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# Designing A Youth Cultural Center in Rasht City with an Environmental Psychological

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**Abstract:** Culture is the most sustainable form of society, and it takes into account the quality of society and the reality in that, and in this regard, cultural center is a building in which one or more cultural institutions are active. In cultural centers, there are usually conditions for the training of various cultural and social issues. Cultural academies are personality-oriented. According to the surveys carried out in Rasht, and considering the size of the existing young population, the lack of youth cultural center was felt in proportion to large cities like Tehran. In this research, due to the importance of youth in society and their mental health, studies have been conducted on psychology of environment and the youth cultural center proposal. As a result, it was prioritized for proper knowledge of this space and the knowledge of its features. A qualitative research design is planned for this thesis. The conceptual model is in the order of prioritization of the research stages, which begins with climate and site studies including the physical program.

**Keywords:** Environment, Young, Environmental Psychology, Cultural Center, Rasht

## INTRODUCTION

A look at the stages of historical development of many cities in our country leads us to the fact that although urban development has been quantitatively associated with urban surface development and increased construction along with rising urban incomes, but in terms of environmental quality, this development has been accompanied by many challenges. In order to better understand the issue, it is enough to address issues such as water scarcity, air pollution, the lack of public green spaces and ugly landscapes and urban sprawl and the inefficiency of transportation networks, which are often raised in the form of serious city-wide crises, and so on. One of the permanent problems of our modern cities is the lack of cultural spaces in our country. Today, the big cities of the country have a wide range of standard sizes in exploiting cultural spaces and from this perspective, they face with severe poverty in terms of meeting the needs of citizens.

In Rasht, there is only one cultural center for the public and all ages that located in Saadi Street and due to relatively small space, it does not meet the needs of the population of Rasht. Also, Rasht culture House, in Sagarisazan street is in poor quality and non-standard, embraces the culture of city. And this is due to the lack of a young professional culture center and the urban youth population and their need for a suitable cultural space, which is a great platform for the design of a young cultural center.

### Objectives, Needs and Research Necessities:

- Objectives

A sense of place means the perception of people from their environment and their more or less conscious emotions from their environment that places a person in an inner connection with the environment. The

question posed in designing the youth culture center design will be that what psychological points to consider when designing spaces is that young people get positive effects from that place.

This idea of the necessity of applying the principles of environmental psychology in the design young culture center, with regard to physiological needs, mental health of individuals, cultural data and mental needs as inevitable in the improvement of young people's behavior, it will motivate further research in this regard and architectural design in line with this approach. From this perspective, the following operational objectives can be addressed in relation to the subject of the project:

- **Operational Objectives:**

The macro objective of this project is to provide an optimal functional physical plan for the project to create a young culture city to meet the needs and deficiencies in the cultural-leisure-educational areas which can be achieved through the following operational objectives:

- Identifying the factors affecting cultural center in attracting young people.
- Investigating the environment and environmental factors affecting the young cultural center.
- Considering the relationship between the environment and people in promoting the quality of the spaces.
- Creation of a new center of cultural-leisure-educational activities in the Guilan province, considering the shortcomings.
- Meeting the cultural-leisure-educational needs of the province, through the deployment of performance at the appropriate scale.
- Formation of young cultural center considering the ecological conditions of Iran and achievement of important goals and principles in environmental psychology.

- **Social, Cultural Objectives**

- Young people's passion for learning and study as well as artistic activities is important and requires a space that attracts them and prefers to spend more time in that space.
- Attention to interaction between human and environment from environmental psychology, young needs and values views.
- Spiritual and psychological refinement of complex exploiters through the creation of a happy and fun space.
- Meeting the cultural, leisure and educational needs of clients in order to retrieve mental and emotional powers.

- **Research background:**

Architects, geographers and social scientists have long been interested in issues related to the relationship of environment and behavior and many current environmental psychologists can also reject their research in the work done by the early psychologists. For example, psychologists interested in environmental perception were heavily influenced by the early perceptions developed in Germany by Max Wertheimer (1880-1943), Wolfgang Kohler (1867-1947), and Kurt Lewin (1890-1947). Throughout history, it has always been the source of new innovations and phenomena in relation to the needs of individuals or society, which eventually became reality and progressively evolve over time. The environment psychology is like a lost circle in the process of architectural design and the environment, and one of the most fundamental principles in this direction.

Here are some successful examples of this cultural center:

- Culture Center of Tehran-Khavarani
- Nature Culture center of Tehran-Eshragh
- Getty Los Angeles Cultural Complex (USA)

- **Research Hypothesis**

Today, in order to deal with the social and individual problems of a person, we need to educate people who are creative and productive, and not just consumers of the cultural and social achievements of the past. By altering

the elements of the architecture of the environment, human behavior can be transformed, especially at the level of social behaviors. Environmental psychology creates various theories in relation to the impact of the environment on humans and the way in which they communicate and interact with physical environment and human experience which is the result of observing human behaviors in its everyday environment. In such a way that these theories can be used in environmental design. It is possible to make the living environment easier and more convenient by using design principles such as aesthetics, engineering, and with cultural needs.

- **Methodology and Research procedures**

In view of the fact that the subject of this thesis (designing the culture of young people) is in the field of architecture should be understood by the principles of the psychology of the environment, therefore, the description and inference of each of these categories requires interpretation and analysis. Therefore, a qualitative research project is considered for this thesis. In this way, special design patterns of the environment and their valuation to improve the quality of the spaces and the type of communication and impact on individuals. The conceptual model is in order of prioritization of the research stages, which begins with climate and site studies including the physical program.

- This research has begun on the basis of library studies. Studying books and articles, and using archives of magazines, newspapers and libraries
- Considering foreign samples from reputable sites in the same way
- Observation: Observing what is happening in relation to the subject in the world.
- Considering and study of articles related to design theory in this field
- Internet: Internet sites, published articles and photos

A tool for collecting information through reputable online sites is to get more familiar with the similar examples worked around the world and to get the latest information.

Computer software for statistics analysis:

Excel

Computer software to advance the drawing design process:

Autocad- 3dmax-revit-photoshop

These tools will be used in accordance with the progress of the research.

## **Conclusion**

Young culture center with an environmental psychology approach is a collection of diverse cultural and educational spaces and areas which provides amusement facilities to promote culture, art and education. The purpose of the design is based on psychological patterns.

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