

***Assessment and Ranking of the Effective Factors on level of Citizen Satisfaction with Environmental Quality of Life (Case Study: Old and New Urban Pattern of Shiraz City)***

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**Extended Abstract**

**Introduction**

Assessing quality of environment in urban patterns is an important and necessary issue in identifying quality condition of environment in old patterns of cities and making efforts to improve it as well as offering appropriate models for environmental quality for new developments which are formed through recognition and application of pre-planned designs and programs. The new and old urban patterns of Shiraz considering its specific characteristics in terms of environmental quality face some problems like security, access, density and traffic, health, aesthetics, and cheerfulness.

Examining and ranking the factors affecting the satisfaction of the citizens with quality of their environment has revealed that these factors in the two areas under study were to a large extent the same. It was also found out that the residents of the new urban patterns in comparison to those ones living in old urban patterns are more satisfied with quality of their environment. The research has also shown that in the three levels which were studied here (home, neighborhood and the city) both in the new and the old urban patterns the highest satisfaction rate was with the city scale and the least was with quality condition of environment in the scale of neighborhoods. It was also revealed that in the new urban pattern the socio – economic dimension and in the older one the perceived dimension were the most affecting factor in the satisfaction of the citizens with quality of their environment.

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### **Methodology**

For a meticulous explanation of the subject the following hypotheses were considered:

- The satisfaction of citizens with quality of environment in the new and old urban patterns is the same.
- The factors involved in the formation of quality of environment in the new and old urban patterns are different.

For this reason assessing the satisfaction with quality of environment, valuing and ranking the factors involved, draws the attention of the decision takers, decision makers, executives and even consumers (citizens) of the urban designs to the important subject of environment quality and finally has triggered the alarms for quality crisis in the cities and especially in old and valuable patterns of historical cities are among the main objectives of this research.

This research in terms of objectives can be categorized as development and applied one but regarding the research methodology it can be considered as descriptive – analytical one and the nature of the data is quantitative. The theoretical framework is literature review and library work relevant to the environment quality subject. Assessing environment quality is carried out through Life Quality Approach.

To do this research, and in order to choose the area for the study, District 8 has been selected as the oldest neighborhood, and Sharifabad as the new one which is located in District 7 of Shiraz.

### **Results and Discussion**

The research findings have shown that the residents of the new neighborhoods are to some extent more satisfied. In addition, the parameters which got the score of more or less than the average (3) are all the same for both neighborhoods, except one. The frequency of answers related to the assessment of citizen satisfaction at three scales of home, neighborhood and the city, has shown that the residential buildings as one of the main factors involved in quality of environment has a better quality in the new urban patterns. The results have also shown that in the new patterns, factors like waste, social interaction and security have got the scores between 1 and 3 and were the most effective factors in the new neighborhoods respectively. Similarly, factors like location ties were the most important ones in older neighborhoods.

### **Conclusion**

In the end, it should be said that the main research objectives i.e. assessing citizen's satisfaction, valuing and ranking the factors affecting satisfaction with quality of environment were completely achieved, and the minor objectives like drawing the attention of decision makers, decision takers, executives and consumers of urban designs to the important subject of environmental quality and triggering the alarms for quality crisis in cities and especially in older and valuable patterns of the historical cities following the findings of this research will be achieved.

**Keywords:** *Environmental, Quality of Life, Satisfaction, New and Old Urban Pattern, Shiraz.*