

Abstracts

Här nedan publicerar vi abstracts från några doktorsavhandlingar som har lagts fram under året.

Stad kontra landsbygd. Drivkrafter bakom bebyggelsestrukturens förändring i Iran 1900-1979 (Urban versus Rural Communities. Driving Forces behind Changes in Patterns of Built Environments in Iran, 1900-1979.)

Akademisk avhandling av Javad Ajabi Naini, 1991.

This thesis presents an analysis of the relation between urban and rural development in Iran and attempts to illustrate the sources of causal reasons which have led to the imbalances in the different regions of the country. The emphasis is on identifying the motives behind the structural changes of the built environment during the period between 1900 and 1979. The causes and consequences of rapid urbanization are compared with those of the changes in the less developed countryside.

To provide a thorough background to the urban growth and rural decline processes in Iran and to give a broad perspective on Iran's modern planning policy, I have made a historical investigation and studied urban pull criteria. Also I needed to identify the postwar philosophy of modernization and industrialization of Iran including both internal and international interrelationships. I have made the assumption that the urban and rural crisis in Iran was a direct effect as well as part of the political and economical dependence of the country.

Adopting the theory of *centre and periphery* as the basis of my methodological approach, the thesis provides an extended analysis to illuminate the causes of rural land reform which was a major factor leading to the *rural-push* problems, urban differ-

entiation, segregation of living environments and the expansion of urban slums.

To conclude, I advocate that the physical planning should govern the development of a society. Therefore, activities which influence changes or develop the environment, must be guided by overall plans. However, any kind of planning should begin with a survey of the resources followed by a leveling policy throughout the country. To be able to avoid the kinds of planning systems which generally look upon the realities as static models, it is necessary to select those plans that are based on the dynamic and process-oriented methods and can invite the actual influences of people at different stages in the process.

To achieve this goal a radical (re)orientation of the Iranian social and spatial planning philosophy is required. At the foundation of reorientation lies the necessity of developing the knowledge and awareness of people who have to participate in the restructuring and planning the society.

Keywords: Iran, urban and rural imbalance, land reform, urbanization, urban pull, rural push, modernization, urban growth, pattern of built environment, traditional architecture.

Kampen för en bostad. Bostadsfrågan i Algeriet efter självständigheten 1962. Fallet Oran. (The struggle for a Home. The Housing Question in Algeria after independence 1962. The case of Oran.)

Akademisk avhandling av Bachir Mekibes, 1991.

Many countries in the Third World are in the throes of profound political, economic and social change. Major cities with high unemployment levels and serious housing shortages experience uncontrollable growth. But at the same time their citizens are

beginning to demand urban development and better housing provision.

This thesis has the object of describing the obstacles posed by and the opportunities offered in the housing policies in Algeria after independence

in 1962. It is done by illustrating the differences between the basic potential of various categories of users for acquiring a dwelling. Another object is to discuss the empirical results in the spirit of the urban theoretician, Henri Lefebvre. It is based on Lefebvre's conceptual models of the production of space, the right to make the city one's own, the role of the state and the role of users.

Citizen's access to housing is determined by many factors. It is important to study the political will and ability of states and municipalities, the forms of housing finance, access to land, building materials, the work force, and the economic and political resources available to households if one wants to understand why the housing market functions as it does. This study is part of the subject of Building Function Analysis, where the perspective is that of the user. The main objective is to formulate ideas for an approach that will put disadvantaged categories in the foreground so they will be able to demand better opportunities for housing in the future.

The objects of planning and its consequences for the building of housing in Algeria are analyzed in this thesis. Possibilities and limitations are identified, particularly in the case of Oran, the second city of Algeria. The thesis includes a description of four different ways of getting access to housing: in privately financed residential neighbourhoods, through membership of a housing cooperative, by municipally supported self-building schemes, and by the spontaneous building of shanty towns. This information is compared to the perspective of planners and public authorities as well as to the formal system of rules which regulates access to land, and the production and financing of housing. A dialectic actors' perspective is applied in this thesis.

The thesis is divided into four parts:

- * A study of Algerian housing policies from the perspective of the public authorities. The material is based on interviews with key persons and studies of the literature and other original sources.
- * An epistemological review of urban research, research on planning and public means of control.

- * A study of the housing problems of the country from a user perspective. Seventeen cases, representing four types of single dwellings are presented.

- * A discussion of the results from an urban-philosophical perspective.

The study shows that the country's framework for the provision of housing, laws and regulations, etc. has its roots in the predominance of colonial social structure. The framework has been taken over and adapted to the principles of economism. Party members, cadres and technocrats, i.e. the new elite, are favoured in a system regulated in this way. The elite has the right to make the town its own in the Algeria of today, while the poor are relegated to spontaneous settlements on the outskirts of the towns.

That the planning system must free itself from the technical-political perspective and develop more democratic ways of functioning is the conclusion drawn. In today's urban society the resources of user consciousness and communality, previously evident in housing areas, have been suppressed. The society of tomorrow must utilize these resources for direct user influence partly in opposition to the structural order of decision making and partly in opposition to the content of political action patterns and their consequences.

The target group for this thesis is indirectly housing users themselves. But it is primarily written for those who work with urban housing problems in the Third World, like politicians, planners, researchers and investigators. Since the thesis gives a comprehensive description of the housing issue in Algeria, recipients could include people in the building sector and other Swedish consultants who are or will be working in Algeria.

Keywords: Urban planning, housing, land use, user, authority, state, colonial, Third World.

Language: Swedish. Summary in English.

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Western Influence on Architecture and Town-Planning in Arabic Countries.
Akademisk avhandling av Zdenek Ubral, 1991.

The form and the unique expression of the Arabic/Islamic towns and buildings has evolved over thousands of years. The physical organization and the formal structure of the town, the form of the private houses and of the public building reflect

the life styles, standard of life as well as the different levels of culture.

The western political, economical, and cultural infiltration and subsequent influence on the Arab countries during the period of colonization changed

and retarded what was up to then a slow and sober social and cultural development. This process of change, which started at the beginning of the 19th century, became exceedingly rapid after the second World War.

Western architectural and town-planning ideologies are going to continue to play a major role for the development of Arabic/Islamic architecture in the future. A development which implies a growing influence of foreign and anonymous forms, as for example from the introduction of functionalistic and constructivistic western architectural elements and motifs. However, the resulting influence on cities and building forms in turn changes the peculiar living patterns of the Arabs. The realization of appropriate environments in the new modern Arabic/Islamic towns cannot only be based on western ideology and on the importation of western building-methods and building-materials. Likewise it cannot be based on "romantic" ideas concerning universality taken out of rationalistic ideology applied during colonization, nor on the acceptance of the "international style" in architecture.

The continuous infiltration of foreign ideas at the present pace and, neglect by Arabian authorities of its strong influence on current architecture and

town-planning production, will result in the destruction of existing Arab culture. It is thus imperative that the Arabs themselves take charge of their own development utilizing regional materials and intellectual resources. Only in this manner can they once again play an important role in the technical, scientific, social and economic development of their countries.

The Arab architects have to solve the dilemma arising from the need for the application of western architecture and town-planning ideas and the need for the development of a modern regional style based on the local architectural tradition. A new architecture that is based only on a local Arabic/Islamic tradition can result in a static interpretation of the realities of its diverse culture and possibly lead to isolationism. Development needs dynamic impulses that are based on the understanding of the plurality of cultures that constitutes the present Arab context.

The aim of this thesis is not to present a model for future development in architecture and town-planning. It constitutes an analysis of the present situation in the Arab countries from the cultural point of view and serves as an impulse inciting architects and planners to search for forms relevant to each particular situation.

Victor von Gegerfelt – arkitekt i Göteborg. En yrkesman och hans verksamhetsfält 1841-1896.

Akademisk avhandling av Gun Schönbeck, 1991.

The aim of this thesis is primarily to study the work of the Swedish architect Victor von Gegerfelt (1817-1915), who was active in his profession in Göteborg during the years 1841-1896. The thesis examines the nineteenth-century conditions concerning the planning and construction of buildings in Göteborg and focuses on the local characteristics of its architecture. After his training as a military officer, Gegerfelt studied architecture in Berlin for three years. He became one of the leading architects in Göteborg. For twenty-four years Gegerfelt held the position as City Architect, 1872-1896.

He also gave lectures and wrote a treatise on architecture. Some of Gegerfelt's most important projects were the hospitals. He also designed schools, assembly halls, exposition pavilions, market halls as well as residential houses and areas. The very first house of the local type known as "landshövdinghus" (governor's houses) was most probably designed by Gegerfelt. Apart from his early neo-classical buildings it seems that Gegerfelt represented a more idiosyncratic or "oppositional" architecture than the current academic tradition.

The practical inclination in his intellect is reflected in his efforts to further develop building techniques and technology. The exposition buildings of 1871 and the fish market of 1874 are prime examples. Wide public attention was drawn to the buildings where he fused the prevailing ideas of the so-called Norse Revival with his idea of a unique triangular construction principle. It is likely that his way of creating architecture was well suited to the mercantile cultural life that dominated Göteborg. Most of his clients were merchants. Their philanthropic activities financed the institutions of social services at a time of rapid social change in society; Gegerfelt was ready to apply new ideas in order to solve their building-needs.

Key-words: Victor von Gegerfelt, Swedish architect, nineteenth-century architecture, City Architect, Göteborg, Norse Revival, hospital-architecture, wooden buildings, landshövdingehus, eclecticism, historicism.

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På glänt? Bostads- och boendeförhållanden för kvinnor med missbruksproblem. (Slightly ajar? Housing and Living Conditions for Women with Addiction Problems)

Akademisk avhandling av Maj-Britt Hanström, 1991.

An addict's existence bears the stamp of problems like insecurity, family fights, loneliness, rent debts, evictions, housing shortages, rooflessness and homelessness, as well as institutional living and poor aftercare. The necessities for leading a tolerable life – housing, work, social contacts, economic stability – are usually lacking.

This dissertation focuses on the housing conditions and home relationships of addicted women. Their desires for housing, the obstacles to and opportunities for fulfilling them, as well as factors like their social network and working life are described.

The study is interdisciplinary and its theoretical basis is in women's studies and research in social psychology, and housing and living conditions. Particular attention is devoted to identity and relational concepts. The method is qualitative. In-depth and group interviews with women at four different institutions have been conducted. The description, interpretation and analysis is primarily based on the women's own perspective of their living conditions. As a complement the study includes interviews with personnel in the social services, the municipal housing authority, private housing agencies and housing companies.

The in-depth interviews indicate that the conditions of the women's upbringing are related both to their patterns of moving around and their patterns of their alcohol or narcotics abuse. The more insecure a woman's upbringing, the more likely she is to move from one place to another as an adult, and the poorer the prognosis for ending her addiction. The results also show that the women have three different types of housing and living careers/forms: stationary (several years of continual living with their own leases); oscillating (moving from time to time between their own dwelling and people with whom they have close relationships); and ambulating (continually moving their place of residence). Most of the interviewed women lived an ambulatory existence and generally stayed together with other addicts. In addition to the three forms of housing, there was extensive circulation to and from treatment centres and institutions. Irrespective of the type of housing and the charac-

teristics of living, the women's lives, addiction and housing were often controlled by people to whom they had a close relationship, particularly men. These relationships were often destructive. The women's other social networks were very weak. In many cases society had taken their children into care.

At the time of the interview the women were strongly motivated to change their lives. They were afraid of illness and death, but were at the same time aware of the difficulties of ending their addiction. Their opportunities for choice of and actions for acquiring relevant housing were also very limited. The potential for women who had been evicted was miniscule because of checks by the authorities and housing companies. One institution, whose target group was pregnant women and newly delivered mothers, made greater efforts to acquire housing for the women and to provide support and aftercare. The difficulties of quitting the addiction and acquiring housing entailed that most women wanted and had great need of various kinds of support to deal with the problems both of their addiction and their housing.

The thesis ends with suggestions for alternative forms of living to break the pattern of homelessness. The women could either live in "ordinary" housing or, for instance, in collective housing. Each form of living includes "supportive relationships", which ought to be available in the buildings, housing areas and neighbourhoods and which should provide psychological, social and practical support to the women. Support relationships could be formal, e.g. with social services personnel, or informal, e.g. with neighbours. Genuine and reciprocal communication between the parties is needed to increase the women's sense of self-esteem. This may lead to women giving up their addiction and to the stabilization of housing and living conditions.

Key words: women, housing and living conditions, homelessness, alternative forms of living, alcohol and drug addiction, identity, relationships.

Language: Swedish. Summary in English.

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