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Original Research Article

Investigating the Influence of Modernity on the Architecture of Contemporary Houses in Tabriz City during the Qajar Period

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Abstract

Problem statement: Tabriz has received much attention as one of the important cities of Iran in various periods of history, especially in the last few centuries. During the Qajar era, many new achievements of the new world were experienced in this city of Iran for the first time. As a pioneer city in the formation of modernity in Iran, the architecture of Tabriz underwent changes during this period and influenced the traditional architecture of Iran. The main question of the research is how the impact of modernity on the architectural forms of Tabriz houses was manifested and what changes were made in the architecture of this era.

Research objective: The purpose of this study is to investigate the impact of modernization in Iran on the architecture of the Qajar period in Tabriz.

Research method: This research employs a qualitative approach, which seeks to answer the research question by using the interpretive-historical research method for historical issues and the descriptive-analytical research method for architectural issues. Data were collected through library research.

Conclusion: The results of the study indicate that the acquaintance of the people of Tabriz with the manifestations of modernity by traveling to Europe led to the tendency of this city to move toward Westernization and the usage of Western elements in architecture such as pair columns in the facade, Corinthian order columns, two-way stairs at the entrance, the use of semicircular arches, the use of metal railing for stairs, the use of curved lines, and extraversion in some buildings.

Keywords: *Modernity, Qajar, Tabriz, House, Architecture.*

Introduction

The city of Tabriz with its ancient civilization has been one of the important centers for political and social evolutions in Iran over the past centuries. The selection of this city as the capital during various historical periods, such as Ilkhanate, Qara Qoyunlu,

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and Safavid indicates the specific political and geographical situation of this city over the history. Tabriz played the role of political, economic, and cultural center during the Qajar era that coincided with the emergence of modernity in the West. Some people were sent overseas for education for the first time in this period, and this made Iranians familiar

with modernity manifests. This paper aims to examine the effect of these manifestations on the architecture of Tabriz City with emphasis on the Qajar houses in Tabriz. In this study, modernity in Iran was examined, and then the reasons why Iran moved towards modernity were scrutinized. Finally, the role of Tabriz was addressed in forming modernity in Iran and providing the field for the advent of modernity manifestation for the first time in Iran considering its effect on the architecture of houses located in this city.

Background Research

Haghir and Salavati studied Iranians' positive criticism of European architecture and its correlation with their negative criticism of Iranian architecture during the late Qajar Era. They expressed that Iranians' main positive criticism of architecture and European cities is related to clean cities and cultural buildings, technology, tall buildings, beautiful staircases, attention to antique and historical works, and consideration of public spaces. Iranian modernity, which is different from European modernity, has paid more attention to some achievements of modernity in architecture and urban planning regarding its indigenous and vernacular issues and concerns. Therefore, Iranian modernity provided a domestic and selective interpretation of architectural and urban modernization based on indigenous requirements and needs (Haghir & Salavati, 2020).

Alavipour carried out a study titled *Modernity and Iran's Intellectuals' Confrontation with it* to review and criticize the book "Iran's Intellectual Encounter with Modernity" by Farzin Vahdat. He examined how modernity entered Iran and how it influenced Iranian thoughts and intellectuals (Alavipour, 2016). Zivyar studied the reflections of the West and modernity in Mirza Saleh Shirazi's Travelogue to address historical analysis and critique of cultural reform in the Iran and West confrontation, find how colonialism entered Iran, how west culture influenced Iran, and know the Iranian community during the era called the ignorance era (Zivyar, 2017). Ajtahed Nejad Kashani and Saei conducted a study on the sociological analysis of modernity development in Iran and explained that

Iranian modernity is a form of reactive modernity, which has appeared as a result of Iranian agents' reactions to global changes and confrontation with colonial powers (Ajtahed Nejad Kashani & Saei, 2017). Paya conducted a study to examine critical considerations of the Iranian modernity experience to provide a brief description of modernity advent, a critical and summarized analysis of some manifestations of this phenomenon in the specific field of Iran, and some recommendations for a model to progress modernity projects in Iran (Paya, 2008).

Torkashvan, Afzalian, Sahaf and Saghatol Eslami carried out a study on the effect of architectural evolution in the late Qajar period on the decorations of houses located in Mashhad. They expressed that Iranian art and architecture in the Qajar era appeared differently under the influence of modernist currents and evolutions. In this period, achievements of the European modernity era entered the body and spirit of architecture in these cities, including its buildings and mansions, so that architectural decorations were influenced by different forms of façade, entrance gates, indoor spaces, architectural elements, and components. The appearance of Western decorative elements and ornaments, such as decorative columns and capitals, sloped ceilings, wooden ornaments of the ceiling, murals, metal heaters, etc., in the building indicates the influence of Western architecture and ornaments in buildings constructed during this era (Torkashvan et al., 2021).

Wahdattalab, Yaran and Mohammadi Khoshbin examined and evaluated the concept of porosity in the façades of historical houses located in Tabriz. They reported that external façades have a specific feature called porosity that belongs just to these façades. The structure of constituent elements and the porosity changes of façades follow a certain pattern. Also, this study shows that porosity is an aesthetic feature that has a mysterious pattern created by the aesthetic taste of architects, receiving audience feedback, and considering environmental conditions (Wahdattalab et al., 2018). Yaran and Behroo studied the influence of Islamic culture and ethics on the housing and spatial body of houses built in the Qajar era in Ardabil City. They explained that values obtained from Islamic culture and ethics

influence the housing and manifestation of these values, including hijab, cooperation, purity, contentment, God-centeredness, obedience, and humility in the spatial body of studied houses (Yaran & Behroo, 2017). Ebrahimi, Soltanzadeh and Keramati studied the reflection of Western culture in the lifestyle and the architecture of the houses in the late Qajar Dynasty in Hamadan and explained that changes in the first step appeared in the architecture of houses belonging to the noble class and merchants. The manifestation of space evolution in the architecture of these houses has occurred in the frame of changes in the macro, middle, and micro realms of space. In the macro realm of space, form simplicity and deletion of multiple courtyards are considerable features. In the field of middle evolution, significant changes have occurred in indoor space arrangement and indoor space expansion. At the same time, at the micro-space level, the symbolic importance of some architectural elements, including columns, staircases, and ornaments, is considerable (Ebrahimi et al., 2017).

Violet Shakiba, Habibi, Tabibian and Ghadimi Gheydari carried out a study on Tabriz, modernity, and its impact on modern Iranian urban planning and expressed that European modernity's entrance and tendency towards change and evolution occurred in Tabriz, while its manifestation in the structure of Tabriz was not matched with the changes in other contexts. European modernity introduced itself by constructing single governmental buildings with new and unfamiliar uses for people (Violet Shakiba et al., 2020).

Balilan asl, Kafashian, Eghbali and Hashemi studied the effect of pictures, stamps, and postcards on the murals of Qajar houses in Tabriz and explained that the close relationship between Qajar kings and Europe during the Qajar Dynasty had a profound effect on Iranian art. Features of Western art are seen in most mural topics, including the posture of individuals posing in front of the camera, the type of women's clothes, and paintings of artists drawn based on the picture. The reason for this effect is importing cameras, postcards, and stamps to the country and their application (Balilan asl et al., 2019).

Gharehbaglou and Reshad characterized imageability in the Qajar houses of Tabriz and expressed that empirical components obtained from occupants' mental perceptions imply two objective and subjective spaces indicating these components have a high imageability in human perception of the space (Gharehbaglou & Reshad, 2021).

In the book "Architecture of Tehran during the Naseredin Shah Period," Ghobadiyan examined the tradition and modernity of contemporary architecture in Tehran and analyzed the architecture of Tehran during the Naseri Era. In the book "The Advent of New Architecture in Iran" (Ghobadiyan, 2004). Bavar investigated the architectural evolutions of Iran during the contemporary era. In the book "Contemporary Architecture in Iran" (Bavar, 2009). Bani Masoud investigated the intellectual developments of Iranian intellectuals in the Qajar Era and examined Iran's architecture from the Qajar era to the present (Bani Masoud, 2009). Ghobadian studied theories and styles in contemporary Iranian architecture and investigated architecture and urban planning in the Qajar era in the first part of the book (Ghobadiyan, 2013). The available studies show that although many studies have been done on modernity in Iran, no study has been conducted on the role of Tabriz in modernity formation in Iran and its effect on architecture emphasizing houses located in Tabriz. Hence, this is an important study.

Theoretical Foundations

• Modernity

Modernity is against tradition meaning renewal and change. If being is considered in tradition, becoming is important in modernity. In modern society, planning is considered instead of imitation. Tradition and imitation of the past do not specify normal and abnormal cases but efficiency and planning are the criteria and measures. Although theological sciences and the hereafter world and happiness in it are the objectives considered in traditional societies, terrestrial sciences of the current world and recognition of tangible affairs and success in this world are considered in modern

communities. Therefore, doubting and criticizing the beliefs and thoughts of ancestors are accepted in modern communities. Most philosophers believe that the modern period was initiated after the advent of humanism and rationalism during the Renaissance period in North Italy during the 15th century (Ghobadiyan, 2004, 19 & 20). Unlike tradition, which reflects stability, consistency, and continuity, modernity means renewing, becoming new, and starting a new process. The documents and topics related to the term “modernity” include four phrases: 1. Modern, 2. Modernity, 3. Modernism, and 4. Modernization, which are explained in Table 1.

• **Modernity in Iran**

The confrontation between Iranians and Ottomans in the Chaldoran War in 1514 led to the defeat of Iran because the Ottomans were equipped with new weapons. Iran became familiar with other new weapons on the islands and ports located in the south of Iran after the hostilities with the marine force of Portugal in the 16th century. Shah Abbas Safavi could expel the Portuguese from the southern areas of Iran after 100 years (1622) using English advisors and cannons (Ghobadiyan, 2004, 26). Many assume that modernity

onset in the Iranian community sooner than the Pahlavi I era was considered a type of social spontaneous but the slow movement towards modernity in Iran society of the Qajar era (Nari Ghomi & Abbaszadeh, 2014, 94). The defeat of Iran in the wars between Iran and Russia made political officials pay more attention to western civilization and economic-military power resulted from this failure. The necessity of achieving academic and technical advances to maintain the independence of the country and resistance against aliens led to a scientific and intellectual exchange between traditional Iran and modern Europe. Some acts such as sending students to Europe, the establishment of Darolfonoon by Amir Kabir, and inviting Europeans for teaching and consulting were done to achieve the outstanding achievements of Western civilization in academic and technical fields, especially in militarism in the first step (Masomi, 2016, 123). A review of the opinions of the first generation of Iranian travelers and intellectuals in the modern European era indicates their different approaches to profound developments and civic achievements. Table 2 reports the viewpoint of some Qajar-era intellectuals about modernity in Iran.

Table 1. Terminology of Modern. Source: Authors with a summary from Ghobadiyan, 2004.

Term	Definition
Modern	New, mode and new thing, up-to-date
Modernity	A kind of situation and attitude towards existence and life that has occurred in history, changed human’s view of the world, especially themselves
Modernism	A kind of ideology and attitude
Modernization	Making a society new, renewing and renewal

Table 2. The viewpoint of some modernist intellectuals of the Qajar era about modernity in Iran. Source: Authors with a summary from Bani Masoud, 2009.

Intellect of Qajar era	Opinions
Mirza Fatali Akhundzade	In his analysis of Iran’s backwardness, Akhundzade introduced the most important causes for weakness and backwardness in Iran, including absolute tyranny in the governance, lack of law in the society, wrong and superstitious traditions and beliefs, and lack of science and knowledge in the society.
Mirza Malkam Khan Nazem Al-Doleh	Nazem Al-Doleh was the first person who recommend adopting European civilization. The meaning of adopting European civilization is believing like this civilization that is principles of development, and this development leads to changes. These principles of development can be taken from anywhere, and no specific country in Europe is considered provided that this development is taken from scholars, not any European person or people who have gone to Europe.
Mirza Agha Khan Kermani	Agha Khan Kermani believes that the only way for Iran’s development and progress is by adopting sciences, techniques, art, and European civilization. Adaptation and acceptance of European technology in the thoughts and speech of Kermani is a conscious adaptation of Europe, not an unconscious imitation.
Mirza Yosef Mostashar Al-Doleh	Mostashar Al-Doleh examines the reasons for the considerable developments of Europeans and the depression and disorganization of Iranians. He considers the application of European foundations and principles by European nations as the reason for the development of Europeans and Iran’s ignorance in this field as the reason for such a case.
Mirza Abdul’Rahim Talibov	Emphasizing the adoption from Europe, Talibov pays attention to learning Western technical knowledge. In his opinion, the cultural traditions of Iran must be protected against foreign influences. He assumes that modernization is different from Westernization.

• Modernity in Tabriz

The big city of Tabriz, with its ancient civilization, has been one of the important centers for political and social evolution in Iran over the past centuries. The selection of this city as the capital during various historical periods, such as the Ilkhanate, Qara Qoyunlu, and Safavid, indicates the specific political and geographical situation of this city over its history. After the end of the Khanate period and the Qajar Dynasty, Iran was governed under the title “Iran’s Enclosed Kingdoms,” and various states had domestic authorities. In this period, Tabriz played the role of the political, economic, and cultural center of Iran due to its historical importance and prominent position as the city where the crown prince lived. In those years, the developed space of this city was the center for the growth and appearance of some elites, such as Abbas Mirza, Mirza Isa and Abolghasem Ghaem Magha, Farahani, Mirza Taghi Khan, Amir Kabir, Mirza Saleh Shirazi, etc. (Sardari Niya, 2008, 11). Tabriz obtained its vital power from three factors: developed commerce, military power, and political centrality during the Qajar period. This case was influenced by the geographical location of this city, which linked Iran to Russia, the Ottoman, and Europe. A physical reflection of these three factors is seen in the large and wealthy bazaar, wide porch house, soldier house, and several military centers (Mohamadzadeh, 2015, 88). Tabriz is one of the most important commercial centers in Iran because of its location on the Silk Road route. Due to the specific location of this city, Tabriz has always invited and welcomed the commercial caravans of the Far East and Europe through Russia and the Ottoman Empire and was a center for exchanging commercial commodities with European countries (Teimouri et al., 64-65). The Industrial Revolution, the Great French Revolution, and the Russian Revolution occurred during the Qajar period. The collapse of the Ottoman Empire and the formation of the Soviet Union government were threats to Tabriz. They stabilized the position of Tabriz as the city where the Crown Prince lived and became the main city for making political decisions. In this era, Tabriz is the main gate for entering Europe and the new world. This position provided the field with the opportunity to experience many achievements of the new world in this city, among which the first printing house is one of its outstanding cultural effects and outcomes

(Atazadeh, 2004, 17). Numerous political relations of Tabriz with European countries and Russia led to the cultural development of this city so that Tabriz became a leading city in the field of technology presence in Iran and is now known as the city of the firsts (Sardari Niya, 2007). After issuing the constitutional decree that the state association of Azerbaijan was formed in Tabriz, one of the important measures taken by it was the establishment of new administrations, including the municipality in which Ghasem Khan Amir Toman, known as Vali, was selected as the first mayor of Tabriz in 1907. The first firefighting department in Iran Tabriz’s Firefighting Tower was established after the formation of the first Iranian municipality in Tabriz. Tarbiat Library, established in 1921, was the first library in its modern form, which was established with the efforts of Mohammad Ali Khan Trbiat in Tabriz (Niknam Laleh & Zoghi, 1995, 201). According to available papers and studies, the oldest newspaper that was established after Vaqaye-e Ettefaqiye Newspaper in the counties of Iran was a newspaper titled Nation (Mellat) that was published in Tabriz. Table 3 reports some of the firsts in Tabriz.

Method

This is a qualitative study in terms of objective that applies an interpretative-historical method for historic topics and a descriptive-analytical method for architecture subjects to answer this question: how the impact of modernity aspects on the architectural forms of Tabriz houses was manifested and what changes occurred in the architecture of this era? In the first step, some authentic documents, such as academic papers and books, were used to extract data and provide theoretical foundations for historical and architectural aspects through library and field studies on famous buildings influencing the contemporary architecture of Iran. In the second step, after extracting architectural elements affecting the architecture of contemporary houses in Tabriz, the effect of the independent variable (Western architectural elements) is examined on the dependent variable (the architecture of contemporary houses in Tabriz during the Qajar Era). To select houses from the ones constructed in Tabriz during the Qajar era and their available documents with the possibility of collecting their data, the following

Table 3. The firsts in Tabriz. Source: Authors with a summary from Sardari Niya, 2007.

The firsts in Tabriz	Founder	Year	Location in Tabriz
The first printing house	Abbas Mirza	1810	-
The first weapon factory	Abbas Mirza	Iran-Russia War	Jobeh Khane of Ark Sarkari
The first modern education school	Mirza Hasan Roshdieh	1888	Sheshkolan Neighborhood
The first public library	Hasan Khan Khazen Lashkar	1895	Next to Ark Maktab Khaneh
The first municipality	Ghasem Khan Vali	1908	Tabriz Municipality
The first firefighting building	-z	Late Qajar Era	Khaghani Street
The first cinema (Sooli Cinema)	-	1900	Tabriz Passage
The first telephone	Ghasem Khan Vali	1901	Majid Al-Molk Street
The first guest house (hotel)	Eshagh Khan Moazez Al-Doleh	1903	Near the Tarbiat Library
The first school of nursing and midwifery	-	1916	Un iversity of Medical Sciences

houses were randomly chosen: Amir Nezam, Savojbolaghi, Company, Mashrooteh, Kalantari, Ganjezadeh, and Nasehzadeh.

The data were gathered from available literature and field observations to examine the influence of Western architectural elements on Iranian architecture with emphasis on the houses located in Tabriz during the Qajar era. In this research, the independent variable is the Western architecture elements, and the architecture of Tabriz houses is the dependent variable.

Discussion

According to historical studies, the Qajar era coincided with Europe from the late 18th century to the early 20th century. The most prominent buildings of this period in historical cities in Europe are influenced by neoclassical architecture. This movement claimed a kind of innovation in the architecture and art of ancient Greece. Greece and Rome are revived in this period through the thoughts and beliefs of Andrea Palladio. In the design of the Palace of Whitehall, Inigo Jones used façade columns and Corinthian order. Robert Adam used a two-way curved staircase and Corinthian order in the Kedleston building, and in the design of Chiswick House, Richard Boyle imitated the pattern used in the design of Villa la Rotonda by Andrea Palladio, emphasizing the use of central space, a pediment, two-way entrance staircase, and Corinthian order (Bani Masoud, 2010). A review of some landmark buildings in Europe constructed during this period indicates some architectural features of these buildings, including Corinthian order, façade columns, two-way entrance staircases, and pediments, as reported in Table 4.

To select case studies among buildings constructed during the Qajar era in Tabriz, houses and buildings with historical value constructed in the period from Abbas Mirza to Ahmad Shah Kingdom in Tabriz were studied. The house was selected as a case study because numerous houses existed in Tabriz compared to other buildings, including religious and government monuments. In this research, landmark houses of Tabriz constructed in the Qajar era are selected to examine the plan and façade of these buildings considering the influence of European architecture on them. European architectural elements used in houses located in Tabriz during the Qajar era are shown in Table 5. According to Table 6, 11 European architectural elements used in Tabriz houses constructed during the Qajar period include the use of pediment, paired columns, two-way corridors, semi-circle curves, metal fences, curved lines in faced, façade columns, Corinthian capital or Tooskan, symmetric façade, tall windows, and balcony are examined. The value 1 indicates a feature used in the buildings and the value is 0, otherwise. The sum of elements used for each building is separately measured.

According to Fig. 1 obtained from the results of Table 6, symmetric façade and tall windows are used in seven buildings with the highest frequency among 11 features. Accordingly, the lowest frequency belongs to the façade column that is used only in two buildings.

As seen in Fig. 2 obtained from the results of Table 6, European architectural elements have been widely used in Kalantari House, so 10 elements out of 11 elements have been used in this house, while the fewest elements of Western architecture are used in Nasehzadeh House in which, only 4 elements are used.

Table 4. Architectural features of residential buildings of the Europe in 17th and 18th centuries. Source: Authors with a summary from Bani Masoud, 2010.





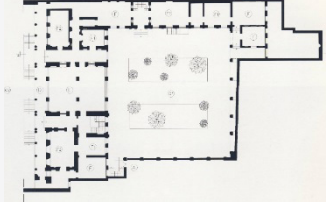

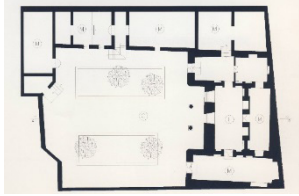

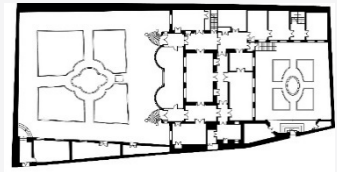
Building	Place, architect	Explanations	Image
Palace of Whitehall	-UK -Architect: Inigo Jones	-Using façade column -Using Corinthian order -Extroversion	
Kedleston building	-UK -Architect: Robert Adam	-Using Corinthian order -Using a two-way curved staircase or corridor -Extroversion	
Chiswick House	-UK -Architect: Richard Boyle	-Using pediment -Using Corinthian order -Using a two-way curved staircase -Extroversion -Imitated from Villa la Rotonda	

Table 5. Effect of modernity and European architecture elements on architecture houses constructed during the Qajar era. Source: Authors derived from a study conducted by Esmaeili Sangari & Omrani, 2014.

Monument	Explanations	Image	Plan
Amir Nezam House	-Use of pediment -Use of paired columns -Use of two-way corridor- using semi-circle curves -Use of Tooskan capitals -Use of metal fence		
Savojbolaghi House	-Use pediment -Use of epigraphy with watch design -Use of capital with a design similar to Corinthian		
Company Houses	-Use of curved lines in the façade -Use of curved corridors in the entrance gate -Use of curve-shaped fountain		

Rest of table 5.


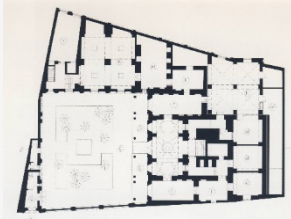

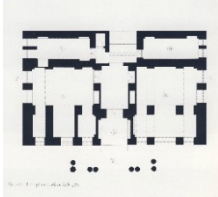

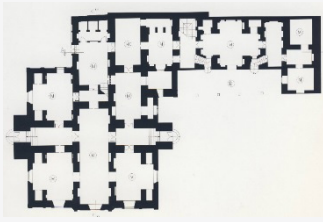

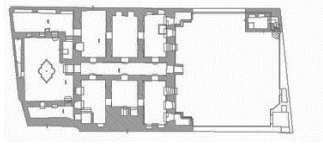
Monument	Explanations	Image	Plan
Mashrooteh House	-Use of paired column -Use of a semi-circle curve -Use of Corinthian capital		
Kalantari House	-Use of paired column -Use of a semi-circle curve -Use of Corinthian capital		
Ganjeizadeh	-Use of paired column -Use of two-way corridor-use of the Corinthian capital		
Nasehzadeh House	-Use of façade column -Use of two-way corridors in the entrance gate		

Table 6. European architectural elements used in the architecture of houses constructed during the Qajar era in Tabriz. Source: Authors.

	Use of Pediment	Use pairs of columns	Use of two-way stairs	Use of semi-circular arcs	Use of metal fence	Use of curved lines in the facade	Use of facade columns	Use of Corinthian or Tuscan headboards	Symmetrical facade	High windows	Balcony	Sum of points of elements used in each building
Amir Nezam House	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	8
Savoj Bolaghi House	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6
Company House	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Mashroteh House	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	8
Kalantari House	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Ganjei Zadeh House	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	9
Naseh Zadeh House	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	4
The sum of points of elements used independently	3	4	4	5	4	6	2	6	7	7	3	

The Qajar era coincided with the Industrial Revolution and numerous evolutions occurring in economic, cultural, and industrial contexts and the relationship between Iran and foreign governments through the

Tabriz, which led to many changes in the social, military, and economic structure of society (Fig. 3). The location of Tabriz as a communication bridge between Iran and Europe provided the field in this city for the

introduction of some popular elites, such as Abbas Mirza, Ghaem Magham Farahani, and Amir Kabir. This city was chosen as the governmental center of the Crown Prince during the period of the Abbas Mirza Kingdom in 1793, which led to the political development of this city so that a small palace gradually appeared in Tabriz. After Iran defeated the war with Russia, Abbas Mirza was inspired by the Russian Army and the new system of the Ottoman to implement some reforms. Introduction to the military facilities and war techniques of Europe provided the field for familiarity with modern achievements in Iran. The most important measure taken by Abbas Mirza in this reform was sending students overseas, allowing them to know the principles of European civilization, culture, and sciences, and providing the field for industrial and commercial changes in Iran. Construction of a weapon and cannon manufacturing factory, employment of military advisors, the establishment of a printing house in Tabriz,

and the order to translate historical European books were other actions done by Abbas Mirza. Since many popular intellectuals and elites traveled from Tabriz to abroad and modern knowledge was transferred to this city, many developments occurred in Tabriz. After the first institution was established in Tabriz, many other institutions were established in other cities in Iran. Fig. 4 depicts the reasons that made Tabriz a prominent place in Iran, where the first modernization aspects appeared. Fig. 5 shows European architectural elements used in the architecture of houses constructed during the Qajar era. The tendency towards superficial and form changes in architecture has been influenced by other Iranians' superficial perceptions of Europe concerning various topics so much so that a kind of haste in reading European architecture in the houses constructed in Iran. According to the data obtained from the study, Kalantari House in Tabriz has used most European architectural elements (10 elements out of 11 elements),

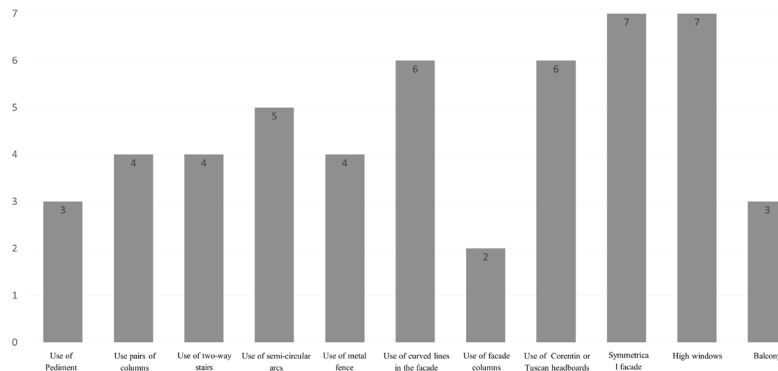


Fig. 1. Bar chart of the use of European architectural elements used in Tabriz houses. Source: Authors.

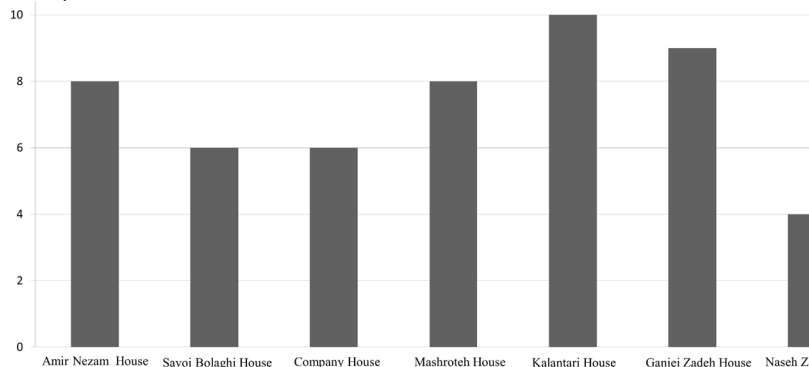


Fig. 2. Bar chart of Tabriz houses and use of European architectural elements used in them. Source: Authors.



Fig. 3. Evolutions and changes formed in the Qajar Period. Source: Authors.

while the fewest elements have been used in Nasehzadeh House as shown in Fig. 6.

Conclusion

According to conducted studies, Amir Nezam, Savojbolaghi, Company, Mashrooteh, Kalantari, Ganjeizadeh, and Nasehzadeh houses were constructed from the middle to late Qajar, and this period coincides

with Iranians’ travel to Europe for the first time and familiarity with modern civilization’s manifest. After Iranians saw the modernized community of Europe from a close distance and compared it with traditional Iran, they faced some challenges. Various European aspects, from changes in thought to changes in clothes and dress style, entered Iran during this period. A kind of European domination over Iranians was seen in this period, so

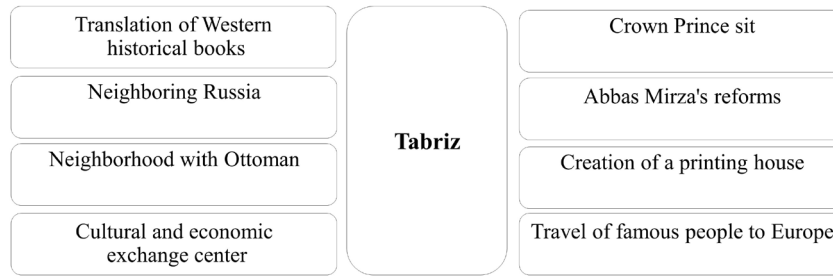


Fig. 4. Reasons that made Tabriz a prominent place for the advent of the first aspects of modernization in Iran. Source: Authors.

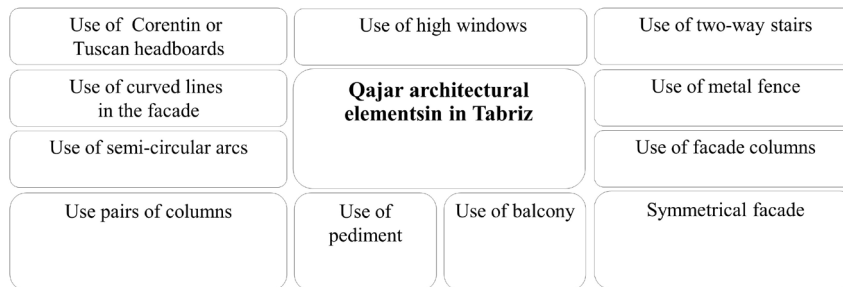


Fig. 5. European architectural elements used in the architecture of Qajar houses in Tabriz. Source: Authors.

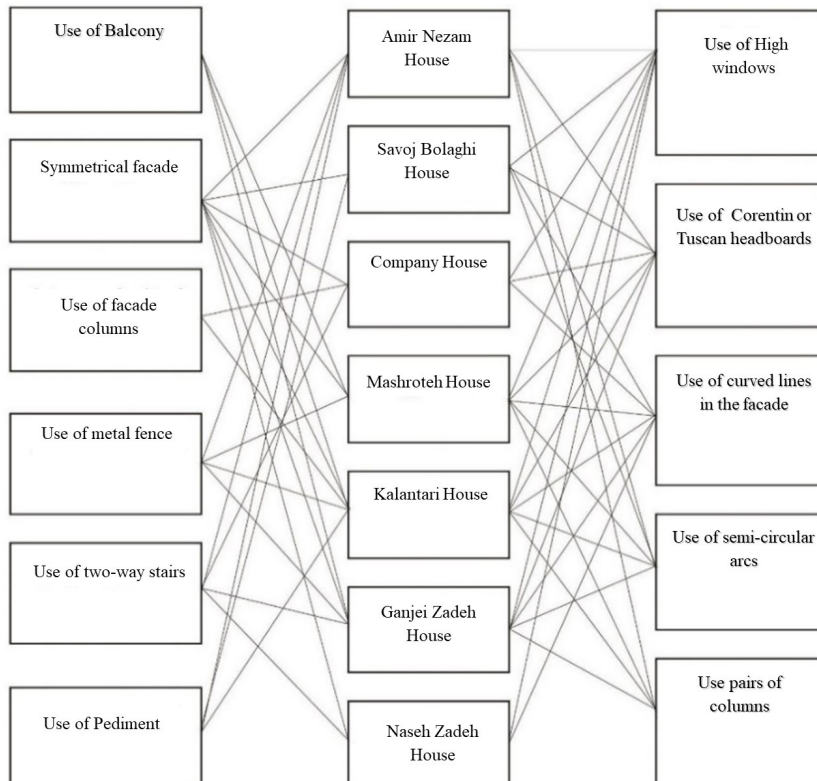


Fig. 6. European architectural elements used in the architecture of Qajar houses in Tabriz. Source: Authors.

some changes were inevitable. In the field of architecture, postcard architecture has highly influenced Iranian architecture. Postcard architecture means that European architectural elements were used in the shape and form of architectural works based on the individuals' observations or access to the images of buildings published in journals and publications. The buildings constructed in this period indicate that most of the changes in the architecture of monuments in Tabriz are more visible in the façade, while minor changes are observed in the plan and spatial arrangement. Variations in the external façade of the building include the use of a pediment, a sloped ceiling, a paired column, a Corinthian capital, semi-circle curves, and a façade column. The mentioned elements have been widely used in the neoclassical architecture of Europe, influenced by the thoughts and works of Andrea Palladio. In this period, Tabriz was the city where the crown prince lived, and power and wealth were concentrated in this city, which allowed Westernized instincts to create changes at different levels, including architecture. This case is confirmed by the patterns of Tabriz houses imitated from European buildings and the use of European architectural elements in these houses. After Tabriz became the place of princely governance during the Qajar era and the economic growth of this city, wealth could be used in the design of glorious monuments. The familiarity of Tabriz people with modernization manifests after traveling to Europe, translating various books and journals, and seeing images of European buildings, which led to the architectural tendency of this city towards European patterns and the use of European architectural elements in Iranian architecture. A review of the buildings constructed during the Qajar

era in Tabriz indicates that the first architectural changes occurred in the decorative and appearance elements of the building, so this influence occurred in gradual steps with the least effect on the architectural plan of these houses. In the case of building façades, European architecture has affected the appearance of buildings. The buildings constructed in this period indicate that some elements, such as two-way corridors in the entrance gate, metal fence, façade column, symmetric façade, balcony, pediment, the paired column in the façade, semi-circle curves, curved lines in the façade, Corinthian capital, and tall windows, have been used in some buildings. Fig. 7 shows the conceptual model of physical changes in the architecture of houses constructed in Tabriz during the Qajar era.

Conflict of Interest

The authors claim no conflict of interest in this research.

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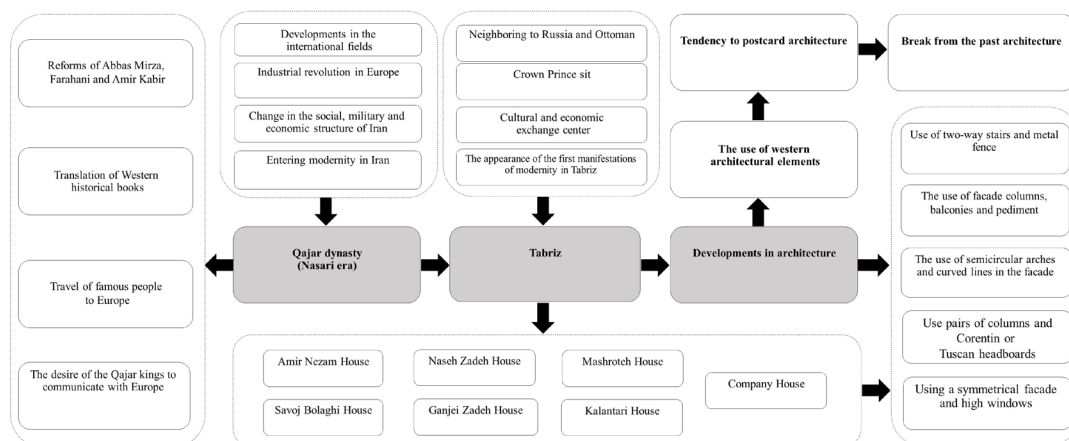


Fig. 7. Conceptual model of physical changes in the architecture of houses constructed in Tabriz during the Qajar era. Source: Authors.

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