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Development and Critique of Living Spaces

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Extended Abstract

Critique and Criticism: Their Role in the Advancement of the Human Environment. Critique and criticism may be as old as modern humanity itself. Any form of raising objections to any subject, for any purpose, may be considered a form of "criticism." History shows that critique and criticism have played a significant role in humankind's entry into the modern and industrial eras. While literary and artistic critiques are perhaps more widely recognized in society, these forms are not the focus of this discussion. Rather, this essay intends to briefly explore the relationship between critique and the processes of progress, innovation, development, and the enhancement of the human living environment. In English, critique is understood as a detailed analysis conducted by a specialist. The word derives from the Greek kritikos, meaning "to judge" or "to pass a verdict" (for further reference, see relevant Persian and English dictionaries, as well as entries in the Persian and English editions of Wikipedia).

A brief observation reveals that, within our society, critique—even when expressed in a spirit of pure goodwill and collegiality—rarely meets with acceptance. Due to deeply rooted historical and cultural factors, in the contemporary era, the practice of critique and of critical engagement has neither been prevalent nor institutionally recognized in the way it is in much of the West.

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nonetheless, in recent years, signs have emerged of a turn toward more serious and scholarly criticism on the one hand, and toward critique-receptiveness and attentiveness to critical voices on the other. This trend offers the prospect of a fundamental leap forward in the areas of planning, design, decision-making, and the management of human space and environment—an opportunity that demands attentive recognition and effective application by academic and research .communities

In the domain of critique, the critic is typically a subject-matter expert who, after conducting thorough and scholarly analysis, identifying both the strengths and weaknesses of the issue at hand, and considering the relevant facts, presents their perspective. The critic ultimately seeks to propose informed, logical, and constructive recommendations aimed at reinforcing strengths and mitigating or eliminating weaknesses. Such feedback is conveyed in a manner that is clear in expression, moderate in tone, refined in form, and fair in judgment. The ultimate purpose of critique is to assist others in addressing deficiencies—whether in their work, practice, or actions. Consequently, genuine critique is entirely free from fault-finding for its own sake, character assassination, personal vendettas, or acts of humiliation and .verbal abuse

By contrast, criticism operates under different conditions. The person offering criticism is not necessarily a specialist in the field under discussion and, therefore, is not expected to engage in an in-depth… is often not preceded by prolonged or methodical study. It may be shaped, in part or in whole, by personal

Over the past century, our country has consistently sought to present itself in the realm of urban management and planning as aligned with, and comparable to, developed nations. Substantial financial investments have been made toward this objective; yet, regrettably, even the most cautious figures in the field cannot .conceal their dissatisfaction

Given the current national context, we find that urban management—particularly in view of the fact that mayors are not directly elected by the public—is under no legal obligation to respond to any form of critique or criticism. As a result, scattered and unsystematic criticisms are largely disregarded and exert .minimal tangible impact

The secret to progress and the enhancement of quality in the urban planning of developed countries lies in the institutionalization of scientific and systematic critique. In contrast, the crisis of urban planning in Iran originates in the elimination of critique and the managerial system's disregard for it—an omission that has effectively obstructed every pathway toward reform and advancement.

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