



**International Journal of Biology, Pharmacy
and Allied Sciences (IJBPAS)**

'A Bridge Between Laboratory and Reader'

www.jibpas.com

**DEVELOPMENT OF GLORY OF COURT OF HIS EMINENCE ABD ALAZIM
HASANI, THE MOST IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS TOURISM POLE IN SHAHRE REY**

NASROLLAH FALLAH TABAR

Faculty members, Islamic Azad University, Yadegar –e- Imam Khomeini, Tehran, Iran

ABSTRACT

Islamic Republic of Iran is an ancient center for culture and civilization development through the world. Cultural heritages and Iranian- Islamic monuments, occasionally manifested as valuable historical- religious monuments, accounted as the identity and glory of Iranian cities and villages. Along with, Shahre Rey is one of the famous historical, cultural and commercial cities considered since ancient era and court of his eminence Abd Alazim Hasani is also glorying as a golden monument on this old city. The court of Abd Al-Azim Hasani has been historically considered and passed its development during the years and could attract tourists to itself by markets and other elements such as school, library, museum, praying place, tomb and court of Imam Zadeh Taher and Court of Imam Zadeh Hamzeh that gave it a special reverence and this could strengthen the tourism, particularly religious and pilgrimage tourism. Studies indicate that this complex historically encountered with structural abrasion and social- cultural and economic abnormalities and on the other side old and unsuitable textures around the shrine, false occupations, troublesome usages and poor residents of surrounding zones eliminated the elegancy of this holey place and made its feature unsuitable, particularly on tourism based and this caused the authorities of Shahre Rey to take necessary actions for improving it and operating from its historical spaces and works to playing valuable cultural, religious and historical role in structural plans and urban development and tourism plans according to its dignity.

**Keywords: Court of Abd Al-Azin Hasani, development, religious tourism, historical
tecture, structural plan**

INTRODUCTION

In this study, enjoying the reports and projects implemented around shrine of Abd Al-Azim Hasani, in past era, as well as fundamental changes occurred since, there was used historical, library and field methodology in combined based.

With approximately 9000 years of antiquity, Shahre Rey is one of the oldest cities in Iran and has brilliant civilization signs such as: holy shrines and famous people's tombs, court of his eminent Abd Al-Azin Hasani and holy shrine of Imamzadeh Taher, Imamzadeh Abd Allah, Imam Zadeh Hadi, Imamzadeh Abolhasan Ibn Bavieh, Haroon jail (Sasanid fire place), enmity house (Nagharkhaneh), Gabri castle, Ashkan Castle, Toghrol Tower, Cheshmeh Ali and various caravanserai and castles has prominent place among Iranian cities. The proper identity of Shahre Rey resulted from various factors such as historical and cultural factors that their interaction may play important role in its development and increase the tourism industry.

On the other hand, day to day increase in the population of cities needs new structure such as: new residential, cultural, commercial spaces and streets that made new horizon to old urban textures and way of their rehabilitation. Development of new urban

development may be conducted considering the ancient and historical texture of old zones through the city, i.e. development of its structural elements. Because historical textures are an indicator of urban culture and history and its civil life, in any historical city, historical texture is the initial center of city and urban life passed its life in a historical texture for more than several centuries and by properly rehabilitation and repairing it also can continue this way. Iranian old cities possess indicating zones that are the most precious historical works. But, by the time, such zones become worn out and in most cases, they turned to the habitat of poor people and or immigrant people and not only turned to a structural issue, but indicated as an economic, social and cultural complication. This has always been considered by authorities and urbanization managers besides development of tourism industry.

On the other hand, historical zones have valuable urban spaces indicating the concepts of mass living and civilization in their history.

Urban Rehabilitation in the framework of Plans

In the civil plans and rehabilitation and renovation of urban, there has been taken

some actions some of them conducted partially.

Five years plan of second economic, social and cultural development of Islamic Republic of Iran executed from 1993 to 1997, in the urban development, the subject of rehabilitation of old texture of cities has been discussed. These projects aim to optimally use lands by modifying the old textures, and rehabilitating the buildings and improving the old zones and these plans clearly dealt with development in the field of cities texture.

Five years plan of third economic, social and cultural development of Islamic Republic of Iran executed from 1997 to 2004, aimed to improve urban spaces as well as open and public spaces in the cities and implementing the projects such as urbanization details and urban planning.

Five years plan of fourth economic, social and cultural development of Islamic Republic of Iran executed from 2004 to 2009 aimed to improve the feature and structure of cities, maintaining and developing the architecture and urbanization culture as well as improving the urban services by rehabilitating the old and unsuitable texture of urban places and preventing the development of corners of cities according to general urban design and

improving the suburb textures in the cities through the country aiming to empowering the residents of such textures and providing them with usable facilities.

Historical Structure of Shahre Rey

Studies indicated that Ray has two main parts. Its historical part located in its north called "Rey Barin" and part related to Islam and Post Islam era where has more extended called "Rey Zirin". Later, after demolition of Rey Zirin due to internal wars and earthquake, Rey Barin flourished again and current situation of Shahre Rey is located in an ancient site of Rey Barin. Meanwhile, despites invasions and political and ideological disputes, this city enjoyed proper and potential economic power. Economic fundamentals of this city can be sought out in trading, industries and agriculture.

In the past, Shahre Rey in its main route had a famous market linking Batan (Okbatan) gate along with Abrisham road to Rashkan (Arshak) gate in the north of town next to Rashkan castle and northern part of this market called "Narmeh" and its southern part called "Dehak".

Second part of Shahre Rey linked from its east (Khorasan gate) and eastern route of Abrisham Road to Balisan (Balash) gate in the western north of city crossed with previous route up to Cheshmeh Ali. In

parallel with this and along with Cheshmeh Ali stream (Sourin or Soren) there was another famous market called "Roodeh" passed from Toghrol tower from south and linked to main route of Narmeh market. In the cross of these markets, there were four main marketplace of the town called Chahar bazar (four markets). Toghrol tower located in the east of Char Bazar and Ibne Bavih in the west of Char bazar. On the other side, Imamzadeh Abd Allah has been also established at the corner of this route and extended to His eminence Abd Alazim located out of the city walls. Studies indicate that in the Safavid era, there has been prepared the map of Shahre Rey by a tourist called Kerporter. This map conformed based on different signs and features with status quo and it has been determined that all routes and main historical and structural elements of Shahre Rey and the situation of all current historical works may be recognizable.

Changes of Shahre Rey Contemporarily

Studies conducted for structural development of Tehran and Shahre Rey from 1921 to 1996 embedded automatically the structural development of district 20 of Tehran Municipality detailed as below:

1- Structural development of Tehran and Shahre Rey since 1921: documents and

maps indicate that until this period, Tehran, Shahre Rey and Shemiranat were separated from each other and occurred with partial areas and there was also a small residential texture around Shrine of Abd Al-azim hasani extended towards square of Shahre Rey.

2- Structural development of Tehran and Shahre Rey until 1956: in this time period about 35 years, the Tehran area considerable developed from its east, north, south and particularly west and north and Shemiran also developed from the old road of Shemiran towards Tehran. In this time, the texture around shrine partially developed and there was created a small spot of industrial units such as: Rey Cement factory, Rey Chit Factory, Prominent Chit Factory,... in the north of region.

3- Structural development of Tehran and Shahre Rey until 1976: in the period of about 20 years, the structural development of Tehran continued more severely and fast and Tehran, Rey and Shemiran totally connected to each other and formed as an integrated unit. During this time, Tehran extended towards Shemiran and this caused building more residential textures and on the other side, development of Tehran towards Shahre Rey determined as establishing industrial units.

4- Structural development of Tehran and Shahre Rey until 1996: in this period, structural development of Tehran, particularly in its southern corners accelerated, this is more because of increased immigration towards Tehran and in Shahre Rey, and in the range of district 20 of Municipality it can be seen the development of residential textures, warehouses and industrial workshops such that Shahre Rey can be indicated approximately as an industrial- residential development region.

How Structure of city and shrine formed?

a- Generally, studies indicate that the main structure of old and historical texture of Shahre Rey is located between Safaeh Square (Rashkan gate) in the eastern north to Shahre Rey Square (Batan gate) in the south of the city and shrine of Abd Al-Azim Hasani also located out of the town walls towards south.

b- Main and valuable elements such as: Imamzadeh Abdallah, Toghrol tower, Ibne Bavieh cemetery and Firooz Abadi hospital include main elements related to main backbone of Shahre Rey. Shrine of Abd Alazi Hasani, as main core of Shahre Rey during contemporary era and due to its closeness to Metropolitan Tehran and other points, particularly since 1921, played

important role in formation of spatial organization of region.

c- It is clear that Fadaeeane Eslam Street linked Shrine at the north with center of Tehran and traditional market ended to shrine and Shahre Rey Square located at the southern end of this street.

d- Great industries such as: Rey Chit, Prominent Chit, Tannery, etc., created at the corner of this street. In this case, in parallel with Fadaeeane Islam Street, there is located old railroad of Tehran and later by removing this railroad, third road street established.

e- By creating Shahid Rajaei Blvd at the west of Shahre Rey and Aramgah Blvd during first pahlavid era, there was provided western access to shrine.

f- Main link between Tehran and Varamin and Qom is by Varamin and Shahid Rajaei road, located in district 20 and this caused formation of industries, warehouses and transportation agencies and other installations in their corner.

g- Studies indicate that during 40s, there were established two designed projects for residing labors and employees in Sizdahe Aban estate (west of region) and Dolat Abad (east of region) having fully checkered routes, different squares and some service usages. By formation of main route network of Shahre Rey, structural development of

region gradually extended from shrine of Abd Alazim Hasani towards north and eastern north area and organic and traditional texture surrounding the shrine replaced by more regular and elegant networks.

Dorri Elahi Tomb in the bed of Old Town

Shahre Rey that is in the neighborhood of Capital of Iran, possesses 6500 years of antiquity and due to presence of religious places such as Shrine of his eminent Abd Alazim Hasani in its old bed, Imamzadeh Sharif buried in it, tomb of founder of Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini, and various historical works such as: Toghrol tower with antiquity of 1000 years and Historical Cheshmeh Ali stream, etc.... has been distinguished from other towns through our country and annually accepts more than 10 million visitors. Therefore, one can provide the field for its cultural and religious development in order for development of tourism industry with its abundant tourism places.

Studies indicate that Rey is one of the historical and old cities in Iran and according to the stories of some historians and Iranian and foreign tourists, it has been founded when Arian people entered to Iran. Aria people who entered to Iran, resided in the plains and other places with good

wheatears. When they attained to Rey plain, selected Rey for making castles and established a big square; then for protecting and guarding it, inflamed great fire among the square. Shahre Rey developed gradually and people used water from Cheshmeh Ali and other springs. The north of Shahre Rey due to its better weather than its south part was the habitat of rich people and princes. In that era, due to protecting the north of city there was a wall and fortification around north of the town and a ditch excavated in the south for the town.

Generally, old and ancient Rey city divided into two parts:

- a- Old Rey, before Islam
- b- Rey established during Islam

Before emergence of Islam, old Rey located around Cheshmeh Ali among a fortification called "Rey Barin". Rey Barin was the most important and famous religious center of Zoroastrian. Among authorities for birthplace of Zoroaster there are some differences, for this reason, according to resources, Rey, Damavand, Shiz, Azerbaijan, Balkh and Kharazm have been considered as birthplace of this prophet. Most historians and scientists assume that he lived between 1200 to 800 BC.

According to the report of Ahmad Ibn Mohammad Ibn Khaled Barghi, his eminent

Abd Al-Azim Hasani, came to Rey due to fearing from Sultan and resided in the underground of a home of one of Rey's Shiites. He prayed the god there days and nights. Next to that house, there was a tomb that he visited it and stated that it is the tomb of a child of Musa Ibn Al-Jafar.

He resided in this crypt such that all Shiites became aware of it and most of them knew him. According to stories, his eminence Abd Alazim moved from Tabaristan to Rey.

This travel might be in fifth decade of third century, i.e. when there is no power for Alavian and Taherian governed on people. According to Saheb, he resided in Sarbanan. Sarbanan zone located in Sekeh Almavali and later was the cross point between geographical regions belonged to three religions, Shafei, Hanafi and Shiite. Yaghut says: This zone according to some statements that some of them mentioned in the description of Gilani stream and remaining in the statement of Sarbanan market that was one of the main markets of Rey in the distance between Glycerin factory and Toghrol Tower Street and in the east it linked to current Taghi Abad.

In the written prayer pilgrimage of his eminence Abd Alazim Hasani, there has been stated about his burial: a night, one of the Shiites saw prophet Mohammad in his

dream and he said, soon a man from my family will die in Sarbanan zone and will be buried in Abd Aljabar garden under an apple tree. When that man waked up, went to purchase the garden from his owner and informed his dream. He also said he saw such dream and decided to donate the garden to Shiites and they also can bury their deceased there. After his death, they buried him there and they also found a sheet written as:

I, Abulghasem, son of Abd Allah, son of Ali, son of Zeyd, son of Hasan Ibn Abi Talib. He left a boy called Mohammad and two daughters. Because, he died in 256 Hijri Ghamari, therefore, he was 79 years old when died and he died after residing about 4 years in Rey.

About real burial place of him, it has been mentioned that: for the real tomb of his eminence Abd Alazim Hasani, that is the same current famous place, any scholar has not in doubt for. This place because of the presence of an apple tree he buried under it, called "Alshajar".

In Riaz Alsanab, it has been stated that: "his burial place is in Rey land in Shajareh mosque."

For first monument on the tomb it has been stated that: it is not actually determined that when there has made a dome on his tomb

and his tomb also repaired in the mid third century by Mohammad Ibn Zeyd Dae Alavi. The dome located on his tomb longs for 1000 years. According to an inscription, entrance gate of this shrine was from the north, but during Safavid, according to the order of Shah Tahmasb it changed towards east and during Naser Aldin Shah Qajar, that door moved again towards north side. Imamzadeh Taher and Imamzadeh Hamzeh who are the houses of his eminence Abd Al-Azim Hasani were extended during Qajarid era and repaired.

More Development in Shrine, influenced from Religious Tourism Attractions

1- Other holy tombs next to the shrine

These shrines include: Imamzadeh Hamzeh and Imamzadeh Taher. Shrine of his eminence Abd Al-Azim Hasani, like other great and valid shrines of Iranian people initially include the building of shrine, i.e. its main and central part and gradually during different centuries, other monuments added to it and now it can be seen like this big and great complex including shrines, mosques, portals, porches, yards and other related works and shrines of Imamzadeh Hamzeh and Imamzadeh Taher located also in this complex.

Imamzadeh Hamzeh is one of the children of his eminence Imam Mousa Kazem and

Imamzadeh Taher is one of the children of fourth Imam of Shiites.

2- Imamzadeh Abd Allah

Tomb of Abdallah Abyaz (Imamzadeh Abdallah, a child of fourth Imam) located in the north of Shahre Rey and it assumed that it has been established on 11th century.

3- Imamzadeh Hadi

Imamzadeh Hadi and Mashaallah Mosque has been located near old Rey- Tehran road to some extent at the north of Ibne Bavieh and lower than Safaeeh garden. Meanwhile, it is determined that this tomb buried one sister called Zeynab and one brother who is a grandchild of seventh Imam and only famed in the name of their brother.

4- Imamzadeh Abolhasan

This Imamzadeh is a grandchild of Imam Jafar Sadegh.

5- Ibn Bavieh

Tomb of Ibne Bavieh located next to Toghrol tower. Ibne Bavieh Abu Jafar Mohammad Ibn Ali Ibn Alhossein Ibn Mousa Ibn Bavieh Ghomi named "Sheikh Sadugh", has valuable books such as: "Man La Yahzarho Alfaghih", "Altohid", "Alnabaveh" and "Oyoun Alakhbar Alreza". Ibne Baveh died on 381 and buried in Rey.

6- Generous butcher (Javanmard Ghasab)

The tomb of Javanmard Ghasab located in the lands of Mansour Abad with approximate distance of 1km in the west of Tehran- Shahre Rey road. The monument of tomb has the quadrant form and its length and width is about 6m and there is a stone board on a quadrant platform and there have been inserted simple decorations and engraved lion shapes at the corner of stone. Both tomb and this stone are the works of Fathali Shah Era.

7- *Tomb of Bibi Shahrbanoo*

In the foothill of northern mountain of Amin Abad, it has been located on a cleft and is one of the oldest Islamic monuments.

On the pilgrimage board of Bibi Shahrbanoo, there are various names. Therefore, name of Bibi Shahrbanoo is not restricted to one and also called as Shah Jihan, Shahe Zanan and Jahan Banoo. According to the author of Ancient Rey, the story of Bibi Shahrbanoo is one of the complications of Islamic Historical issues and is an unresolved puzzle. Some people know her the mother of fourth Imam, daughter of third Yazdgerd, latest ancient Sasanid kings. Some other people know her as the daughter of this king and called her by another name and third group believe that she died when his eminence Sajad born. According to local people, this monument is

the tomb of Bibi Shahrbanoo, daughter of third Yazdgerd, wife of Imam Hossein and mother of fourth Imam.

8- *Tomb of Bibi Zobeydeh*

Tomb of Bibi Zobeydeh is upper than tomb of Imamzadeh Abd Allah and located in Hossein Abad Zone. The book of Ancient Rey, introduces Zobeideh Khatoon as the daughter of Yaghuti Ibn Saljooghi and wife of Malekshah and mother of Barkiaragh on 492 Hejri Ghamari according to the order of Moayed Almalek who jailed in Tabarok castle and then died.

But according to a board next to the shrine and on eastern wall, Bibi Zobeydeh is introduced as Zobeydeh Khatoon, daughter of Imam Hossein who sought shelter to Rey in the fear of Bani Omayeh Caliphs with her mother Shahrbanoo and died here.

9- *Haroon Jail or Sasanid Fire Place*

This monument established in two stories and height of 9 m related to Ale Boyeh and Saljooghid; but ceiling on the hallways and arches surrounded it attributed to Sasanid. Haroon jail located next to a mountain far from village and is dark with no similarity to mosque, Islamic temples, castle, barrack, caravansaries,...

10- *Tabarok Mountain and fortification of Shahre Rey and Fathali Shah Slide*

Tabarok Mountain is indeed the mountain that cement factory with its great funnels and installation located in its northern valley. During Qajar era, there was established a slid there and then it called Slide mountain. On 1246 Hejri Ghamari, upon the order of Fathali Shah, the photo of Sasanid era removed from the mountain, and his photo engraved there, but it demolished due to breaking and cutting the mountains in cement factory.

11- *Enmity House*

In the foothill of Koohsar, located in Taghi Abad, in the eastern north of Shahre Rey, there is indicated the remnants of an elegant brick tower with twelve cracks, in the middle of a great circular form stone plate (36m in diameter) and two floors stone and plaster room and an octagonal brick and stone tower on the same part of mountain and according to scientific studies, it has become clear that this place is the tomb of one of the Saljughid kings, called Inanaj.

12- *Fakhr Aldolah dome*

This king, in Tabarestan History, in chapter two of Rey Town in the era of Manouchehr Pishdadi stated that “ this city in that time was located against dome of Fakhr Aldoeh king.

Kerporter, eastern philosopher and tourist in the era of Fathali Shah, visited old Rey

and its remnants. He writes: “around dome and on it there is a brick board. Its entrance is open and its circle diameter is about 13 yard.

13- *Gabri Castle*

Gabri castle is one of the various castles of gates of old Rey city and now its remnant located in the Rey to Varamin plain. Other castles include Kasni, Deh Khiz, Tappeh Begam, Moghim Abad,... this monument has been attributed to the pre-Islamic era.

14- *Rashgan Castle*

In the eastern north of pre-Islam Rey, or “Rey Barin”, in the distance between Cement Factory and Glycerin Factory on a mountain, called Slide Mountain, there is effects of fortifications and in the foothill of mountain the remnants of a great building, now removed due to activities of cement factory. This mountain in the past called Rashgan castle, Dezrashgan and Dezrashkan.

15- *Toghrol Tower*

In the east of Ibn Bavieh, among a garden that is a great garden of past Toghrolieh, there is located a brick circled tower that its external front is arched with 24 cracks attributed to Toghrol Beyg Tomb, latest Saljooghid king (573 to 590).

16- *Cheshmeh Ali*

It is a famous town of old Iran located in 6 km of eastern south of Tehran and its old center has a spring next to a great stone and in the old era it called "Suren" or "Surena".

Rey Bandi castle was founded by Abbasid Mahdi Caliph, located in the upper side of this spring on a stone.

17- *Mill Hill*

The fire place of Shahre Rey, located on this hill, built in old era by Ferydoon and this fire place located at the middle of its temple and inflamed by fire continuously. Mill hill has been located next to the Rey- Varamin road next to Kheirabad village.

18- *Hay Rey Cemetery*

Along the northern mountain of Rey Barin, there was a great cemetery established in the pre-Islam era according to the tradition of Zoroaster, they put the bones of deceased there.

19- *Twin Caravansary*

This caravansary has been located next to the shrine of Abd Alazim and linked to the market of Shahre Rey and has a sign of art and architecture from Safavid era. Despite its artistic elegances, its architecture indicates welfare and calm of its residents and passengers. Now, this caravansary has been ruined.

20- *Tens of other ancient works*

CONCLUSION

Generally, Shahre Rey enjoys an old history and shrine of his eminence Abd Alazim Hasani has been located in its main body and donated a kind of integrity to Shahre Rey. The main route of backbone of Shahre Rey links Safaieh Square (Eashkan gate) by Varamin cross road and Shahre Rey square to Shrine of Abd Alazim. Indeed, this route is the main backbone of region and enjoying high potentials, made main structure of this zone.

The southern part of Shahre Rey, i.e. holy shrine and its surrounding as well as eastern north range, i.e. Ibne Bavieh and its corner maintained oldest monuments of Shahre Rey. Traditional and organic texture surrounding the shrine, together with texture of range of Aramgah blvd, Shahre Rey square and Varamin crossroad and in addition the range in the belt road of Shahre Rey enjoy more structural integrity and indeed form main area of Shahre Rey.

(modern) Safaieh square is the site of one of the main gates of ancient Rey called Ashkan gate and Batan (Okbatan) gate is the place of entrance of Abrisham road to ancient Rey and has been located in the current site of Shahre Rey Square.

Generally, holy shrine of Abd Alazim Alhasani and Imamzadeh Hamzeh and Imamzadeh Taher have been located in

Shahre Rey since third century as one of the most famous pilgrimage and tourism places. This holy court initially includes the building of shrine and gradually during different centuries, other buildings and monuments added to and turned to current great complex including shrines, yards, mosques, hallways,..., the main and initial building of this monument repaired in third century in Ale Boyeh era and physically developed in Saljougid era with buildings such as: mosques, portals, yards. But during Qajar era, there has been more considered internal space, high minarets and yard landscape.

Urban elements surrounding the holy shrine, like market, new yards, halls, portals, school, garden, bath, caravansary, museum, library, reservoir, and cemetery have been established in Saljougid, Safavid and Qajar eras. During Pahlavid era, some of routes have been built in the zones of Shahre Rey. During initial years of Islamic Revolution, there have been conducted limited activities such as His eminence Abd Alazim seminary and since 1990, there were integrated actions taken. It is obvious that any of actions taken have increased on its tourism attraction.

Thus, general developments in the holy shrine complex, has been initiated in all

cultural, pilgrimage and civil dimensions and there have been formed regular formations for management of this shrine and physical development plan of this shrine has been implemented since 1992 in the framework of more than 20 main welfare, cultural, religious and physical projects.

On the other hand, there have been made decisions for establishing university and Tradition Science School, special library, cultural and training complex, establishing the clinic, public library, study halls and skyscraper, cooperation with believers, great praying place, Dar Altavaliéh, conference hall, yards, Shabestans, portals and schools and other requirements of visitors and tourists mostly have been finished and now management of shrine of Abd Alazim Hasani are following up.

Therefore, it hoped that according to establishing religious, cultural, and historical centers, monuments and tourism attractions, particularly presence of shrine of Abd Alazim Hasani and shrine of Imam Khomeini and tombs of great scholars in Shahre Rey, by integrated planning, this old town is considered as main tourism pole particularly religious tourism.

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