

Public Art and Design in Tehran

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Overview

Tehran, as the capital of Iran, is a beautiful city which combined with the Iranian ancient civilization and modern elements. It is located at the foot of Alborz Mountain and is the center of universities, malls, museums and art galleries. Being the home of educational, artistic, economic, and political activities, Tehran has become the cultural center of Iran. The executive organizations in Tehran have made great efforts to increase facilities for people, such as parks and theatres. Due to long history of Iran, there were many cities as capital during the ages. Today, Tehran as the 31st capital of Iran is a modern city.

History

The origin of the name "Tehran" is unknown. Excavations of Tehran demonstrate that, this area was the home of civilizations that lived in 6000 years BC. Tehran was well known as a village in the 9th century near the city of Rhages (Ray). In the 13th century, following the destroying of Ray by Mongols, many of its people escaped to Tehran. In some sources, this city is named as «Rhages's Tehran».

Tehran became the home of the Safavid government in the 17th century. The king Tahmasb I built a bazaar and a donjon around the city, but it fell out after Abbas I.

In the early of 18th century, Karim Khan Zand ordered a governmental office to be built in Tehran. Tehran finally became the capital of Iran in 1795, when the Qajar's first king "Agha Mohammad

Khan" was crowned in this city. It has remained as the capital so far.

The principle of vertical expansion of Tehran has been caused by dwelling constructions in recent years. These modern high buildings dominate the city and old houses are replacing with new apartments. New Modern life-style in Tehran is the result of these changes.

Education and research

Tehran is the biggest and most important educational center of Iran. Today there are approximately 50 major colleges and universities in Tehran.

Since Dar-ol-fonoon school was established in the middle of 1800s, Tehran has become the center of the institutions of high education in Iran. University of Tehran is the largest and oldest university in Iran and in Middle East. Sharif University of Technology is the most prestigious technological university of Iran.

Amirkabir University of Technology (Tehran Polytechnic), K.N.Toosi University of Technology, Iran University of Science and Technology(IUST), Shahid Beheshti University, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Shahed University, Tarbiat Modarres University and University of Art are other highly ranked universities of Iran which located in Tehran.

University of Art, University of Tehran Faculty of Fine Arts, Al-Zahra University Faculty of Arts and Azad University Faculty of Art and architecture are Tehran's main Art and Design academies.

Left to Right: University of Tehran, Tarbiat Mo-



darres University, Iran University of Science and Technology

Architecture and landmarks

Tehran is an old city with a unique architectural style. Despite the earthquakes during the Qajar period, some buildings still have remained from Tehran's antique era. Today Tehran is the First city of Iran, and has the most modernized structure in the country. Development of modern constructions in Tehran demonstrates the architectural and design are in progress in this city.

The "Azadi Tower" had been the longstanding symbol of Tehran. However, eventually it replaced with the "Milad tower" which has been constructed recently. The Milad complex is the world's fourth tallest tower. It has several restaurants, a five star hotel, a convention center, a world trade center, and an IT park.

Tourism and attractions

Tehran, as Iran's capital, has lots of cultural attractions. The Peacock Throne of the Persian Kings can be found in Tehran's Golestan Palace. Some of the well-known museums in Tehran are National Museum of Iran, Sa'dabad Palaces Complex, Glassware and Ceramics Museum of Iran, The Carpet Museum of Iran, and Niavaran Palace Complex. The Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art features the works of great artists such as Van Gogh, Alberto Giacometti, Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol.

Public Art and Design in Tehran

Over the last two decades, the urban design has been developed in city of Tehran. This develop-

ment has been increased since the Urban Design Organization has focused on professional design activities. Today, the public entertaining environments have been expanding in Tehran; The places which stimulate people to use more than any time. It seems that public places for example parks are going to be equipped not only with regular public furniture such as benches and lightings but with playground and modern games. Furthermore, various sports equipments have been considered in parks. So that sport fans are able to do different sports in a pleasant public environment. One of the attractive features in these public parks is using artworks such as sculptures and wall paintings. The "Beauty" of these artworks plays a significant role to bring feelings to these places. Many of these artworks are with pure Persian identity. There is also a creative combination of nature and handmade elements that demonstrate the Iranian respects to nature and natural elements. Recently the street signs in Tehran are provided with a unified identity which helps people to find their path across the city easily. However more executive programs are needed for these developments in Tehran as a super city. The urban furniture equipments, especially in the north of Tehran, have substantial functions and spectacular beauty. Some of them are designed by Iranian designers and the rests are imported. Fortunately, developing of urban furniture in Tehran by Iranian designers is increasing progressively. A selection of Public Art and Design in Tehran are presented as following:

Public Art and Design in Tehran



1.Iranian Museum of Contemporary Art 2,3,5.Mellat Park 4,6.Daneshjoo Park



1.Bahonar Sq. 2.Laleh Park 3,4.Niavaran Art Complex 5.Mellat Park



1,2,3,4,5.Niavaran Palace



1.Mellat Park 2.Hor Sq. 3,4.Niavaran Park 5.Saei Park



6,7,8,9.Jamshidieh Park



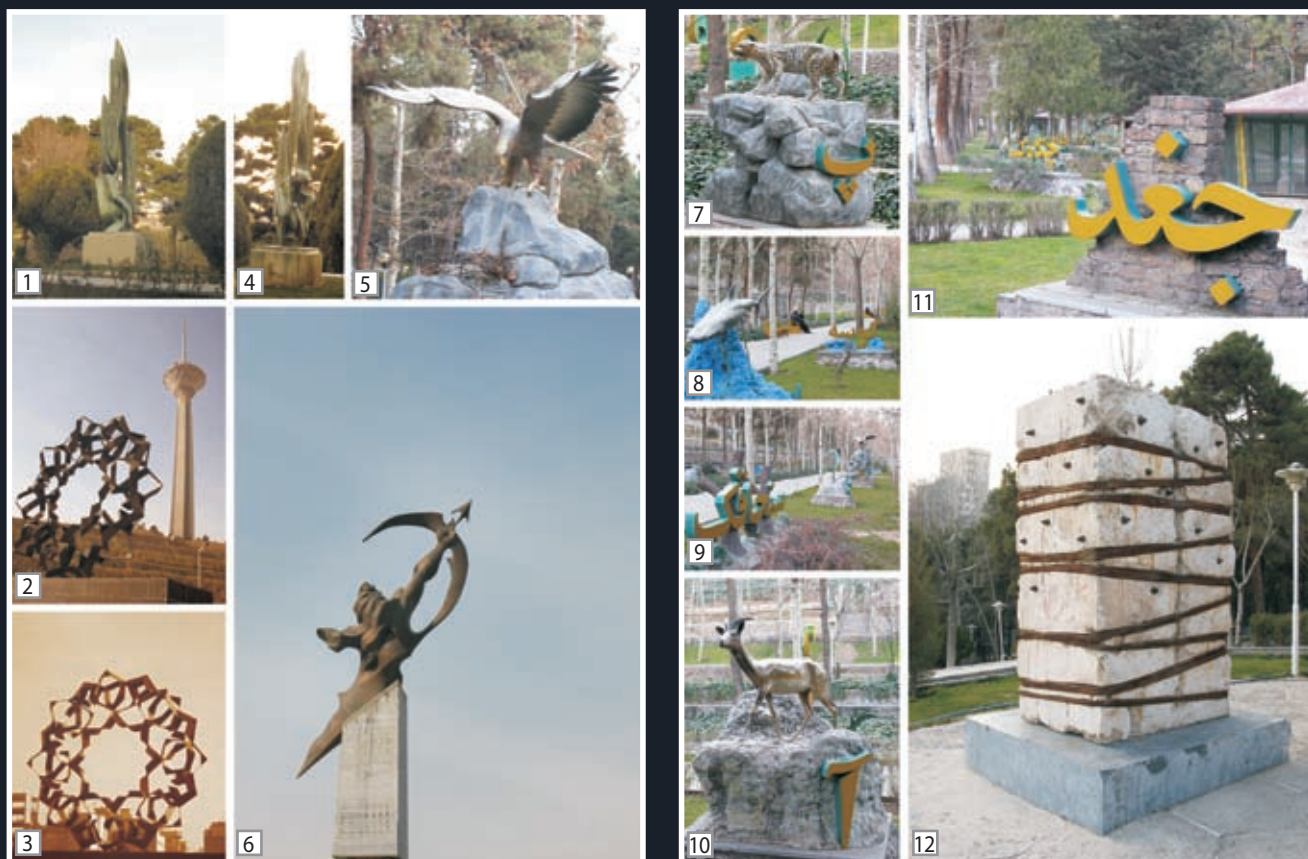
1,2,4,5.Jamshidieh Park Sculptures 3.Tajrish Sq.



1,4,5.Mellat Park Statues 2,3,6.Shafagh Park Sculptures



1.Saei Park 2,10.Goftogoo Park 3,5.Niavaran Park 4,6,8,14,15,16.Jamshidieh Park 7.Carpet Museum 9,11.Danesh-joo Park 12,13.Laleh Park 17.Niavaran Palace



1,4,5,7,8,9,10,11,12.Saei Park 2,3,6.Milad Complex

Public Art and Design in Tehran



1



4



2



3



5

1.Vali Asr Ave. 2.Daneshjoo Park 3.Niavaran Park 4,5.Niavaran Palace



1.Manzarieh Park 2,3,4,9,11,12.Mellat Park 5,8.Jamshidieh Park 4.Niavaran Complex 6.Shafagh Park 7,10. Daneshjoo Park



1



5



2



3



4



6

1,3.Mellat Park 2,5.Saei Park 4.Gheytaieh Park 6.Shafagh Park



1,3.Jamshidiah Park 2.Shafagh Park 4,5.Daneshjoo Park 6.Mellat Park 7.Niavaran Park



1.Manzariyeh Park 2.Africa Blvd. 3.Jamshidieh Park 4.Shafagh Park 5.Modarres High Way 6.Tohid Tunnel 7.Vali Asr Ave. 8.Niavaran Complex 9.Jamshidieh Park 10.Mellat Park



1,2,3,5.Niavaran Palace Signages 4.Cinema Museum Signage 6,10.Niavaran Ave. 7,8.Bahonar Sq. 9,11.Vali Asr Cross Road



1,2,3,4,5,6,7. Bahonar Park



1,2,3,4,5,8,11,12,13.Niavaran Park 6.Daneshjoo Park 7.Saei Park 9.Mellat Park 10.Gheytaieh Park



1,4.Karaj-Tehran High Way 2.Saei Park 3.Salmas Sq. 5.Hakim High Way 6.Tehran Post Box 7.Tehran Charity Box 8.Street Fire-Station 9.ATM Machine 10.Tehran Telephone Box

Public Art and Design in Tehran



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

1.Vali Asr Ave. 2,3,4.Flower and Press Kiosks 5,6,7.Modarres High Way Bus Station