Review Article: Organizing the Urban Furniture

Saheb Zeinali, Bashir Beik Babaei*

Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Marand Branch, Islamic Azad University, Marand, Iran

*Corresponding Author: Bashir Beik Babaei

ABSTRACT: Urban spaces were defined based on the type of life or type of usage that it would be included spontaneous roaring or social life. This can lead to trading in city center, markets and especial streets for passengers and game space. Attraction and beauty of equipment had a key role. Urbanites selected the areas that could respond the demands. Some demands were related to permanent equipment and infrastructure such as urban equipment, special places for passing bicycles, business places, cafes or restaurants and etc. some desires were transient and temporary such as exhibitions in free spaces, temporary decoration in celebrations, entertainment in schools and etc. Before anything, the revival of urban spaces was related to tendency of selected persons for creating new phenomena. The aim of the investigation was to analyze the research findings that were done in the field of urban furniture in different cities in Iran. Regarding to researches, we can conclude that organizing none of the cities were consistent with the standards. Some suggestions were presented in order to reach the standards and desired situation.

Keywords: Organizing, Urban, Planning, Standards.

INTRODUCTION

Urban spaces were defined based on the type of life or type of usage that it would be included spontaneous roaring or social life. This can lead to trading in city center, markets, and special streets for passengers and game space. Attraction and beauty of equipment have a key role. Urbanites select the areas that it can answer the demands. Some demands were related to permanent equipment and infrastructure such as urban equipment, special places for passing bicycles, business places, cafes or restaurants and etc. some desires were transient and temporary such as exhibitions in free spaces, temporary decoration in celebrations, entertainment in schools and etc. Before anything, the revival of urban spaces was related to tendency of selected persons for creating new phenomena. People had the better sense about the urban when they felt convenience in urban space, sit on the terrace or in the cafeteria, rest or talk, pass side by side and perform several activities in limited spaces. Some spaces such as special streets for passengers and in particular squares caused visitation and interlocution between people and made life vitality. The existence of appropriate furniture and equipment increase this vitality. One of the aims of the present investigation was to simulate the better sense of people related to urban spaces that it meant organizing the urban furniture (Khodabakhshi, 2011). Innovation of the developed family of urban
furniture that has similar connections and joint holders is the goal of integrated furniture systems. Not only, features of this system can create harmony in the components of the urban, but also, cause reduction in material consumption, cost and subtracting the dimensions. In multipurpose system, the productions can be designed based on that purpose and the possibility of change is very much in figures and body. Integrated furniture were not followed that goal, but necessary components and elements were integrated in the event of compliance and apparent continuity by stable element (Zangabadi, 2005). Urban furniture was one of the elements of urban space that their quality, quantity, beauty, convenience, durability and place of establishment has a major role in achieving a healthy and beautiful urban. In this urban, citizens felt comfortable and they would prefer to present this urban life than sitting at home. The main goals of urban planning were health, convenience and beauty, therefore, to achieve all these three cases together and attention to pleasant designing of urban space were related to accuracy and patience in the planning and designing of urban furniture. Beautiful furniture in unworthy space was not attractive and beautiful space, it won't be attractive when unbeautiful furniture established on this (Pourhosein, 2001). Therefore, the notion of the city space designing and urban furniture were the base of achieving todays healthy urban. On the other hand, according to the human proportions in urban furniture manufacturing and considering climatic conditions and native materials are one of the necessities in urban furniture designing. Also, positioning the furniture establishment location and their frequency of sequence layout has a positive impact on the quality of the visual space. Focus on the design of urban furniture was considered as new category in the world. This issue was as unnecessary matter in many countries. In our country, this category was considered as luxury and fantasy matter according to some non-specialists thoughts. But increasing the citizens' information and increase specialists were caused more serious attention to this case. However, more types of urban furniture are only an imitation of western societies, so that, academic resources related to this category has been very low. The lack of comprehensive resources that can provide new ideas for readers is very sensible. Specialists in the fields of urban design, urban programing, architecture, industrial design, sociology, civil engineering were designed urban furniture empirically but this function does not follow the certain principles in the many cases. Therefore, in every corner of the city, we can see different tastes in urban elements. Nowadays, the major problem in urban movements (passenger and passenger in vehicle) and understanding and behavior problems in urban landscape can be investigated (Asadolahi, 2005). Therefore, Iranian administrators, authorities, designers and artists have serious duty and responsible for programming, organizing, relaxation and improvement space and equipment. Finally, the aim of this article is a review analysis and critical of previous studies and concluding of their findings.

**METHODOLOGY**

In previous studies, history of urban furniture combined with the history of the city and its streets and it begins from the emergence of the first emerging civilizations of new cities. In this field and in the historiography of Iran, there isn’t a separated and careful history of different urban furniture. These present documents are obtained among the historical documents. For example, few thousand years ago at the time of the Median State, an inscription was installed on the central square of the city of Ecbatana to notify the laws and rules of municipal government for general public. Also, a variety of stone statues of the Parthians, religious-social symbol of Zoroastrian, fire temple, inscription and waterfronts at the time of the Achaemenes government in Iran presented a long history of urban furniture in this country. Also, after Islam, every time that the powerful government were governed, power manifested in the glory cities exhibited the architectural symbols that obvious example is in the Safavid dynasty in Iran. Safavid dynasty were born in the era doctrine of urban development in Isfahan that the result is the creation of monuments of architecture and urbanism. These monuments of architecture and urbanism have
shined on Iranian architecture and urbanism page yet that including these works can be found in Naqse-Jahan square in Isfahan, Iran. But after the rise of the Qajar dynasty in Iran that they associated with political, social and economic turmoil, we had also witnessed the decline of architecture and urban planning, and this turmoil situation has continued to this days. Also, during the Pahlavi regime, considering that was a symbol of modern cities, main streets in a lot of our cities raised but there was little attention to the topic of urban furniture unfortunately and this trend has continued, so that, there are the lowest investigations from the topic of urban furniture in urban issues. However, by increasing the academic disciplines in the field of urban issues such as urban programming and planning, urban furniture was noticed gradually. Some investigations were carried out that it was considered in the following, Moshiri et al (2013) carried out an investigation with the aim of Adaptive comparison of urban landscape based on urban furniture indices in Behshahr. They discussed urban furniture issues and requirement of attention on improving the quality of the landscape urban texture. Result indicated that the urban furniture of Behshahr was not according to climate conditions, native culture, and proportional to the performance space and citizens requirements. Also, there wasn't any good situation in effectiveness of urban furniture indices on quality of the landscape urban texture. Other investigation with the aim of furniture standards of satisfaction in Tehran was carried out by Teymourian et al (2013). The result showed that there are numerous weaknesses points in the planning of furniture elements such as the lack of the correct placement of different elements of urban furniture, excessive density of furniture, environmental perturbations related to the unbalanced distribution of the elements. Dadgar et al (2005) analyzed urban furniture through citizen satisfaction and performance of the superior city (Mahabhad). Result indicated that there were some deficiencies and dissatisfaction of urban equipment and infrastructure in the parks, open and public places but Zangibadi et al (2013) investigated a research on urban furniture in the margins of the Karun and Zayandeh-roid Rivers. They reported that there were some problems and deficiencies. It required specific planning and should pay special attention to the mental and emotional requirements of citizens.

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

The aim of this research was to review and analysis the research findings in the field of urban furniture organizing that had been done before. Generally, according to the analyses of articles that carried out in this field research, it can be concluded urban furniture do not have appropriate quality and organizing. Analyzing the data showed that the quality of urban furniture was not according to standards and it was lower than optimum standards. What is the purpose of optimum standards that should it being performed in urban furniture? There are some scales that form the standard. By comparing the standard scales, we can Judge about urban furniture. One of the indices is durability. Considering that the urban furniture are exposed to different atmospheric factors such as sun, rain, lightning, cold and etc. and non-atmospheric factors such as intentional and unintentional damages, hitting, scratching, burning and robbery, one of the standards that must be considered was durability and stability. The second factor was technical considerations.

According to the complexity of each product and present furniture, technical considerations have different ranges about each urban element that could be included structure, main parts, connections, and external surfaces, necessary resistance against corrosion, vulnerable points and etc. the third factor was economic considerations. It seemed that although the ergonomics of human body was very effective on urban furniture designing and commonwealth, the necessity of the awareness about dimensions and sizes between people for determining the quality range about the interaction between people and present equipment were necessary but designing, relationship between product and environment, climate, materials type and urban designing for environment are very effective on urban furniture. Hence, presented quantity standard about each of the investigated furniture in the form of defined size and dimensions for each of them does not
seem correct. This standard was numeric and dimensions and sizes were only associated with the parts of furniture that have direct contact with the human body dimensions. For example, the bench in the bus station, method use of equipment by people, the amount of traffic volume with the use of furniture. Equipment that represented beauty that have the most effect in the standard definition of the range of any of the existing furniture in the city. According to the results of research, there are some problems in urban furniture such as: the shortage of commercial complexes and passage, the lack of normative and standard parking within the city, lack of safe space to relax and circulation of tourists and travelers, the existence of traffic and parked cars, the lack of optimization designs of the municipality and sidewalks and creating a green Park, collecting of old bus lines from the cities, deficiency of taxi stations for carrying passengers and low supervision that made irregularity, deficiency of toilets, shortage of drinking water stations for the citizens, shortage of canopy that embedded on the bench, lack of pedestrian bridge for passengers to cross the street width, lack of suitable places for special line buses to ride or walk up passengers, lack of suitable places for disabled people to ride or walk up.

So, in order to reach an optimum situation and maintenance of standards, there are some suggestion such as: Increasing the number of existing types of furniture and equipment, considerations of geographical-climate condition and weather situation in designing and establishment of urban furniture, observance proper distance between type of furniture, review of how to locate and distribution of all types of furniture in a limited level in form of balanced and proportionate to the features and capabilities of the environment, creating a synchronized between organizations and institutions in the field of urban furniture, performing the studies about social-human in the case of the requirements of human, interests and behavioral patterns of the different strata of society in order to designing and establishing the types of furniture, pay attention to the factors that are important to the convenience and beauty of urban furniture and they will attract people to the Imam street and keep them on the street, observance harmony and diversity in the design and establishment of urban furniture, making the culture of citizens in the proper use of urban furniture, creating and locating the appropriate aesthetic elements of furniture in the line with the identity of urban structure, locating the suitable elements of urban furniture according to citizens using street according to the geographical identity indicators, diversity, resolution and color in designing of urban furniture elements. Urban furniture should satisfy citizens in terms of performance and beauty. In urban furniture designing, principles such as discipline, unity, integration and harmony, balance, rhythm and visual strength must be considered.

REFERENCES


