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Measuring the trend of people to participate in restoration of worn-out textures case study: Shadkhaneh district in Neyriz city

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ABSTRACT

Wearing out the urban texture, specially, when it comes to be an obvious characteristic of a district as a living cell of municipal life and a part of city system, its effects go beyond the and encompasses the whole city system. Developing the collaborative work and creating the collective energy resulting from participation of owners and residents of worn out cities is a fundamental strategy which should be regarded by the officials and municipals. In this research, in order to measure the trend of people to participate in restoration of worn out textures of Shadkhaneh district in Neyriz, questioners were used as a tool of data collection. The sample includes residents of Shadkhaneh district. With regard to Morgan Table, 360 samples were selected but to reach better results, 400 questionnaires were completed. GIS and SPSS software were used for data analysis. The results of this study showed that people participate less and different factors involve in this issue. Finally, correlation test was done between the variables which suggested that there is significant correlation between the location dependence and public participation, social connection and public participation and also awareness and social participation.

1. Introduction

Today, Iranian cities have worn-out and historical textures which are inconsistent with modern life in cities. Structural and functional anatomy of these textures suggests appearing some problems such as conflict in general structure of city, population density and activities, economic decline, skeletal quality decline, reduction of district and residential values, social quality decline, unfavorable environmental conditions, difficulty in access and traffic related problems and cultural quality decline (Davoodpoor and Niknia, 2001:3). One of the reliable strategies for the city planners to provide a proper settlement is using the potentials of worn-out textures so that we can reach this end by organizing these textures with the least cost and time.

Experiences showed that we cannot benefit by imperative and unilateral programs, and disregarding the opinions of people and intervention (as beneficiaries of programs). Such a program causes unreliability and disappointment towards good management of city affairs by officials rather than improving the environmental conditions and satisfactory. Thus, in this regard, it is essential to use the collaborative strategies and empowerment of local society and non-governmental forces (citizens, private sector, owners) for rehabilitation and improvement of worn-out textures (Fani and Sadeghi, 2009:57). So, necessity of participation of citizens in improvement of skeletal and social conditions is obvious. Experience of different countries for planning the development of cities suggests that the government is unable to implement the plans. Success of plans depends on the participation of people and local institutions. Attracting the attention of public, persuading them and public consultation make the plans move along with success regarding the aims and executive capabilities and finally ensures their success by relying on the reliable data, needs and effort (Hadian and Daneshpoor, 2009:61).

1.1. Aims of study

The most important aim of this research is to investigate the role of participation in restoration of worn-out textures of Shakhaneh district. The other aims are as follows:

- Recognition of the effective factors on the rate of participation in activities related to restoration of worn-out textures.
- Determination of relationship or lack of relationship between the dependent and independent variables

1.2. Variables of the research

Gender, age, marital status, occupation, ownership, duration of residence, location dependence, social participation, correlation and social connection

1.3. Review of the literature

Hadian and Daneshpoor (2009) investigated the role of participation of citizens to implement the rehabilitation plans of worn-out textures. The results showed that the view point of citizens toward participation relies on the intellectual assistance and making suggestions and they don't tend to participate in practice and operation. The frequency of participation and rate of cognition from the activities of citizens and socio-economic base shows the relationship.

Movahed et al (2011) in an article entitled "the role of non-governmental organizations to participate in reconstruction of worn-out textures, case study: the worn-out textures of Ahvaz", investigated the role of non-governmental organizations in rehabilitation and improvement of worn-out texture. The results showed that enhancing the cultural values results in developing the participation and activating the non-governmental organization in reconstruction and improvement of central part of Ahvaz. Establishment failure of non-governmental organization along with the social and ethnical revolutions in recent years causes the participation in improvement and rehabilitation of district decrease.

1.4. Materials and methods

The method used in this study is descriptive-analytic and library method was used for data analysis and questionnaire was completed and collected for case study. Morgan table was used for gaining the sample and based on the statistics by municipality, the population of Shadkhaneh is 5374, the table determined 360 samples, but for better result, 400 questionnaires were completed. To present the investigated GIS an to analyze data of questionnaire, SPSS were used.

1.5. The range of study

Geographically, Neyriz county is located on 28 degree and 42 minutes to 29 degree and 53 minutes of Northern latitude from the equator and on 53 degree and 24 minutes to 55 degree and 15 minutes of Eastern longitude from Greenwich meridian. Neyriz city is the most densely populated point of county. Neyriz county is located on 230 km far from Fars province capital. This county is limited to Shahre Babak from north, to Darab from South , to Sirjan from East and to Estahban from West.

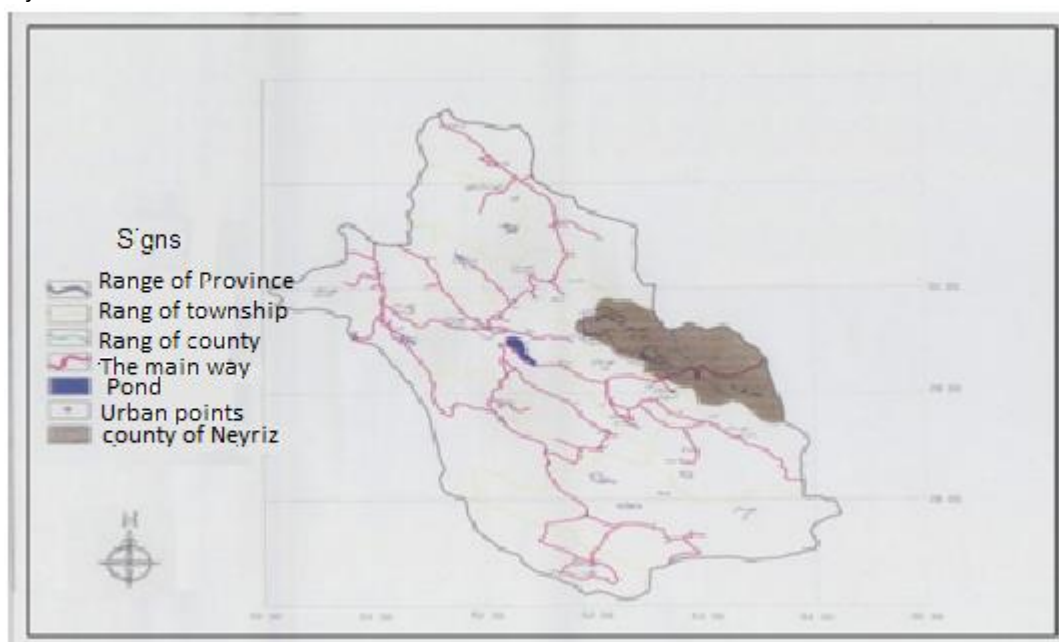


Fig. 1. The position of Neyriz in Fars Province.

Neyriz city is the capital of Neyriz county. The total area of this city equals 1143/99 acres and it has 13 districts. The biggest district in Neyriz city is Shahid Beheshti settlement which is allocated to 1/5 of area that is 245/84 acres. According to census in 1388, Shadkhaneh district consists of 5374 inhabitants and its area equals 42.58 acres (table 1). Also, this district consists of 1162 household. Household dimension in this district is 4.2.

Table 1

Characteristics of Shadkhaneh district.

Gross density (Person in each acre)	Net density (Person in each acre)	Population (person)	Area (Acre)
129	213	5374	58/42

Reference: website of municipality of Neyriz.

This district is one of the oldest districts and primary core of city which includes wide range of worn-out textures so that the whole district is considered as worn-out texture.

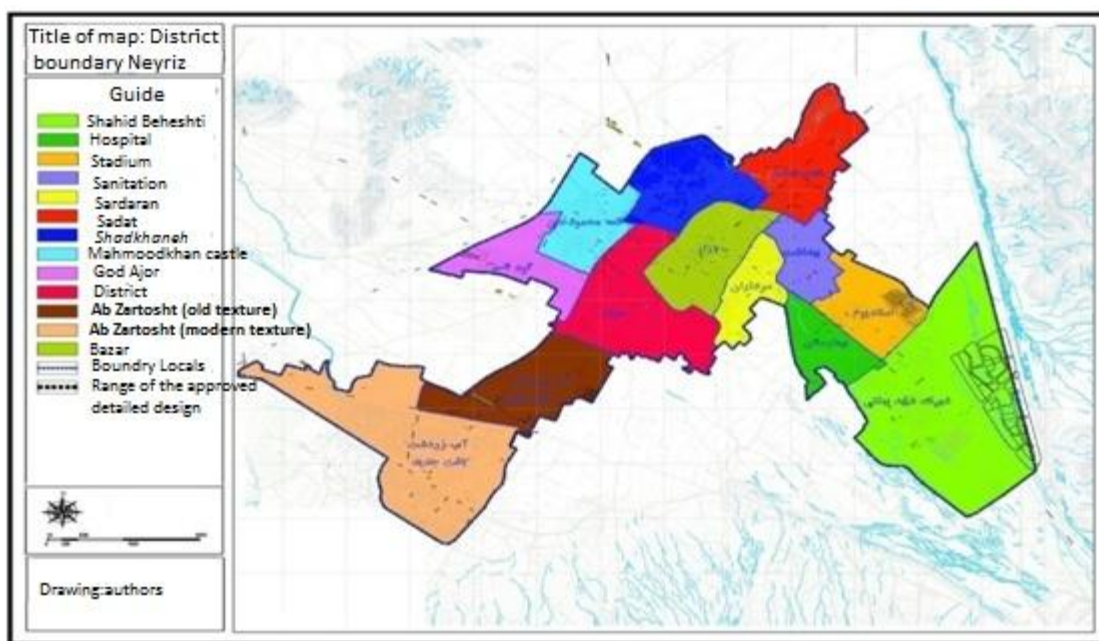


Fig. 2. Position of Shakhaneh district in Neyriz city.

2. Theoretical Issues

2.1. Participation

There are a lot of definitions for participation. Participation is a kind of rehabilitation of weak groups which can share what effects on the life (Momeni et al, 2010:46). According to the Research Institute of the United Nations for social development, participation refers to the organized efforts to increase controlling on resources and principled organizations in specific social conditions from some groups and movements that excluded from these operations (Wolf, 2002: 2).

2.2. Worn-out textures

Worn –out texture includes the places with low skeletal, functional, economic, social and environmental indicators. Low quality of life, deficit in service and main infrastructures and high density are the characteristics of worn out textures (Davar Panah and Javaheripour, 2001:54).

2.3. Social Connection and correlation

Social connection means the rate of connection of individuals with each other, participation in roles and social activities which has good results for the future and believing in ethnical values and cultural disorders are the processes by which we can influence on the decisions and resources and participate in them (Rietbergen-McCracken, 2007: 4). Social connections suggest the collective agreement among the members of a society. This connection results from internalizing the system of values and norms and collective belongs and also from density of social interactions (Moheseni and Tabrizi, 2004:89).

2.4. Approaches

2.4.1. Approach of asset-baseline

This view emphasizes on the process and rehabilitated with local assets like social and skeletal capital. In other words, development of local communities is the baseline for their assets.

2.4.2. Society based approach

Development based on this approach is a process in which the local communities pioneer to reach the common aims and interests (Mousavi, 2006:61).

This research relies on this approach. Its characteristics are: public oriented and take the citizens into considerations; responsiveness; emphasizing on the public organization for decision making; role of human resource and social capitals in form of asset-based insight; flexibility; depending upon the abilities (Nasiri, 2004:49).

3. Data analysis

In this research, the rate of public participation in restoration of worn-out textures of Shadkhaneh in Neyriz was investigated. The position of worn –out texture of this district and other areas is shown on the following map.



Fig. 3. Positions of areas of worn-out texture of Neyriz and studied areas.

Regarding the lack of accurate statistics of participation of citizens in Shadkhaneh in restoration of worn-out textures, the best way to solve this problem is making polls to estimate the rate of participation, thus this approach was used to gain the participation among the residents of Shadkhaneh in Neyriz. The variables of assessing the rate of participation were used.

Background variable: the factors like age, gender, occupation, education, marital status of citizens is effective for participation. Lipest, in his research about the participation and related factors in western countries found that: men participate more than women, the educated more than the non educated, urban residents more than rural residents, the people aged more than 35-55 more than the Youngers, the married more than the singles, the older inhabitants more than the new comings. (Pantham, 2001:43).

Social connection variable: consolidation of social connection results in increasing the participation, because the participation is considered as an ethnical value and cultural norm.

Awareness variable: investigation of this research suggests that awareness of citizens' rights, the effect of their participation on decision making and informing about the role of city management on participation of citizens results in enhancing the participation and lack of training, advertisement and information for participation results in attenuating the citizens' participation.

Environmental variable: duration of settlement in a district effects on the participation, and the more the citizens live in a city, the more they participate due to sense of ownership and belonging. Based on Durkim , when the citizens feel sense of belonging to an environment , the required terms for social belonging is provided and participation increases due to increasing social belonging (ibid,43-45) .

The responses of questionnaires were investigated and analyzed.

- Gender of respondents

Table 2

Gender of respondents.

Percent	Frequency	Gender
66	264	male
34	136	female

Based on the above table, 66 percent of respondents are male and 34 percent are female.

- Age

Table 3

Age of respondents.

Percent	Frequency	Age
20/5	82	20-30
27	108	30-40
15/5	62	40-50
37	148	more than 50

Based on the above table, most of the respondents aged more than 50 and least of them aged between 40-50.

- Marital status

Table 4

Marital status.

Percent	Frequency	Marital status
72/5	290	Single
27/5	110	Married

This table shows than the number of singles is more than the married people. The singles feel sense of responsibility more than the married people. So, we can conclude that most of the residents are not committed to participating in the affairs of district .

- Emigrants

in below table , the number of respondents and characteristics of emigrants in Shadkhaneh is presented,

Table 5

The number and share of emigrants in Shadkhaneh.

Origin		Share of participants (percent)	Number of emigrants	Total number of respondents	Population	Items
Urban	Rural					
54/5	45/5	80	320	400	5374	No.

Table 3 suggests that share of emigrants in this regard is too high and this rate involves 80 percent of population and its reason is low price of houses in this district . Different emigrants with different cultures results in attenuating the social connection of residents. This factor is considered as negative factor in participation. In this district , due to the worn-out textures, old and improper appearance, low resistance material, narrow passages, social problems like drug addiction results in reducing the cost of houses, for this reason, the emigrants who move to the inside the town from the outside, are in low financial state and due to the cheap price of houses they choose this district . Table 4 shows the average price of residential land in different areas of Neyriz. According to these tables, Shadkhaneh has the cheapest residential land in Neyriz.

Table 6

Free price of residential land in Neyriz.

Settlement inside the texture	Settlement in the street	Position
60000	100000	Sadat
50000	80000	Shadkhaneh
150000	300000	Bazar
170000	300000	Sardaran
70000	160000	Mahmoodkhan castle
40000	60000	God Ajor
100000	250000	District
140000	180000	Sanitation
120000	150000	Stadium
150000	300000	Hospital
110000	170000	Shahid Beheshti Settlement
150000	250000	Ab Zartosht (old texture)
90000	150000	Ab Zartosht (modern texture)

Source: municipality of Neyriz.

- Correlation and social connection

Table 7

Correlation and social connection.

Percent	Frequency	Social correlation
47	76	Low
34	188	Average
19	136	High

Table 7 investigated the social correlation and connection in the district. It suggests that 81 percent of people consider the social correlation as low and average which shows that social correlation and connection is low in this district. This can be a preventive factor of participation in restoration of worn-out textures.

- Literacy

Table 8 suggests the level of education in this district and according to the table, most of the people suffer from illiteracy. This rate equals 27.5 percent and 41 percent of literate people are below diploma which is considerable. Illiteracy and low literacy cause the residents become distrust to the executive officials and it can decrease the participation in this plans. Table 9 suggest that more than half of these people are not aware of rights of citizens or are little aware.

Table 8

the rate of residents' literacy in the studied area.

Above M.A	B.A	Above diploma	Below diploma	Illiterate	Items
22	24	84	164	55	No.
5.5	6	21	41	27/5	%

Table 9

the rate of awareness of citizens' rights.

Very high (%)	High (%)	Average (%)	Low (Low)	Very low (%)	Items
4/7	7/6	34/4	43/2	11/1	How much aware are you to the rights of citizens?

- Sense of belonging (location dependence).

-

Table 10 investigated the rate of sense of belonging to the settlement. About one-third of residents don't have sense of belonging to their district or have low sense. Lack of sense of belonging to the district can be another reason of low participation of district residents to perform the projects.

Table 10

Rate of sense of belonging to the residence.

No sense of belonging	Very low	Low	Almost	High	Very high	Items
72	64	80	132	36	16	No.
18	16	20	33	9	4	%

- Duration of residency

Table 11 suggests the duration of residency in Shadkhaneh. Most of the residents live less than 10 years in this place. The less the duration of residency is, the less will be sense of belonging and thus the person does not have sense of belonging to his district.

Table 11

duration of residency in Shadkhaneh.

More than 20 years	10-20 years	5-10 years	Less than 5 years	Items
86	66	104	144	No.
21/5	16/5	26	36	%

- Occupation

Table 12 investigated the occupation of respondents of questionnaire, 63 % of residents run their small business and most of them are workers, so most of the residents lack the stability occupation. Instability of occupation makes the individual find a proper and stable job rather than participate in the city affairs. And it is considered as a preventive factor of participation.

Table 12

share of occupational groups of respondents in Shadkhaneh.

Retired	Housekeeper	Unemployed	Self-employed	Staff	Occupation
60	36	40	252	20	No.
15	9	10	63	5	%

- Income

Table 11 investigated the income of residents in this district. As shown in table, most of the residents' income (80%) is less than 500,000 Tomans and it suggests the financial weakness. Financial weakness can effect on the participation negatively.

Table 13

Income of residents in the studied area.

More than 700	501-700	301-500	101-300	Less than 100	Income
36	44	144	110	68	No.
9	11	35/5	27.5	17	%

- Kind of ownership

Table 14

kind of ownership.

Inherit	Leased	Estate	Kind of ownership
66	99	135	No.
16/5	24/75	33/75	%

As shown above, most of the respondents (33.75) personal estate. Having estate increases the sense of belonging and it is the positive factor of participation. The reason that some individuals have rented house is that they move to different places frequently and it causes that the individual don't feel the sense of belonging.

- Field of participation

Table 15

share of experience of residents in participation.

Lack of experience	Charity fund	Basig	Membership in religious board	Field of participation
166	16	60	158	No.
41/5	4	15	39/5	%

As shown above, half of the residents lack experience in participation. The residents involve in the religious meetings and we can trust on their participation and coordination in rehabilitation and restoration. We can use the religious boards to hold the seminars with residents to train the rights of citizens and confidence.

- The manner of participation in rehabilitation and improvement of district

Table 16

The manner of participation of residents in rehabilitation and improvement of district.

Temporarily assigning of home and returning to the district	Selling home and moving into a place	Disagree with rehabilitation	Manner of participation
132	92	176	No.
33	23	44	%

Table 16 investigated the manner of participation of residents in rehabilitation and improvement of district. According to the table, a considerable number of residents (44%) disagree with rehabilitation in this area and it suggests the low participation of residents in city affairs.

3.1. Relationships between the variables

3.1.1. Location dependence and public participation

As the dependent and independent variables were measured on the basis of hierarchical level, Spearman correlation coefficients and Kendall's Tau test were used for correlation and significance of relationship and determining the level and intensity of relationship, respectively.

Table 17

the relationship between the location dependence and public participation.

Total	Agree	Almost agree	Disagree	public participation location dependence
64	1	17	46	Disagree
100	9	33	58	Almost agree
36	1	14	21	Agree
200	11	64	125	Total

Table 18

Spearman correlation coefficients between the variables of location dependence and public participation.

Spearman	0/551	(Kendall's tau-b)	0/554
(sig)	0/029	(sig)	0/031

As shown in table 18, the Spearman correlation coefficient equals 0.029 and it shows that the significance of the relationship between the variables of location dependence and public participation because the P value is less than 0.05.

Table 19

relationship among correlation, social connection and public participation.

Total	Agree	Almost agree	Disagree	Public participation social connection
17	0	4	13	Disagree
113	9	35	69	Almost agree
70	2	20	48	Agree
200	11	59	130	Total

Table 20

Spearman correlation coefficient between the variables of social correlation and public participation

Spearman	0/604	(Kendall's tau-b)	0/606
(sig)	0/033	(sig)	0/032

According to table 20, the Spearman correlation coefficient shows the significant relationship between two variables of social connection and public participation.

Table 21

relationship between the awareness and social participation.

Total	Agree	Almost agree	Disagree	Public participation
				Awareness
63	2	16	45	Disagree
102	8	32	62	Almost agree
35	2	12	21	Agree
200	12	60	128	Total

Table 22

Spearman correlation coefficient between the awareness and public participation.

Spearman	0/582	(Kendall's tau-b)	0/587
(sig)	0/026	(sig)	0/029

As shown in above table, there is significant relationship between two variables (Awareness and public participation).

4. Conclusions

The main aim of this study was to measure the amount of public participation in restoration and rehabilitation of worn out texture of Shadkhaneh in Neyriz and the required data were collected and analyzed by questionnaire.

The results of this study showed that there are different factors that involve in low public participation in restoration of worn-out textures of district. These factors are: illiteracy and low literacy, high number of single people , high number of emigrants and low sense of belonging to the district. These factors cause that 41.5 of people don't participate actively. With regard to restoration of worn-out textures, 44 percent of people were not ready to participate.

Finally, a correlation tests was performed and it was concluded that there is significant correlation between the location dependence, public participation, social connection and correlation and public participation, awareness and social participation. Thus, we can be hopeful of public participation in restoration of worn-out textures by improving the factors involving in reduction of participation.

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