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Original Research Article

An Investigation of the Effect of Power Structure on the Architecture in the First Pahlavi Period

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Abstract

Problem statement: Architecture and its relationship to historical, social, cultural, economic, and political factors have been well-established. Recent developments in these fields have visibly impacted architecture. The first Pahlavi period is widely regarded as one of Iran's most important historical periods, where its tendencies and ideologies were expressed through architectural feats that reflected the political changes occurring at the time, alongside considerable advancements in various fields, making it a period of great significance for analysis and understanding. However, previous research only discusses the influences of independent factors and neglects the power structure's role and effectiveness levels in shaping architecture during the first Pahlavi period in Iran.

Research objective: Therefore, this study aims to investigate the power structure's network and its influence on the architecture during this time. Specifically, this research seeks to answer two questions: what were the key components that influenced the power structure, and how did they impact the architecture of the first Pahlavi period?

Research Method: This qualitative study utilized a descriptive-analytical framework and relied on library sources, documents, and an intensive review of theoretical literature.

Conclusion: The findings suggest the power structure effectively influenced the architecture of the first Pahlavi period through the dominance of Reza Shah, the importance of ancient Iran, Western policies, European experts, and the growth of technology. The power structure penetrated both government and personal buildings at different levels, leading to the modernization of Iran's architecture. These interventions created urban, social, and activity infrastructures at macro, medium, and micro levels. Therefore, the power structure significantly shaped the architecture of the first Pahlavi period in Iran.

Keywords: The first Pahlavi architecture, Power structure, Macro level, Medium level, Micro level.

Introduction

At the beginning of the 20th century, various ideologies were taking shape across the world, and the East was not exempt from their influence.

As a result, Iranians experienced deep changes in all aspects of their lives. Architecture, being a key mechanism through which the government conveyed its thoughts, and authority and legitimized its position, was also impacted by these developments and has the potential to convey

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the message to the masses (Jencks & Kropf, 1997). Socio-political events of this period had visible effects on Iranian architecture (Rappaport, 1990; Morris, 1998). The slogan of modernism, aimed to break away from the country's past and follow the examples of European countries to restore Iran's former greatness and authority. To achieve this, the government needed to build new buildings and strengthen existing structures that would consolidate their power and give rise to a new cultural and material landscape in Iran, especially in the capital. Understanding the history of architecture reveals its deep and hidden connection with politics and social developments of the time. Therefore, this research aims to explore the power structure of the first Pahlavi period and identify its various factors and results. It assesses the levels of effectiveness of the different components of the power structure on the architecture of the period. The following research questions aim to guide this exploration:

- What were the key ideologies and components of the power structure of the first Pahlavi period?
- How did the different components of the power structure influence the architecture of the first Pahlavi period in terms of levels and effectiveness?

Research method

The current article employs a qualitative and strategic descriptive-analytical approach to investigate the factors that influenced the developments during the first Pahlavi period. This study drew upon a combination of basic inquiry, data collection and synthesis of written and visual documents, and an extensive review of theoretical literature to interpret the findings. Furthermore, the collected data was analyzed using the reasoning-inferential method, taking into consideration the power structure of the time. After analyzing these factors, the study presents the level and types of influence that components had on architectural transformation during this period.

Research background

Considerable research has been conducted on the

political and social developments during the First Pahlavi period. In his book, "History of Modern Iran," Abrahamian examined various aspects of this era, including social, economic, cultural, and military features, concluding that state-building was the key indicator of the Reza Shahi era (Abrahamian, 2010). Also, in his book 'Iran between Two Revolutions', Abrahamian thoroughly investigated various factors including Reza Khan's antisocial policy (Abrahamian, 1998). In a book titled "Nationalism", nation and Nationality ", Ardakani presented an insightful evaluation of the historical development of nationalism. He raised nationalism as a historical matter based on the knowledge of the nature of the West and acknowledged that the first works of nationalism in Iran were related to Europe and the scientific and political progress of the West, and for this reason, the first people who came to terms with the situation of Europe became familiar with modernity, the thoughts, and customs of the time prevented the idea of Europeanization, and they considered features of the existing culture and returning to the past before Islam as a solution (Davari Ardakani, 2021). In the book "Nationalism in Iran", researcher Cottam explored various forms and interpretations of Iranian nationalism from conceptual, formal, and ethnic pers p ectives. The author emphasized that nationalism is not only used for political purposes but can also be understood through cultural manifestations. Ad d itionally, the author examined the liberal per s pective, highlighting the importance of emot i ons in defending nationalism. Cottam's analysis offers a comprehensive understanding of nationalism in Iran (Cottam, 2019) In his book "Reza Shah and the Formation of Modern Iran," Boroujer di explored a wide variety of nationalist sentiments, such as attachment to Germany, vehement rhetoric against Britain, advocacy for pan-Iranism, concern for the importance of the Persian language in defining Iranian identity, and emphasis on pre-Islamic history in Iran (Boroujerdi, 2004). Katouzian's book "Contradiction of the State and the Nation"

outlines three modern nationalist tendencies: liberal, conservative, and progressive. While all three are drawn to the glory of ancient Iran, the liberal faction places greater emphasis on civil rights and national dignity, without overt religious influence. Conversely, Katouzian presents the conservative trend as more extreme, with a deeper connection to Iran's ancient religious culture and less influence from Europe. Ultimately, he argues that this group is more attuned to Iranian society and its unique characteristics (Homayoun Katouzian, Meanwhile, Atabaki outlines three main trends of secularism, nationalism, and authoritarianism in his book «Commanding Modernity», defining them as the essential characteristics of the first Pahlavi period (Atabaki, 2005). A researcher like Rudi Matthee, in his article on "Education during Reza Shah's period», suggests that this era was founded upon three core principles: nationalism, stable centralism, and modernity (Matthee, 1993). The first Pahlavi architecture has been extensively researched by scholars like Haqjoo and colleagues who have investigated the various factors that influenced the transformation of contemporary architectural design. These factors can be broadly classified into six categories: The emergence of new functional needs in architecture, social and cultural contexts, historical contexts, political environment, advances in technology and techniques, economic factors, and influence of architects and architectural education (Hagh Jou, Soltanzadeh, Tehrani & Ayvazian, 2019). Several studies and articles, including Reza Shah's research, have indicated that multiple factors, such as the arrival of German archaeologists, history professors, engineers, experts, architects, and city planners, played a crucial role in the development of Iranian architecture. These experts' presence served as an introduction to the incorporation of ancient themes and patterns by both Iranian and German architects, primarily in administrative buildings like municipalities and banks (Mirzahosseini, Soltanzadeh & Albarzi, 2018). Zarkash has focused on the impact of government factors on

the architecture of private buildings during the first Pahlavi period, highlighting modernism, the expansion of foreign relations, various economic, political, military, and social factors, and sending students abroad (Zarkesh, 2009). In this context, Taleghani explains the factors contributing to the stylistic diversity of this period, which include time compression, architects applying different approaches from various countries, diverse local characteristics such as climatic conditions, a wide range of uses, and employer demands encompassing industrial factories, government offices, education centers, and monuments (Mokhtari Taleghani, 2016). Bani Massoud's book, Contemporary Architecture of Iran, explored the stylistics of the first Pahlavi architecture. According to his analysis, Iranian architects from 1931 to 1941 were influenced by three main currents of the national style; neoclassicism, Islamic revival, and the neo-Achaemenid style. These construction methods were supported by the government until the end of Reza Shahi's era, as shown in Table 1 (Bani Masoud, 2021). After conducting investigations, it has been concluded that while some research focused solely on the influencing factors of social-political developments, disregarding architecture, another group entirely concentrated on how architecture transformed during the era. In this essay, an attempt is made to elucidate the political-social developments of the first Pahlavi period in the framework of the power structure. Furthermore, the effectiveness and level of the key components of the architectural transformation of both governmental and personal buildings during this period in a hierarchical system will be discussed.

Theoretical Foundations

The onset of the Pahlavi rule marked the commencement of primitive developments in Iranian architecture. Although the government introduced new building styles and innovative materials early on, the architectural designs largely remained traditional during the first decade of the Pahlavi

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Table 1. Factors affecting the social-political and architectural changes of Pahlavi I in the definitions of researchers. Source: Authors.

	Literature reviewed	Resource	Authors
Factors influencing social-political developments	"Social, economic, cultural, and military factors during the First Pahlavi era."	Book of History of Modern Iran	Yervand Abrahamian, (2010)
	"Social, economic, cultural, and military factors, particularly social opposition policies, during the reign of Shah Reza Pahlavi"	Book of Iran between two Revolutions,	Yervand Abrahamian, (1998)
	"Nationalism as an ideology suitable for the developments of the First Pahlavi era"	"The Book on Nationalism, Nation and People"	Reza Davari Ardekani (2021)
	"Various interpretations of nationalism in Iran concerning cultural formation."	Book on Nationalism in Iran,	Richard Cottam (2019)
	"Various expressions of nationalist emotions and emphasis on Iranian history before Islam."	Book of Reza Shah and the Formation of Modern Iran,	Mehrzad Brojerdi (2004)
	"Trends of Renewed Nationalism, Liberalism, and Conservatism during the First Pahlavi Period"	Book of Government and People Contradictions,	Mohammad Ali Homayoun Katouzian (2018)
	Tendencies of secularism, nationalism, and authoritarianism in the first Pahlavi era.	Book Commanding Modernity	Toraj Atabaki (2005)
	"Nationalism, centralism, and Modernism in the First Pahlavi Era" $$	Article on Education during the Reign of Reza Shah,	Rudi Matthee (1993)
Factors influencing the architecture of the First Pahlavi era	Renewal, expansion of foreign communications, economic, political, military, and social factors, sending students abroad, and access to resources.	Article on the Role and Impact of Government Factors on Private Architecture during the First Pahlavi Period,	Afsaneh Zarkesh (2018)
	"Factors influencing stylistic diversity in the architecture of the first Pahlavi period".	Book of Modern Architectural Heritage,	Eskandar Mokhtari Taleghani (2016)
	The architecture style of the First Pahlavi era an emphasis on three major national styles: Neoclassicism, Islamic revival, and Neo-Hegelianism.	Book of Contemporary Iranian Architecture,	Amir Bani Masoud (2021)
	Fields and factors affecting architectural transformation in the contemporary era: The emergence of new needs and functions in architecture, social and cultural backgrounds, historical and political influences, technical and technological advancements, economic and executive aspects, architects' effects, and architectural education.	Article on tendencies and theoretical approaches of government and state architectural buildings during the first and second Pahlavi periods,	Amir Hagh Jou, Hosain Soltanzadeh , Farhad Tehrani & Simon Ayvazian (2019)
	Emphasis on the presence of German specialists for the recognition and use of ancient subjects and patterns.	Article on the role of German engineers in contemporary Iranian architecture (with an emphasis on the first Pahlavi period between 1304 and 1320).	Morteza Mirza Hosaini , Hosain Soltanzadeh & Fariba Alborzi (2018)

period. It wasn't until the late 1930s that modernist architecture established roots in Iran, leaving most of the constructions still preserving their conventional form incorporating an assortment of designs and techniques (Bani Masoud, 2021, 63). It should be noted that the Pahlavi government championed progress and modernity while clashing with traditional forces. This resulted in the dismantling of certain long-standing institutions, values, and interpersonal relationships. Consequently, this wave of modernism can be considered a catalyst

for transforming societal standards and architecture (Hagh Jou et al., 2019).

During this period, the Pahlavi government paid close attention to industrial capitalist countries' shape and form as decision-makers and executives. The government's efforts to modernize the court system, increase the number of government employees, expand trade and transportation, and stimulate economic growth gave rise to a new class of capitalists and the middle class. Their membership drew from an array of individuals, such as army

officers, high-ranking civil servants, businessmen, landowners, teachers, and intellectuals. These groups' demands for Western goods to support their financial and military goals led to the entry of Western industrial processes into Iran's market, resulting in transformations in Iranian customs and ways of life. Consequently, Iranians developed new social and cultural needs that highlighted the importance of improving cultural-educational services, paving the way for changes in Iran's society and architecture (Zarkesh, 2009).

Generally, it should be noted that the changes during the early Pahlavi period resulted in conflicting architectural trends, influenced by varying political and ideological currents. This discussion will delve into the impact of two influential intellectual currents patriotism and Westernization on Pahlavi architecture. However, it's important to bear in mind that cultural, economic, and social conditions, in addition to the personal beliefs of builders and employers, are key factors in translating and expressing ideologies through architecture. Hence, finding a building that purely represents a specific ideology in architecture is difficult.

Tendency to patriotism

The rise of this ideology as the determining factor influencing the political tendencies and behavior of Iranians can be traced back to a time when Iranian students were sent abroad and were exposed to political and revolutionary ideas prevalent in the early 19th century (Davari Ardakani, 2021, 104). The trend can be traced back to Western thought, with the first Iranians who accepted it being seen as influenced by Western culture and proud of their unique heritage (Cottam, 2019, 25). By and large, the aforementioned ideology comprises two interconnected facets; internally, it necessitated the formation of a robust government to resist Western colonization while externally ensuring the country's autonomy from Europe (Shahabi, 2004). Consequently, a power structure emerged with dual goals: to strengthen its grip on authority while establishing a common identity that would allow it to guide all subordinate factions towards a shared official culture, thus cultivating a collective mindset that could be harnessed for maximum advantage.

In this respect, the Shah and other relevant authorities created a network known as the power structure that

created a network known as the power structure that had a crucial impact on shaping patriotic sentiments and influencing the architecture of the period. The structure was divided into three layers, each with its hierarchical system, and seamlessly penetrated the field of architecture. At the apex of this structure was Reza Shah, who acted as the premier planner and decision-maker. To achieve this, he took on institutions such as the army to be responsible for urban management and oversight, and agencies such as the municipality, which sought the opinion of the military. The National Artifacts Association was established as a civilian entity in the third layer to actualize the goals of this structure. The ensuing paragraphs will elaborate on these layers and their impact on the architecture of this era.

Absolute power (Reza Shah)

Reza Shah emerged as a driving force behind the transformation of Iran from a traditional society to a modern one, amidst prevalent political and social instability. His agenda prioritized the implementation of a multi-faceted modernization project that laid the foundation for a modern Iranian nation-building state. During this period of contact between Iranians and Europeans, he focused heavily on incorporating Western customs and ideas into Iranian society. Amongst these, Reza Shah highlighted two aspects that garnered his undivided attention. The first was the superficial portrayal of modernity in daily life, while the other involved revitalizing ancient glories and praising them as a pathway towards orienting the country towards the West (Davari Ardakani, 2021, 110). Reza Shah regarded patriotism as solely secular, in contrast to the preceding eras, where it was often linked to religion. He emphasized its importance in promoting the state and the monarch's prestige, citing the Achaemenid and Sasanian periods as exemplary of this patriotic sentiment which was encouraged during his reign while others were prohibited (Abrahamian, 2010, 16; Matthee, 1993). As an essential component of his political strategy, he aimed to enhance the prestige and grandeur of Iran and solidify his authoritative position in the emerging state. This vision was reflected in his architectural plans, specifically in the design of government buildings' facades.

• The institution under the shadow of power (army)

During the beginning of his reign, Reza Shah aimed to establish a centralized government that aligned with his nationalist, secular, and constitutional ideals. The national army was the backbone of this quasi-modern absolutist regime, serving as a symbol of patriotism and one of Iran's essential structures. Reza Shah fostered a national identity to expedite quasi-modernization, revolutionize the government's organization, and earned admiration from intellectuals (Cronin, 2004). The Pahlavi government utilized the military as a way to control capital and execute their plans, along with a well-structured management and supervisory system. As a result, smaller entities like the Tehran Municipality were placed under Army supervision, which facilitated the implementation of urban planning strategies and contributed immensely to the development of civic structures (Kiani, 2004, 116). Based on this, the military class engaged in activities beyond their duty, carrying out numerous construction works that greatly influenced the appearance of the city. These changes also led to a shift in the views of certain sections of society toward the buildings they constructed (Zarkesh, 2009). As a result of the army's activities, it can be assumed that this branch holds supervisory and executive roles in the mandated power structures.

Association of national artifacts

During this era, preserving historical monuments and artifacts shifted towards a political motive, serving as a tool for strengthening the Pahlavi power structure. As a response, a group of culturally-educated Western scholars formed the Association of National Artifacts in 1922, according to Mehdizadeh and Hanachi (2015). The members of the association

opined that to foster a modern and powerful Iran reminiscent of the Achaemenid and Sassanid eras, preserving and restoring pre-Islamic buildings and historical monuments that signify Iran's grandeur and magnificence was crucial (Bahr al-Uloomi, 1976, 14). So foreign experts were invited to Iran by Reza Shah and participated in socio-political programs that greatly enhanced their understanding of Iran's ancient works. With the assistance of the Pahlavi government, this association organized international congresses on Iranian art and archaeology for consecutive years. The congresses aimed to introduce Iranian culture and architecture while stressing the importance of examining the rule of ancient governments in countries worldwide (Kiani, 2004). By implementing this knowledge in Iranian and Western architecture, ancient themes and patterns became precursors and had an intervention effect in the construction of government buildings such as municipalities and banks (Fig. 1).

The trend toward the west

At the onset of the first Pahlavi's reign, significant global developments were occurring in the early 20th century, such as the formation of modernist governments in European countries and the emergence of modernism as a pressing issue in third-world nations (Atabaki, 2005, 8). To achieve modernization, the Iranian government imported Western knowledge and attempted to adopt the European lifestyle, thereby altering the traditional way of life and fostering the growth of the middle class. This shift in societal norms led to architecture becoming a full-fledged profession and further westernized the landscape of cities. The support of the power structure strengthened the movement towards modernism, creating a double boost in its advancement (Beheshti, 2015). Overall, it can be acknowledged that the Westerners sought to create modern manifestations in urban areas under their power by implementing large-scale plans for an urban organization based on Western architectural traditions. This took place in two distinct social and urban layers.

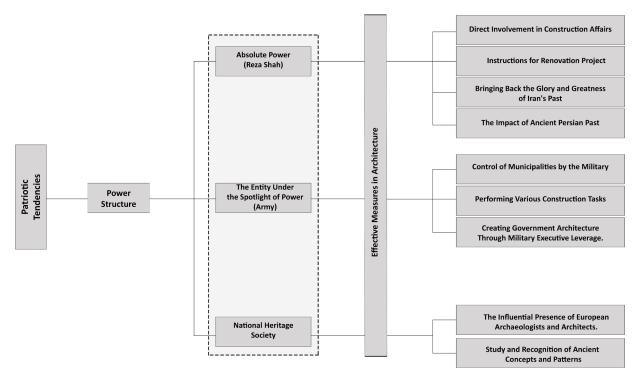


Fig. 1. Factors and actions that influence the architecture produced by a patriotic inclination. Source: Authors.

Social infrastructure

To respond to the development of modern social infrastructure, Pahlavi pursued the training of skilled experts who would pioneer the transfer of European architectural concepts to Iran, both domestically and abroad. To achieve this, he implemented the law of sending students to Europe, resulting in many students being sent overseas, whose return introduced modernization in cultural and social spheres. It is clear that Western architecture known as Iranian pseudo-modernism developed in Iran due to European modern architecture's direct impact, guided by architects educated abroad who helped implement modern Iranian architecture goals during the Pahlavi era (Asgari Chavardi, 2017, 100). On the other hand, adhering to the hiring consultant laws, European companies ventured into Iran to execute government projects and enlisted the expertise of architects in designing government and industrial complexes as well as opulent residential buildings for officials. In this regard, German architects played a pivotal role in shaping modern architecture with a focus on government buildings (Afshar Naderi, 2004, 135). They made significant strides in construction

quality and the implementation of new materials. Additionally, they were innovative in designing new purposes and incorporating symbolism into their work. They even revolutionized education, establishing industrial schools that allowed for instruction in science, industry, and apprenticeship across various fields (Yarshater, 2005, 211). During this period, the power structure established activity infrastructures, such as the Women's Center and the Organization of Thought Development, to promote Western ideologies and behaviors among all social classes and groups (Habibi, 1996, 33).

"The first Pahlavi power structure played a crucial role in shaping society's architectural style, material preferences, and construction practices through its emphasis on education and the cultivation of skilled architects (Asgari Chavardi, 2017, 97) "During the Pahlavi period, architects were heavily influenced by European architecture, resulting in innovative designs that considered four critical factors: client requests, financial limitations, local amenities, and inherent stylistic preferences. Notably, the employer's role played a crucial part in this process, and the emergence of modernism made significant

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contributions to architectural evolution during this era (Mokhtari Taleghani, 2016, 55). To expand their influence in Iran, particularly in Tehran, the Westerners undertook various measures to enhance their presence, like constructing embassies and houses for embassy personnel, which were designed with the architectural influence of the West (Bemanian, 2005, 5). Consequently, it could be recognized that the improvements made in the construction of modern social infrastructure greatly impacted the transformation of the city's urban structure.

• Urban infrastructure

During the 20th century, rapid economic growth resulted in job opportunities through the expansion of industries and urbanization. This explosive growth revolutionized urban centers, accelerating the construction process. The power structure harnessed advancements in technology to create a modern urban infrastructure, which included large industrial factories. The western-style architecture was adopted, creating a unique landscape (Etesam,

1995, 29). With the advent of new materials, the construction industry underwent a significant transformation. The increasing availability of materials like iron, steel, concrete, and glass led to the development of novel construction techniques and methods (Bemanian, 2005, 6). Iranian modernist architects were encouraged, in this regard, to incorporate reinforced concrete into middle-class and wealthy homes, resulting in the use of curved, asymmetrical compositions alongside spacious terraces and large windows without columns (Bani Masoud, 2021, 94). These innovations ultimately propelled the architecture of the first Pahlavi period toward a European-inspired modern design (Fig. 2).

Discussion

During the first Pahlavi era, Iran experienced significant socio-political transformations, which were supported by the ruling power structure. This solidified the foundation for a shift in societal and architectural values. Studies suggest that these changes were heavily influenced by ideologies

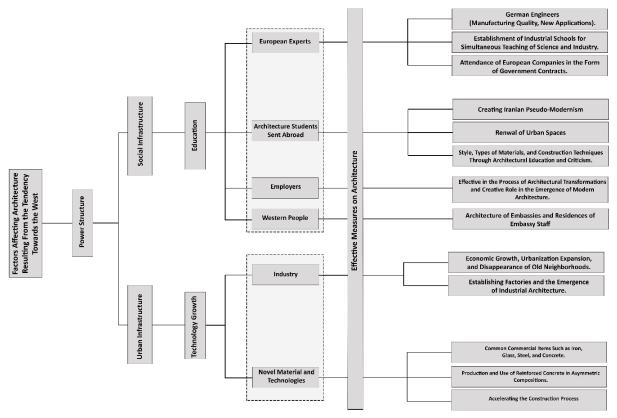


Fig. 2. Factors and actions affecting the architecture produced by the Western trend. Source: Authors.

such as patriotism and Westernization, which impacted infrastructure development and activities both directly and indirectly. It's worth noting that patriotism aimed to establish a modern power structure that drew from Iranians' cultural identity passed down over time. The influence of this ideology on architecture manifested in two distinct yet Iran-inspired forms. Firstly, the pre-Islamic symbols in government buildings and post-Islamic features recognizable as Islamic architecture were analyzed. Components like columns, pillars, capitals, windows, stairs, entrances, arches, and decorative elements such as reliefs, sculptures, statues, and roofs were imitated during this process. It's worth mentioning that architects of this era were influenced by the Western classical columnar system and spatial organization in the plan layout. As a result, a mandatory architecture based on the ancient Iranian facade was created in government buildings due to the intervention of power structures. This intervention also created a new architectural trend for mandatory facades, while the Westernstyle spatial distribution was used in planning. The emergence of concepts such as extroversion and elimination of privacy culture, alongside the demands and needs of society, resulted in a change in the general public's expectations of architecture. As such, evaluation criteria were established by the revolutionary society, allowing modern architects to create Western architecture in Tehran. This attitude divided the first Pahlavi architecture into three distinct categories of personal construction. The first category features simplicity, lack of decoration, symmetry, and functionalism typical of early modern-style buildings. The second category incorporates reduced symmetry, asymmetry, decorations, and decorative forms with curved shapes at the corners. Finally, the third category combines simplicity and functionality with attributes of grandeur and splendor emphasizing symmetry through numerous long columns at the entrance and following the hierarchy of the neoclassical architectural space (Table 2).

Conclusion

The first aspect can be improved through the reorganization of government agencies administrative systems, accelerating renovation operations, transforming the city's infrastructure, especially government buildings, and modernizing residential architecture. The Pahlavi government had a significant impact on architecture, influenced by key ideologies of patriotism and Westernization, resulting in a network of power structures shaped by various factors that Reza Shah, as head of this network, utilized to create modern social and urban platforms both directly and indirectly. Modern developments in the field of architecture have been greatly influenced by the decision-making of Reza Shah as the head of the hierarchical power structure responsible for the architectural modernization of the city. Therefore, a comprehensive analysis of the intervention levels of the Pahlavi power structure reveals the direct effectiveness of Reza Shah's decisions on architecture. As a result, the implementation of plans by relevant institutions under the intervention effects of the absolute ruler, such as the army and the National Artifacts Association, resulted in macro-level architecture and uses that reflect the government's influence, emphasizing hierarchy, grandeur, order, aesthetics in construction. The indirect influence of the power structure was apparent in the planning of social and urban spheres, where human resource and technological development advancement were deemed pivotal components. Consequently, Western culture was taught and assimilated as an academic subject by Iranian scholars and European intellectuals during the last years of the Pahlavi regime. This led to the involvement of capitalists and businessmen in the government's middle-level architecture projects. Meanwhile, there was a shift towards Western aesthetics and culture among the common people, influenced by government institutions and capitalists, which led to contemporary decorations and components used in residential buildings at a micro level. However,

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Table 2. Classification of the architectural features of the first Pahlavi era based on the dominant ideologies of the power structure. Source: Rajabi, 1976; Authors.

Classification of the architectural features of the first Pahlavi era based on the dominant ideologies of the power structure

The architecture of the First Pahlavi era in the Tendency to patriotism

First type

- A tendency towards pre-Islamic architecture, especially during the Achaemenid and Sassanian periods.
 - Use of ancient Iranian symbols.
- Use of columns, capitals, bases, windows, stairs, entrances, and arches from ancient times.



Main facade of the building of the Ancient Iran
Museum
Source: authors

Second type

A tendency towards architecture after Islam.
 Use of decorations and elements such as domes and moldings.



Facade of the Alborz High School building. Source: https://mandegaralborz.sch.ir

The architecture of the First Pahlavi era in the trend toward the west

First type

SimplicityLack of decorationsSymmetryFunctionality



Ministry of War Building facade. Source: https://irantourismonline.com

Second type

- Reduced symmetry and in some cases lack of symmetry.
- Decorative elements and forms of decoration.
 Architectural curvatures in corners.



Jeep Building Source: http://archritique.com

Third type

SimplicityPerformance-orientednessGreatness

- Symmetry with a focus on the center view, achieved by using several tall columns in the entrance.
- Observing the hierarchy of neoclassical architectural space.



The facade of the Faculty of Literature building at the University of Tehran.

Source: authors

it is worth noting that modernization in architecture gradually came about due to developments in technology and modern urban infrastructure (Fig 3).

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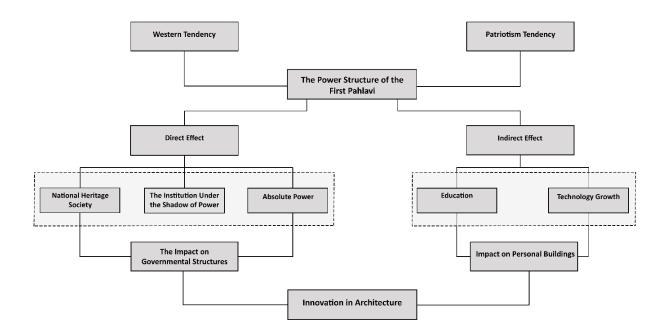


Fig. 3. The influence of the power structure on the architecture of the first Pahlavi period. Source: Authors.

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