roots of space production in Dashtak.

Materials & Method

Piedmont villages have climatic and rugged characteristics that affect the formation of their texture. The architecture of Piedmont villages has features that can be considered as following the unevenness, paying attention to climatic components such as the direction of the desired winds, the level of radiation received, and issues such as the method of surface water disposal, among these features. Most of the villages in these areas are extroverted. The research method is a qualitative approach and based on mixed methods of research in case and survey samples. The data was collected through software and library data studies, field observations, and sampling of residential buildings in Dashtak village. Dashtak village is located in the Dorudzan district of Abarj rural district, Marvdasht city. The village is affected by cold and dry northern winds, rainy western winds, and hot and dry southern winds. Due to the village's location on the mountainside, the formation of the village's texture and general orientation are consistent with the slope of the mountain. It can be seen that the slope has separated the horticultural and rural areas, and there is a clear boundary between these two land uses. The orientation of the village is based on the topography of the land and other climatic factors. The village has a slope in both the east-west and north-south directions. However, the north-south direction has two elevations, with the main core of the village located at a higher elevation. The spaces observed in most houses in this village include the entrance, living rooms, central courtyard, kitchen, storage, bathroom, toilet, staircase, workshop, barn and stable. The village houses are introverted. The courtyard plays three roles: light-receiving, separating the livestock and residential spaces, and maintaining privacy. The rooms, as a covered area, create a space for human activities, sleeping, resting, etc.

Discussion

The general shape of village houses is divided into two types of steep and low-slope houses based on the degree of topographic slope. In the first type of

houses, the high slope causes the number of houses with large courtyards to decrease. The reason is that the difficulty of leveling the land on a steep slope and the long length of the village increases the distance between floors and practically weakens the possibility of household access. However, on a slope with a lower slope, the number of terraced houses with courtyards increases. In these houses, it is more possible to separate the areas, however, in terms of the type of use, both houses are similar. The houses have a living room, bathrooms, a barn, a room and a living room. According to the plan, the village houses are a combination of introverted and extroverted organization, which is different from similar examples in other Piedmont villages. Considering the location of the household area, it is known that the aforementioned area occurs in the eastern body, which creates privacy compared to the upper residential unit and also absorbs sunlight. It also protects the building from receiving inappropriate wind. In addition, the creation of high walls and a central courtyard is a factor in reducing the effect of the wind, and the courtyard has a windbreak function.

Results and Conclusion

Due to the location of biological resources on the slopes of the Iran's mountain, foothill or Piedmont villages include a significant number of villages in Iran. Meanwhile, for reasons such as climate, topography and cultural foundations of each region, the texture of the villages have taken on a special form. Most villages in these areas are based on the roof-yard form. In villages, in order to control undesirable winds and create a double boundary that both connects the house with the village's social ties and does not distort private boundaries, a combination of the roof-yard system and the enclosed courtyard has been created. Each house has an extroverted aspect on the upper floor, but has an introverted feature on the floor level with the central courtyard. In order to strengthen the connection of the residential unit with other houses in the village, the verandas are organized in such a way that they can be accessed from the sides and are used as walkways in unfavorable climatic times. A type of spatial demarcation is created in shaping the texture and rural architecture of the Dashtak, which is different from the dominant types of architecture in Piedmont villages.

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