



Deleuze, Urban Transformation and the Role of History in Urban Projects in the Historical Cities. (Case Study: The Historical Core of Tehran in Iran)

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Nowadays, urban projects which are traditionally based on historical research cannot reach the aims that they are prepared and designed for. Statistics, pictures, landmarks and building are used as unrefined materials in the process of modeling and designing in order to control inevitable urban transformation. The main question is what is the role of historical research in the process of evaluation of urban transformation? This article attempts to show how traditional methods create ambiguous images about a site and case studies and particularly is complicated in the historical regions. Consequently, the urban projects that are prepared cannot achieve their goals. In traditional methods of urban planning from Patrick Geddes until now, history and historical factors have main role as a symmetrical phenomena. Structuralism is based on epistemological methods that normally dominate all aspects of urban research fields. To clarify and explain this domination this article uses a case study. The case study is based in the historical core of Tehran where a lot of urban projects have been prepared to control urban transformation. This area has more than two centuries history which have defined the Identity of Tehran and these projects cause of new problems in this area because planners and designers use the historical evidences as antique phenomena or in quantitative ways like statistics, whereas, the historical urban morphology is influenced by these urban policies and projects too. This article will study these effects and demonstrate how different structural perspectives generate new catastrophes in this area with respect to the role of history. Furthermore, it will employ Deleuzean ideas to show how designers and planners predict the future with formulas and models based on previous information and how they evaluate the past as a process that is finished but it will occur again. Post-structuralism in the Deleuzean perspective, introduce the designing as an open ended trend. The new view of history can be helpful for the design process as it suggests a new definition of historical information in order to achieve clear images for designers and planners. In this view, planners and designers are not separate from history but they are part of that history and the site, in order to create a future which is part of history.

This paper will involve pictures and maps of the historical core of Tehran to show the effects of urban policies and projects on urban forms. It will illustrate weaknesses of these projects and the incapability of structural methods to solve the problems of designing. Urban form should be discovered again as part of everyday life and history instead of being treated as a separate part according to post-structuralism.

KEY WORDS: Urban form, history, epistemology, structuralism, post structuralism.