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**ANALYZING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO ISSUES:
“PREVENTING DESTRUCTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT”
AND “REALIZING SUSTAINABILITY OF TOURISM INDUSTRY”**

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ABSTRACT

It is inevitable to return to nature and associate with it. In recent decades, applying environmental development approach and sustainable development as well as environmental destruction impacts of instability of today cities have become main topics. As the focus of activity and life of human beings, cities have no choice except to accept the affected functional structure by natural systems to be able to ensure their stability. In the last two decades, because of emerging the paradigm of sustainable development in the tourism industry, there have been brought up growing concerns about undesirable and destructive effects of mass tourism in scientific and administrative spheres as well as national and international levels. Since sustainable development of tourism cannot be considered apart from concept of sustainable development, we can say that concepts of assessing sustainability and stability in development of tourism industry can be explained as concepts of sustainable development. Therefore, by considering to the concepts of sustainable development that emphasize on human well-being and quality of life as well as welfare of natural ecosystems, we can state that assessment of tourism sustainable development has discussed on people and natural ecosystems simultaneously with equal importance. In this perspective, people will be considered as an integral part of the ecosystem, and comfort and well-being of one side will be depended on comfort and well-being of another side. Undoubtedly, sustainability of tourism industry (due to its close relationship with the environment) will lead to reduce destructive environmental impacts and achieve a sustainable natural environment.

Keywords: *Nature, Sustainability, Sustainable Architecture, Destruction of Natural Environment, Tourism Industry*

INTRODUCTION

Human has always been associated with nature and used it as an important element in his plans. He has tried to serve nature to his own optimally by manipulating it. This coexistence is well seen in human history. In other words, when the man made and exploited shelter, housing, environment etc, he has always considered nature and used it as a fundamental key in his maps and designs (Kiani, 2001; Nasr, 2001). It is inevitable to return and associate with it (Khakzand & Ahmadi, 2007).

Today, urbanization has found large scale aspects and urban population is increasing day by day. By 1900, one out of eight persons lived in urban areas (Gilbert & Gaugler, 1996). In 2005, population of urban areas exceeded 50% of the world's population. It is estimated that the world's urban settlements will be accommodated by 3.3 billion people until 2030. Approximately 90% of the statistics will be allocated to urban centers of developing countries (Shoakoei, 1994). Population growth of cities has caused a density their uses that it threatens open urban areas more than ever.

Increasing residential densities in urban areas and decreasing private open green spaces have increased need to equip public spaces and indicate necessity to build and develop recreational parks in cities. Nowadays, we cannot imagine the concept of cities without effective green spaces in many forms. Consequences of urban development and complexity of its environmental issues have imperative availability and spread of green spaces more than ever. As the focus of activity and life of human beings,

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cities have no choice except to accept the affected functional structure by natural systems to be able to ensure their stability. Accordingly, green space plays an essential role in metabolism of cities, as an integral and important part of their bodies and its deficiency can cause serious disorders in urban life (Mehrmand, 2004).

Developing mass tourism and its damaging effects on environment and people around the world caused that during 1990s (Rio Conference, 1992; International Conference of Nature Lovers, 1999; and many other international conferences), experts of different countries pointed out the importance and necessity of considering sustainability factors in tourism sector and warned to remove or modify the factors in the sector (Salah Wahab & John J, 2005).

Accordingly, by decreasing the instability and by bringing up the paradigm of sustainable development, there were expanded using practical techniques and methods to measure and assess progress toward sustainability in the tourism industry and there were spent significant investments and human resources to develop practical policies and evaluation models for sustainable development (KO T.G, 2005). With such a description, according to many scientists, achieving the matter in tourism development is faced with numerous problems, given to its complex nature. However, despite the problems and challenges, necessity of measuring sustainability in tourism areas is increasingly emphasized more than ever, in order to determine their status and progress toward achieving sustainable tourism development. Therefore, it is emphasized that if sustainable development is considered as the ultimate objective, it will require tools and methods to measure moving towards sustainability in different scales (local, national and global) (Badri & Eftekhari, 2004). As Solow (1993) states “talking has no value without assessment”. According to Hardi *et al.*, (1997), management requires measurement (Bell & Morse, 2006). Therefore, it is inevitable to use different tools and methods that can measure progress toward sustainable development (Bell & Morse, 2006). Since sustainable development of tourism cannot be considered apart from concept of sustainable development, we can say that concepts of assessing sustainability and stability in development of tourism industry can be explained as concepts of sustainable development. In this perspective, people will be considered as an integral part of the ecosystem, and comfort and well-being of one side will be depended on comfort and well-being of another side.

Protecting the environment, preventing pollution and damage as well as optimal consumption of resources are the most important factors to achieve sustainable development. Unfortunately, neglecting this important matter has faced the country with various environmental crises. It can be said that many environmental crises are rooted in cultural problems; so in this regard, it is necessary to reform environmental attitudes and behavior at different levels of the society. Achieving such a matter requires research, training and access to right information because exact planning and environmental management as well as considering the factors on development decisions should be based on data and awareness from facts and abilities. Under sustainable development and economic growth, the United Nations recognizes that sustainable human development means that we are morally obliged to act for the next generation at least as good as the previous generation did to us. This development also means that we must invest in education and health of the current population to avoid social debt for future generations. Finally, sustainable human development means that resources must be used in ways that there are no environmental debts for future generations, despite excessive using from production capacity of the land. Like other countries in the world, in our country, Iran, the issue of preserving environment and moving towards sustainable development has begun from the First Economic, Social and Cultural Program of Islamic Republic of Iran and was continued in the second and third programs too. Although speed of damaging the environment has been beyond the thought arrangements or other regulations and laws, but there have been conducted few efforts about the important social matter (Nadafi *et al.*, 2008).

One of main objectives of sustainable development is to consider the environment to achieve stability, which using green space in living environment has been specially considered in this regard. Creating green space in different parts of buildings is an appropriate strategy to achieve sustainability principles. In the architecture, protect natural conditions is very important so that adverse effect of buildings on local

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ecosystems will be minimized and there will be created a proper interaction between them with topography, flora and beings. Now, other than moving toward sustainable development, we want to examine the effects of using green spaces in public places aesthetically and psychologically, especially tourism areas (Shahraki *et al.*, 2011).

Literature and History

Sustainable development is derived from the results of environment, social justice and economic goals. For the first time, the World Tourism Organization (1988) defined the term of “sustainable tourism” in accordance with the mentioned criteria in Brandt Land report: sustainable tourism will meet needs of the present tourists and host communities by protecting and improving opportunities of the futures (George, 2008). Sustainable tourism development is also a certain form of tourism development that the system can survive in high level of quality (Cove, 2005). By referring to Linz studies on sustainable tourism in Hawaii, Michelle Meek (2006) provides a better understanding on this concept: sustainable tourism has not been designed to prevent tourism, but it is to manage interests of three groups of stakeholders including residents, host communities, tourists and the involved persons in tourism industry as well as seeking to create balance between development and protection and in general, finding the best form of tourism development for a given area by considering its culture and environment (Miller & Tonnin, 2005). According to the above-mentioned matters and El Egel Theory, defining, explaining and estimating sustainable tourism can be difficult because today's dynamic tourism needs should be associated with anxieties of tomorrow, due to future needs. The published article by Tony Griffin and Nicolette Bulls, entitled *Conceivable Ways to Achieve Sustainable Tourism*, considers the following five key elements for sustainability of tourism:

1. Preserving and maintaining original existing resources for future generations;
2. Establishing development of original resources;
3. Maintaining bio and climate diversity as well as avoid irreversible changes;
4. Ensuring justice and equality between generations;
5. Maintaining and protecting cultural and historic heritage in the environment, region or country (El Egel, 2009).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Methodology

The research method is analytical-descriptive method. In this study, scientific and document websites have been used to collect data and theoretical sources including Science Direct, Procast, Wiley and Springer etc.

Theoretical Basics

In global development literature, scholars have been considered sustainable development paradigm after 1970s. However, the sustainable tourism was considered from 1960s by identifying potential effects of mass tourism and due to effects of tourism activities on economy, environment and culture of tourism places as well as the uncontrolled growth of mass tourism that leads to depletion and degradation of natural, social and cultural resources, in addition to destructive effects such as reducing traditional and local heritage and culture, losing local identity, increasing crime rates, overcrowding, congestion and other environmental problems in host regions (Choi, 2003). Following such discussions, the paradigm of sustainable tourism (ST) was considered as the only way to save nature and man in the tourism industry. From this perspective, paradigm of sustainable tourism examines tourism in most borders and creates the triangle-shaped relationship between host community and its land, from one hand, and guests and guest community (tourists), from the other hand, with tourism industry. It plans to adjust tensions between three sides of the triangle, establish a balance in long-term and consider it (Ghaderi, 2003). However, since the dominant approach in this paradigm was too much tourism-oriented and meticulous (with very limited vision in scope, scale and context), therefore, the designed operational actions to operationalize sustainable tourism could not consider sensitive issues in concept of sustainable development in a more

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general and practical manners and may even act against public needs of sustainable development (Hunter, 1995).

In addition, this solution considered concept of sustainable development contradictorily, in order to explain stability in tourism that refers to other different aspects of its concept separately. Therefore, it is necessary to accept an integrated approach to achieve landscape of sustainable development in tourism field (Butler, 1999). These shortcomings in sustainable tourism caused that from 1992 (after Rio Conference) and following the third wave of development, there was introduced a new paradigm in tourism literature to cover all aspects of sustainable development so-called and Sustainable Tourism Development (STD).

It is a new paradigm in comparison with the first approach of sustainable tourism (ST). In this new paradigm, it has been attempted to consider basic principles of development and sustainable development, rather than tourism and its components because in paradigm of sustainable tourism development, tourism is considered as a cycle for sustainable development, in addition to basic principles of sustainable development such as poverty reduction, equity in income distribution, inter-generational and inter-generational equity and biodiversity etc (Table 1).

Table 1: Criteria for Sustainability of Both Territories in Tourism (From Sustainable Tourism to Sustainable Tourism Development)

Territory	Sustainable Tourism (ST)	Sustainable Tourism Development (STD)
Differentiation Criteria		
Problem Definition	Tourism damages mass tourism: clump, crime, destructing cultural and tourism resources	Tourism as a cycle for sustainable development, poverty reduction, inter-generational equity, biodiversity and ...
Economic Sustainability	Tourism as an economic sector, increasing growth of tourism infrastructures and resources as a necessity	Share of tourism in reducing poverty (its meta-poverty and anti-poverty aspects) - Distributing income, wealth and economic power sources - Tourism and sustainable livelihoods and ...
Environmental Sustainability	Reducing environmental pollution (air, water, soil, etc) Increasing energy efficiency	Participating in protecting nature (biodiversity), access to benefits of the participation - Preventing destruction of ozone layer, global warming and....
Social- Sustainability	Cultural - Decreasing hostility with science and industry - Reducing crime, mass and.... - Participating to preserve cultural heritage	-Considering honorable and worthy life -Respect land rights and local people -Considering gender relationships (women's rights) -Considering working conditions (labor laws)

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Source: Duim, V.R. van der (2005) *Tourisms capes: An actor-network perspective on sustainable tourism development*. Wageningen: WUR Wageningen. PN 172

Therefore, in this paradigm, sustainable tourism development is defined as follows: sustainable tourism development is a process that meets the needs of present tourists and host regions, while it supports and strengthens future opportunities.

In fact, in the definition, it is predicted that movement leads to manage all sources that can meet all economic, social, aesthetic and ecological security are available needs, while it is maintained integration between economic, energy, water, air, habitat, waste, wildlife, ecological core processes, biodiversity etc (UNEP & WTO, 2001).

Stability

Stability Literal Meaning

The word of stable means fix, remain and long life; lasting means stable, fix, steadfast and permanent against going (Mofidi, Akhtarkavan). In Dehkhoda Dictionary, word of stable is means lasting, stability and stay (Dehkhoda, p. 47).

Today, sustainability term is widely used to describe its global meaning as which it can survive in human and natural systems for distant future simultaneously (Bahraini, 2001). As participle of development, sustainability is a situation without decreasing favorably and existing facilities over time and it implies for long-term support or sustainability (Zahedi & Najafi, 2005).

In Latin language, the following cases are considered as etymological meaning and related phrases with stability:

Sustain: support, keeping alive, continuous following;

Sustainable: lasting; an adjective to describe something that causes relaxation, feeding, earn livelihood, life continuity and lifelong;

Substance: life stability process (Rezaei, 2009; Azarbaijani & Mofidi, 2003).

Sustainability Concepts

From another perspective, it can be said that sustainable development will be achieved when components of economy, environment and society interact with each other (Iravani, 2006).

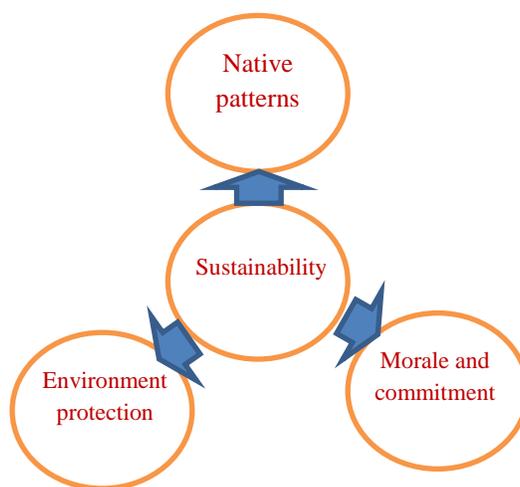


Figure 1: Diagram of Factors Affecting and Constituting Sustainability

Source: Mo'ameni Shahraki et al, 2013

Sustainability should be considered as the ability to supply the present material and spiritual needs by respecting future generations as well as maintain sources for them. In the concepts, compatible principles

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of preserving the environment, considering native and local patterns and concepts related to ethics and commitment with approach of lack of destroying resources for futures are three vertices of stability triangle (Rezaei, 2009).

Sustainable Architecture

In issues of sustainable architecture, as a sub-branch of sustainable development, there will be considered finding architectural solutions to provide suitable life conditions using ecological design methods and local materials; in this way, there are decreased negative effects of architecture on the environment (Mehri, 2003).

Sustainable architectural means designing buildings with the least damage on the environment, in terms of energy and exploitation of natural resources. In other words, it considers buildings with the least incompatible and inconsistent with its surrounding natural environment and in a wider area, with region and the world (Zandieh & Parvardinejad, 2010).

Preparing Stability Beds

As mentioned earlier, it is difficult to transmit information and knowledge about many new ideas skills and technologies to other cultures and countries. Even introducing them in a new cultural context, they have been partially implemented, not compliant, have been replaced or even have been ignored. It seems that key of this problem is the inability of those who have not considered expectations, aspirations and needs of local culture in designing and promoting new technologies.

Before the claiming that these technologies, as a fact, are applicable and valuable, it should be found that they are intricately linked with culture and those technology that has been accepted for a group of people, not necessarily will be accepted by others.

In a subject that emphasizes on issues such as future, better ways of designing and planning of public domain, we can find interesting matters:

Key arguments are concepts of urban-architectural and stability that are strongly intertwined. Neither ecological methods nor cultural sustainability can be undertaken separately. Responsibility of environmental guarantee means cultural sensitivity and cultural sustainability that should include ecological awareness. These elements cannot be stable in future of cities without a compatible combination of them (Cole, 2006).

Therefore, it is necessary to understand context and content of local culture to run and transfer technologies successfully.

If new technologies and practices want to be accepted and implemented, they should consider expectations, needs and knowledge of people and culture using them in an equal line.

When we think on usable techniques and methods to provide sustainable architecture that can meet the above-mentioned needs, the following criteria can be considered as basics to assess and state on sustainable architecture (Norton, 1991):

- ✓ Right using available materials and local means of transportation;
- ✓ Using resources that are available in sufficient quantity to meet overall and main demands in a way that they don't lead to destruction of the environment;
- ✓ Independency from equipments that is not available simply;
- ✓ Using skills that can be actually developed in society;
- ✓ Those who can be achieved according to native and local socio-economic contexts;
- ✓ Those who provide valuable results;
- ✓ Those who respond to the effects of local climate;
- ✓ Those with flexibility to meet local needs and habits;
- ✓ Those who can be repeated by indigenous people

Many previous successful examples of sustainable architecture have been adapted with the criteria, which they have been obtained through local efforts and initiatives and sometimes, with foreign support. Identifying sustainability of a matter requires long time to develop skills, confirm an idea or be tested to create a sustainable financial or organizational system.

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Reforming Available Barriers for Sustainability Approach in Architecture

It is not reasonable to equal sustainability with biophysical and neglect dependent relationships with habits, lifestyle and cultural values. The following cases are problematic items for sustainable architecture:

1. The resulted policies by continuous and non-criticized growth of sustainable solutions that becomes problematic now.
2. An aesthetic program that has been skillfully placed in architectural understanding and feeling, moves sustainable correlations or thinks form as statue.
3. This is a wrong assumption that sustainability can be achieved by combination of technologies that are displayed symbolically. In this case, only appearance of building shows sustainability issues and the complex is still unstable (Willis, 2000).

All these cases have caused that sustainable architecture is supposed as a technology that can be transferred to any region. There are two problems here:

Considering sustainable architecture as a product; and

Ignoring necessity of matching any new subject and technology with location characteristics; in other words; lack of attention to localization necessity of a subject and ignore the impact of environment and nature on architectural.

Sustainable Development Definition

Sustainable development approach backs to dissatisfaction with the results of socioeconomic development in cities from ecological viewpoint (Karimi & Tavakolinia, 2009). In 1960s and 1970s, in addition to the importance of environmental pollution, it was also identified that the created environmental problems are closely associated with the relationship between man and his environment. Therefore, there was doubted accepting traditional model of growth and development (Farhoodi, Rahnamaei & Teimuri, 2011).

From 1980s onwards, sustainable development was considered as a fundamental concept in the United Nations World Conservation Strategy, as reported by Brundtland. According to Mrs. Brundtland (1983), sustainable development is defined as follows: any progress that meets needs of present generation without risking ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Farhoodi, Rahnamaei & Teimuri, 2011; quoted by Brundtland, 1987). In fact, Brundtland's report revealed necessity of reviewing procedures on rule and life styles. Achieving sustainable development depends on its acquisition. In other words, development should be done in a manner that can benefit large sections of community. So, before making any decision, there should be investigated its effects on society, environment and economy. It is also essential to note that the executed programs and administrative in a place have intra-local effects, in addition to local effects, which they will affect other regions. Moreover, the taken decisions at the present time will affect future generations (Beridlid, 2009).

So far, there has not been reached an agreement that covers various dimensions of sustainable development and accepted by all policy-makers on issues of sustainable development (Colantonio, 2008). However, definition of sustainable development, which it is agreed by a majority, contains three main areas: economic, social and environmental.

In any sector, the community considers certain specifications. For example, in economic viewpoint, a sustainable economic system can produce goods and services that help governments to reduce their foreign debt, prevent creating an unbalanced situation between various economic sectors and restrict harms to agricultural and industrial productions.

From environmental viewpoint, a system with sustainable environment should be able to support vital and strategic resources, prevent indiscriminate exploitation of non-renewable resources and ultimately, prevent functions that will lead to environmental destruction.

From social viewpoint, a sustainable social system must be able to achieve equal distribution of resources, facilities and social services including health, education, gender equality, political accountability and participation (Marsousi, 2004).

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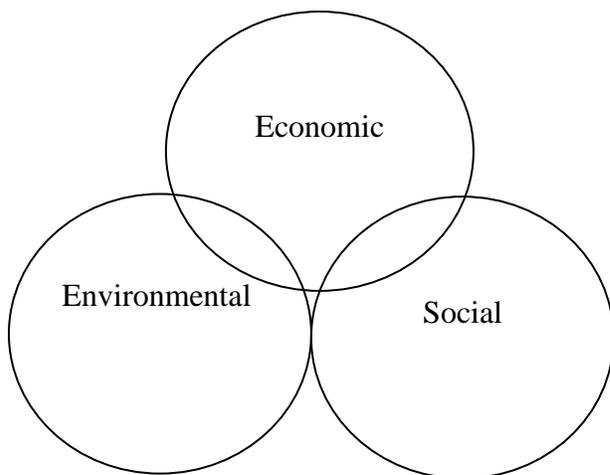


Diagram 1: Three Basic Principles on Sustainable Development in Continuous Model

However, there have been proposed different models for understanding the relationship between three basic principles of sustainable development. Its first model is expressed using three interlocking circles (Figure 1). The model is resulted from sustainability to better understanding of how link three main elements (environmental, economic and social) as well as considering balance between them that enable us to assess each area dynamically. The second model (Figure 2) shows sustainable development as three concentric circles (environmental, social and economic) as intertwined systems. It points out that economy is in context of society and all economic sectors require human relationships. It includes a wide range of relations between those who make balance between goods and services in society. In contrast, society is a place where fulfils basic needs of human beings.

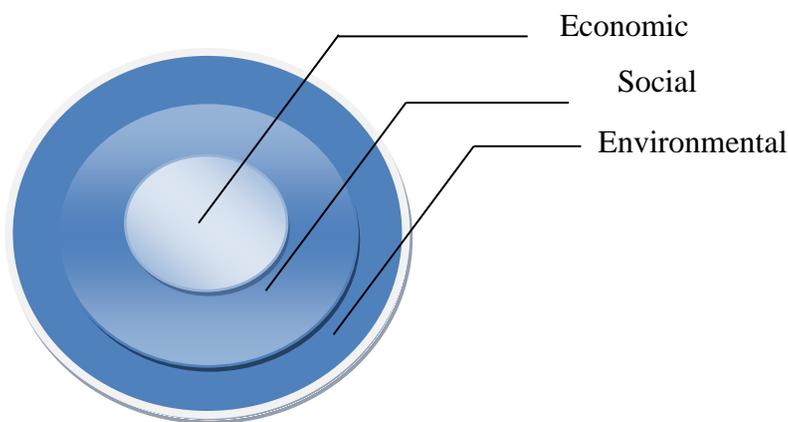


Diagram 2: Three Basic Principles on Sustainable Development in Concentric Circles' Model

Man, Nature and Architecture

Man, nature and architecture are three important principles to create favorable conditions in terms of psychological and physical comfort as well as sustainable architecture. Each of the three items is perfectly related with other items in pairs (relationship between man with nature; man with architecture; and architecture with nature) that have profound influence on each other. We will investigate them in the following (Figure 1).

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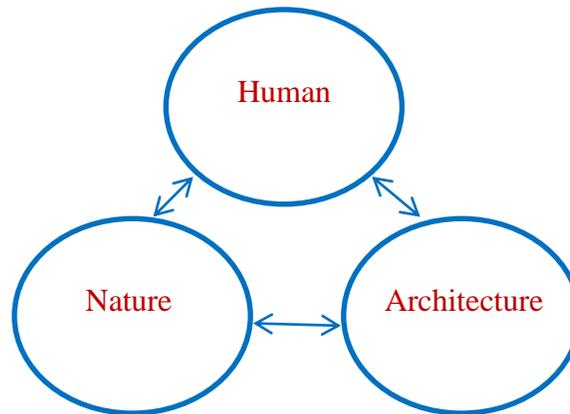


Figure 2: The Mutual Relationship between Man, Nature and Architecture

Source: Mo'ameni Shahraki et al, 2013

The Relationship between Man and Nature

Researchers have classified the relationship with nature into three levels: observing natural landscape or images of nature; being in nature; and involving and interacting with nature (Akbar *et al.*, 2010). They believe that exposure to nature causes positive responses by effective, either consciously and voluntarily or unconsciously and indirectly. Although, today, genetic feelings and bases of any desire to positive response to nature and natural environments are weaknesses of human beings and require training, culture-making and frequent experience of natural environments (Hinds, 2011). In recent years, there have conducted many studies on the impact of natural environment, observing nature or even looking at pictures and videos of natural landscapes to reduce stress and eye fatigue (Shibata, 2004). Other studies have shown that observing nature, hear sounds of nature and any experience of nature can reduce stress and tension (Kellert, 2005). Relationship with nature creates sense of calm and peace of mind for space users. People who use plants in their workplace are more efficient, comfortable, healthy and creative and have less stress and pressure than those without such a blessing. They perceive their work space more comfortable aesthetically (Smith, 2009).

Nature impact on people is varied according to different characteristics of natural environment. Parks, gardens, beaches, rivers and seas induce sense of joy, entertainment, comfort, convenience and dialogue. The sense of privacy, freedom and vitality will be further satisfied in forests and mountains. Environments without water views are more important sites for recreation, entertainment, socializing and social activities. Visibility to artificial environment with presence of water has more positive effects than green environments (Hinds, 2001).

The Relation between Man and Architecture

Architecture is an art that takes us and humans are affected by space, instead impact on it. A person creates an artistic work when he suffers from its shortage in real world. Decorating home, painting a building and ... will be created, if there is a shortage. In this way, human wants to fulfill a shortage and he is unsatisfied from available requirements; while he wants to compensate it using art (Dr. Shariati lectures about art). In the following, we show the relationship between human needs and how architecture response to the needs.

Look into Nature and its Associated Sanctity

An architectural work is mixed with earth from emerging and from the moment that should take its first steps to be the body: it receives water from ground and then returns it differently after changing its physical-chemical appearance; fusion with nature is associated with its compliance and productivity. Establishing in natural environment is done with elegance and subtlety, whether as a result of its compliance and respect or about the emerged beliefs by ancient culture and history of that land (Falamaki,

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2005). Inspiring from nature can be seen in many features of buildings. Using natural herbs, natural lighting, natural ventilation and thermal properties of the earth and other forces in nature are entirely included in this architecture. It is evident using natural potentials in scales of designing, planning and urban applications. Building direction is the most effective factor to use the achieved natural resources and potentials (Pirnia, 2003).

Like every natural being that lives in its environment and depends on it, traditional architecture has also been formed in its natural context harmoniously. Its construction materials have been obtained from its environment. It is designed and planned in such a way that has the highest adjustment with local climate and the lowest damage to environment; and it creates a construction for itself (Tahbaz, 2004). According to Iranian principles, there is prohibited any work that may cause damage to environment. This is what can be seen as the first step or stability (Vakili *et al.*, 2006).



Figure 3: Water in Persian Garden: Referring to Concepts of Water such as Holiness, Clearance and Flow of Life in it. It is Clearly Evident Management of Water Consumption in the Garden and Considering Concept of Contentment in Persian Garden

Tourism Industry

In recent years, due to extend environmental necessities in all human activities, natural tourism has been increasingly developed as which it has allocated 30-40% global tourism (Soleimanpour, 2006). Natural tourism considers activities of sustainable tourism and coordinates environmental matters in natural environments. In general, natural tourism includes six types of tourism that are related with natural ecosystems: tourism in forests, mountains, steppes, deserts, rivers, wetlands and lakes and beach (Daneshkar & Mahmoudi, 2014).

Mountain tourism is the most important type of natural tourism. The World Tourism Organization considers mountains as a place with specific opportunities for sport, cultural, research and tourism productivity (Denniston, 1995). Mountains are massive and complex ecosystems with numerous functions and values that play a decisive role in economic and social life of countries. It is estimated that mountain

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tourism allocates 15-20% of world tourism (Donkanpour, 1999). Given growing importance of natural tourism in the world, it is essential to provide contexts to develop this type of tourism in our country.

Tourism Industry in Iran

Tourism industry has very high potentials for growth in Iran. According to the World Tourism Organization, Iran is placed in 10th place of archaeological and historical sites; while it is placed in 5th position in terms of natural attractions in the world and it is one of the safest countries in the region and the world in terms of security for foreign tourists. In 2006, about 750,000 foreign tourists visited Iran; while in this year, 842 million tourists have traveled the world.

According to experts, the industry has not been developed properly. Some of its reasons include lack of adequate economic infrastructure to attract investment in constructing hotels and other sub-industries of this area.

In comparison with Iran, some countries have a successful career in this field. For example, only in 2007, about 15 million foreign tourists visited Dubai (United Arab Emirates) in southern Persian Gulf. It means that with a share less than one-fifteenth number of tourists in Dubai in the same year, Iran has contributed only less than 1% of global revenues from tourism.

In planning, welfare-entertainment spaces are considered from two perspectives as public spaces that available to general public in cities. One is associated with available green spaces and the other is related with establishing new green spaces. In recent decades, environmental and sustainable development has been one of main topics.

Today, close relationship between tourism with environment and importance of environmental planning and sustainable development planning approach have extended considering the matter. As the most comprehensive declaration in accordance with modern tourism, the Manila Declaration has emphasized on importance of natural and cultural resources in tourism as well as necessity of keeping and using them toward local and tourism community.

After the Manila Declaration, a joint declaration by the World Tourism Organization and the World Organization Environment Program, which follows inter-organizational coordination and cooperation in field of tourism and environment, has stated:

Protecting, promoting and strengthening different elements of human environment are essential requirements for harmonious development of tourism. Accordingly, rational tourism management leads to physical development of protect environment and cultural-historical memories of human beings and thus improve quality of life.

The importance of national and regional tourism planning as a technique in sustainable development has been emphasized in joint workshop of the United Nations Environment Program and the World Tourism Organization in 1983. In a statement of The Hague (1989), which it is a concluded inter-parliamentary statement between Inter-Parliamentary Union and the World Tourism Organization, has pointed out effective communication between tourism and environment.

The Relationship between Tourism with Environment

There is a very close relationship between tourism with environment, as three following forms:

Some physical environments are attractions for tourists.

Tourism facilities and infrastructures constitute part of the built environment.

Developing tourism and tourists' exploitation in a region will impact environment.

Environmental impacts of tourism are primarily created because these activities have been developed in sensitive and fragile environments such as small islands, beaches, mountains, highlands, historical and archaeological sites, as these places form important tourism attractions and resources (Ranjbarian & Zahedi, 2009).

Tourism attractions are core activities to develop tourism. Any change causing to quality loss of natural environment in tourism natural attractions will decrease desirability of that space for tourists, which it leads to decrease number of tourist dramatically. Thus, considering positive and negative effects of tourism on environment and its management is important.

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If tourism is planned properly, it will have different positive environmental effects. Tourism can draw attention to important environmental issues and founds initiatives that protect environment. Relationship between tourists, host communities, tourism and environmental attractions are mutual and complex interactions. Each element should continue its coexistence with others through developing bilateral useful and positive relationships (Ziaei & Ahmadi, 2012).

As summarized in the following, presence of tourists has positive effects on environment:

Improving environmental and ecological quality of destination;

Considering and protecting natural resources and parks by local communities;

Considering new patterns of energy supply using nature;

Attracting general attention to the endangered plant and animal species;

Promoting sensitivity and awareness on ecological systems and environmental awareness;

Improving waste management;

Increasing aesthetic trends;

Improving environment and natural landscapes;

Developing green tourism in travel agencies (Moghadami & Mahmoudi, 2012)

Implementing these approaches will help to continue tourism activities in environment. As a result, cycle of tourist, environment and local residents will be continued with less side effects.

Conclusion

Experiences of few decades have cumulatively led to close sustainable development towards society successfully. Accordingly, in the last decade of 20th century, sustainable development is considered as a new approach on developing conditions. Such development will be satisfied when all elements of development are considered, especially environment, since policy-making and implementing programs. Therefore, environmental protection must be given an appropriate place in planning and implementation system.

In the last years of 20th century, sustainable development was introduced as a new approach in developing conditions to solve problem of development in the world. It should also be noted that sustainable development will be achieved only when all its components including environmental factors are considered in process of development from beginning of plans and policies. It will be implanted when protecting environment is positioned in its suitable place on planning system and has the required weight in local and regional planning.

Growing and developing cities, effects of modernism and urbanization, greater physical development and ... indicate quality and quantity of green spaces and parks that they play to improve environmental conditions.

During the past few decades, Iran has been encountered with variety of environmental problems for various reasons including population growth, the uncontrolled urbanization growth, industry, changing patterns of production and consumption, indiscriminate exploitation of resources. However, during the past few decades, many economic indicators and social development in Iran have changed profoundly and experienced acceptable levels in some areas such as life expectancy, access to information, education covering, literacy etc; but many changes don't necessarily indicate positive or proper development programs.

In many cases, they have been achieved by damaging environment (e.g. increasing products and developing urbanization), accelerated demand for environmental goods and services and faced a worrying landscape for the country. In the other hand, the remained shortcomings from the past and potential capacities of the country for being in orbit of development and promoting sustainable development are inevitable to exploit environmental resources.

According to the conducted studies, new paradigm of sustainable tourism development includes various aspects: environmental, social, cultural and economic. According this description, as a concept that includes economic, ecological, social and cultural factors, tourism sustainability can analyze sustainable tourism development in depth level using an inclusive and comprehensive system of the listed parameters.

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Table 2: Strategies to Reduce Environmental Impacts

Negative Aspects	Approaches
Damage to Ecosystems	Determining sensitive ecosystems and their management; Preventing presence of tourists in sensitive ecosystems; Considering environmental carrying capacity of ecosystems; Informing and aware tourists on environment and ecosystems; Assessing sustainable tourism in ecosystems
Rapid and Uncontrolled Developing Ecotourism Facilities	Considering environment capacity and planning based on it; Establishing tourism facilities based on needs; Preventing spread of unnecessary and dispersed facilities
Deforestation, Destructing Mountains to Create Recreational Facilities	Considering protective rules on natural resources; Reporting on assessment of environmental impacts for tourism projects; Drawing audit program, environmental monitoring and management for tourism projects
Vegetation Removal and Harm Plant Cover	Supervising tourism activities directly; Preventing spread of normal vandalism (damage intentionally); Educating and informing tourists on environmental degradation
Using wood for firing	Supervising tourism activities directly; Educating and informing tourists on environmental degradation
Increasing Waste in Natural Environment	Considering containers appropriately and sufficiently; Preparing waste management plan for area; Plan of separating waste from source; Educating and informing tourists on environmental pollution

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Threatening Wildlife	Zoning conservation area; Preventing presence of tourists in sensitive wildlife habitats, especially during breeding periods of wildlife; Preventing presence of tourists in part of life cycle of animal species affecting an area such as birds' nest
Noise Pollution Disturbing Peace in Natural Environments	Using plants in design engineering and planting design to reduce noise pollution; Considering laws on traffic of vehicles; Zoning conservation area; Using low-noise vehicles and comply with environmental standards
Air, Water and Soil Pollution	Zoning area to pass vehicles; Technical examinations of vehicles used by tourists; Using air pollution control equipments; Using clean energy such as solar energy to reduce fuel consumption; Educating tourists using various facilities such as billboards, leaflets, brochures, videos and slides etc before entering area; Using soil erosion control facilities; Using facilities to fix side walls of rivers; Lack of discharging waste, waste leachate and wastewater non-normatively; Using proper methods in sanitation; Lack of discharging construction waste, slurry and other materials in soil that change its texture and plant species; Preventing construction activities in lands with suitable soil for agriculture; Lack of clean masonry vegetation in tourism site area; Preventing discharge of wastewater and waste to surface water; Preventing presence of tourists in sensitive aqua ecosystems

Source: the author

Research Article

Therefore, by stabilizing tourism industry, there will be analyzed one of the most important aspects of paradigm of sustainable development, namely its environmental dimension. As result of this stabilization, destructive environmental impacts will be minimized. However, studies show that unfortunately, applying natural factors is a matter that has been less considered in architecture of modern tourist sites. In other words, man-made consistent with climate conditions and human inherent needs cannot be seen in a manner that creates proper space psychologically and aesthetically to design tourist-recreational locations to be effective for increasing number of visitors.

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