

ANALYSIS OF CHANGING IN THE HISTORIC CITY CENTER: YOZGAT

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ABSTRACT

The physical structure of the social, environmental and economic development activities leads to significant changes in urban areas. The past social, cultural, economic and architectural history that reflects the values of the tissues are affected by these changes. Today, historic monuments and protecting the tissues of an integrated planning approach to ensure integration of the urban fabric is one of the basic approaches targeted.

With this sense, work is aimed to determine the changing of the historic city center of Yozgat as from the 20th century. Despite the rapid deterioration; between the Çapanoğlu Mosque and Clock Tower that make up the historical city center situated between the linear structures east-west axis of the tissue with areas of traditional housing pattern of trade, rent, construction impacts, the lack of protection awareness and planning decisions for reasons such as inefficiencies, the contrast of building new construction such as Bilal Şahin Külliyesi with the historicist approaches and imagined spaces in the city is wanted to draw attention. The analysis studies to available historical tissue will be the source to develop strategies intended for the revitalization of historical city pattern and the healthy decisions with the areas of new structuring.

Key Words: Urban conservation, protection, changing, Yozgat

1. INTRODUCTION

Development activities coming along with expansion problem in economic, social, environmental and physical structure causes significant alterations and transformations in cities. Historical fabrics reflecting social, cultural, economical and architectural values of the past are exceedingly affected by these alterations. Historical/cultural accumulation constitutes the basic values of a city identity. City memory or social memory consist of *location(place)-time-remembrance-identity*

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togetherness. Overall impressions that social and spacial change in the city over time left on residents constitutes "city identity" (Bilsel 2000).

The thing that makes cities different from each other is historical environments, different stories and urban memories of them. Any negativity and any wrong intervention on these fabrics connecting the past, today and the future, causes the extinguishment of marks coming from the past and composing the urban identity.

It is seen that modern transportation vehicles and approaches(modernisation) brought by industrialization are mostly responsible for destruction and ravages. Direct threat against classical city fabric that social structure has revealed especially before transportation with motor vehicles and against cultural property substantially wipes the city out by turning it into a construction site.

The idea that preserving the existent construction is an obstacle for development, retains its freshness in this day and age. In regard to preserving cultural heritage, Faulkner states that "Past is never death. In fact, it is not even past". Additionally, Kalfa expresses that "A past reaching to the starting point doesn't pull man back, pushes him forward and contrary to expectations, it is the future driving us into "back-past" ". These two mottos clearly shows the forced modernization event in the old city and what a gross injustice against the historical city were performed.

Historical fabrics of cities with their physical, social, economical, political etc. structures, changing within the development process of cities, have the characteristics of a living archive holding the memories of residents together(Bilsel 2000).

The most important factor affecting the processability of preservation and revitalization themes in historical urban areas is to improve the idea of urban renewal which handles physical, social and economical dynamics with an integrated approach. This approach is not only an effort for a physical recruitment performed on the basis of construction but also an effort for maintaining and recruiting social and cultural values, social identities, economical growth of these areas and life standard of the users. Economical, social and physical values, three basic components of urban transformation, must be set as main objectives for the development of the area in a sustainable and healthy way and strategies intended to these objectives must be developed. While setting strategies, primarily the historical environment must be analyzed, existent ageing in this area (functional, physical etc.) and development dynamics of the area must be defined and vitalization strategies must be determined according to performed analyses.

At the present time, performing the integration of monuments and fabrics with urban fabric by using an integrated planning concept is one of the main approches in preservation. In this sense, the aim of this study is to determine the alteration and transformation that modernization process, formed by industrialization (triggered by technology), created on historical fabric's photograph from 20th century to present with the help of Yozgat city sample. Additionally, with the study, it is intended to draw attention to oppositeness of effort for creating places built with an historicist/immitator approach within the high-density welding house fabric positioned in the extension of this axis and modern development axis, while trade areas positioned between Çapanoğlu Mosque and Clock Tower, forming the historical centre of the city, in an east-west linear axis and traditional dwelling house

fabric added to this fabric are rapidly destroyed in consequence of some reasons like income, reconstruction effects, deficiency of preserving awareness and inadequacy in planning decisions. Alteration analysis which will be performed on the existing historical fabric within the scope of this study will provide a basis for the development of strategies related to vitalisation of historical urban fabric and healthy planning decisions that will be set for new settlement areas.

Because of its position in the city, diversity of its urban functions, being one of the most important trade axis in the city and having important urban identity items in its impact area, trade areas positioned in a linear way between Çapanoğlu Mosque and Clock Tower and Lise Main Street and Bilal Şahin Street has been selected as the study field of this research which is carried out concerning the effect assesment of one of the implementetion means of modernism in our country on historical urban fabric.

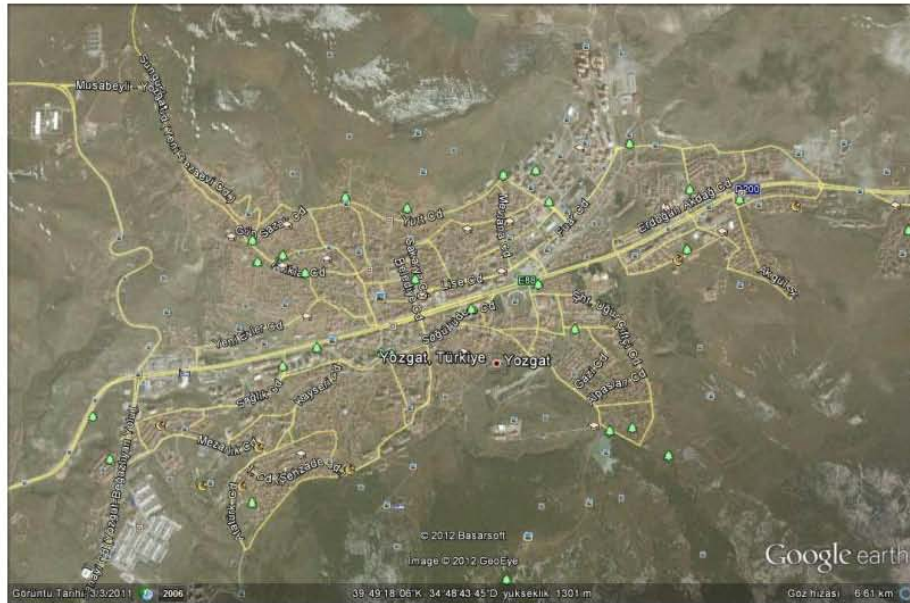


Figure 1. Photograph of Yozgat from Google Earth

2. STUDY AREA

2.1. Limits and General Characteristics of Study Area

Though it is narrated that Yozgat was established as a settlement in 16th century and there had been a village here before that settlement, any document related to these information couldn't be found yet. Since this date until the Republic Period, the city was commonly known as BOZOK and it was a district bounded to Sivas state till the beginning of 19th century.

Mosque and trade areas around it, which can be seen in many Ottoman cities, and order formed by dwelling house fabric added to this fabric is seen in the Historical

center of Yozgat City. This Çapanoğlu Mosque-centered area, selected as field of study, has never faded away in the historical process. It still forms the religious and commercial center of the city.



Figure 2. An old Photograph of Çapanoğlu Mosque (Studio Alper Archive)

Westernisation or first modernisation wave and applications beginning with the royal edict of reform in 1839 is encountered in Yozgat City scale. Reflections of changes in technological, economical, social and cultural infrastructure on urban place is seen in II. Abdulhamid period with the construction of Clock Tower. It is an indicator of transition to new urban image centered planning concept like its western samples from an understanding of mosque centered planning. In the historical process, these fabrics entering into a rapid distortion process depending on the factors like insufficient and wrong planning decisions, income, unconsciousness, impacts of reconstruction caused great losses in memory of the city. Field of study can be separated into three parts also explaining the alteration process of the city. First part is Mosque centered trade fabric before the modernisation efforts.

As modernisation efforts affected the skyline of many cities, second part is the fabric constituted by the Clock Tower and city square, constructed in Early Republic Period and various public institutions describing this square. Third part expresses the fabric showing the expansion direction of the city after 1990s as a follow-up of this axis.

2.2 Historical Development of Study Area

It can be said that development of field of study in historical process made progress paralel to east-west axis fabric added to Çapanoğlu Mosque. When conventional Ottoman Cities are examined, it can be realized that a Mosque-centered planning concept was preferred. In the cities, the largest mosque and around is the fabric that trade activities are intesely performed. These fabrics also describes community's socialization areas. Traditional house fabrics formed of narrow and sometimes dead

end streets are connected to this religious and trading center. This setup can also be seen in Yozgat city scale.



Figure 3. General View of Yozgat from an old photograph (Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 4. General View of Yozgat from an old photograph (Studio Alper Archive)

Çapanoğlu Mosque and around became one of the most important parts of urban image in the historical process. A radical change in this fabric was not observed until Early Republic Period.



Figure 5. Photograph of Çapanoğlu Mosque and around (Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 6. Photograph of Çapanoğlu Mosque (Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 7. New photograph of Çapanoğlu Mosque Axis 2011

City squares and wider road networks that we meet as a reflection of industrilization process triggered by technological developments and improved modernization efforts depending on this process to urban places, caused irremeable losses as it couldn't adapt to structure of historical fabric. This problem were intensely experienced in Yozgat City scale. City square and around the square, constituting the second part of study area, were changed for that purpose.



Figure 8. Photograph of Cumhuriyet Square (Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 9. Photograph of Clock Tower (Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 10. New photograph of Clock Tower and around



Figure 11. Photograph of Cumhuriyet Square -1940-(Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 12. Photograph of Cumhuriyet Square -1945(Studio Alper Archive)



Figure 13. Photograph of Cumhuriyet Square 2010

Bilal Şahin Mahallesi, constituting the third part of the study area, started to be constructed after 1990 and it couldn't provide integration with historical fabric. In this fabric which has high-density and income-oriented planning, historicist approaches rather than a historical center forming the city identity and undertaking a cultural bridge duty between past, present and future are exhibited. With Bilal Şahin Social Complex (Bilal Şahin Külliyesi) ve Street Entrance Door (Mahalle Giriş Kapısı), built with historicist/imitator approaches, it was tried to create new urban images.



Figure 14. Bilal Şahin Entrance Door and around



Figure 15. Photograph of Bilal Şahin Social Complex and around



Figure 16. Photograph of Bilal Şahin Social Complex

3. RESULT

Historical-cultural environment which is the subject of artificial environment can be described as reflected images of cultural values, created by humanity throughout the history, to physical environment (Keleş 1997).

From past to present created historical-cultural heritages are values which establish a bond between past and future, able to solve identity problem, create a history deepness and awareness, able to provide communication between generations, nonrenewable, has a limited resource character. Disappearance of these values weakens the relation, communication and solidarity between societies and problems,

such as the feeling of gradually crisis of identity or belonging to nowhere, “sense of unbelonging”, emerge.

In our age, urban settlements experience a rapid change process and they lose their original identities gradually. Especially as an indication of globalization to cities, city management conceptions in different geographical and economic parts of the earth, consumption tendencies of urban environments and citizens resemble each other gradually. And this will cause disappearance of original urban (or local) identity.

In this sense; Yozgat, selected as field of study, intensely experiences this disidentification process. With determination of experienced change on the city from 20th century to present, attention was drawn on this great loss in cultural heritage. With the study performed, we tried to emphasize the necessity of transmitting historical fabric to new generations with new planning decisions and applications rather than creating imitated images in new construction areas.

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