Asesorias y Jutorias para la Investigación Científica en la Educación Puig-Salabarría S.C. José María Pino Suárez 400-2 esq a Berdo de Jejada. Joluca, Estado de México. 7223898475

RFC: ATT120618V12

Revista Dilemas Contemporáneos: Educación, Política y Valores. http://www.dilemascontemporaneoseducacionpoliticayvalores.com/

Año: VII Número: Edición Especial Artículo no.:101 Período: Noviembre, 2019

**TÍTULO:** Expresión y paisaje en obras de pintores y fotógrafos iraníes con enfoque abstracto.

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en cuenta diferentes enfoques. El presente estudio enfatiza en la sincronización del escenario con el modernismo en Irán, que ha pasado por etapas continuas de afición, repetición hasta llegar a la duda, y luego la crítica. Los resultados del presente estudio a través de métodos descriptivo,

**RESUMEN:** Al evaluar el paisaje en la fotografía y pintura contemporánea de Irán, se han tenido

histórico y analítico mostraron que los pintores y fotógrafos iraníes después de las décadas de 1920

y 1930 han tenido la capacidad de analizar la naturaleza y pasarla por la repetición (desde el oeste)

filtrar y alterar la vista y la escena en los años 1970 y 1980.

PALABRAS CLAVES: paisajes, pintores, fotógrafos, abstractos.

**TITLE:** Expression and lanscape in Iranian painters and photographers' artworks with the abstract

approach.

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**ABSTRACT**: In assessing the landscape in contemporary photography and painting in Iran,

different approaches have been taken into account. The present study emphasizes the

synchronization of the scenario with modernism in Iran, which has gone through continuous stages

of hobby, repetition, until reaching doubt, and then, criticism. The results of the present study

through descriptive, historical and analytical methods showed that Iranian painters and

photographers after the 1920s and 1930s have had the ability to analyze nature and pass it through

repetition (from the west) filter and alter the view and the scene in the 1970s and 1980s.

**KEY WORDS:** scenery, painters, photographers, abstract.

INTRODUCTION.

Statement of the problem.

Scenery in Iran has been founded initially in the Safavi era as the foreignization method and was

spread after objectifying and describing the aesthetics in the Qajar era, and then, with infiltration of

modernism and introduction of artists with modern western movements, the scenery has become a

field for structural and formal experiences.

With invention of photography, the artistic experiences of artists have entered a new phase and after

its evolutions, the Iranian artists were influenced as well. Painting has entrusted the effort for

accurate copying of exact nature to photography and itself looked into finding modern expression

ways and facilitations for describing an excelled truth.

After the initiation of photography, no artists with some exceptions could not be still successful in

his/her work without having a portion of knowledge about this modern media; no photographer also

could accomplish his/ her work without acknowledging other visual arts. So, it seems that the

effectiveness of nature in works of photographers and painters was aroused by a common view but

with two different expression and portrayal.

The concept of nature is based mostly on beliefs and views of the artists. Therefore, from this point of view, the nature is not necessarily a representation of natural lanscapes, but also a general term which is created in the mind of the artist.

Scenery in Iranian art has been accompanied with some changes and has had special principles which has been different according to each period, and in a general view, we could mention four time eras for the scenery art in Iran which are as follows: 1- Scenery in the late Qajar Era, 2- Scenery in the Pahlavi era with a modernist view 3- Scenery after the Islamic revolution (the revolution era and the imposed war) and, 4- Scenery in the digital era (the beginning of the 1970's until the midst of 1980's).

In the present study, the necessity of artists' effort in the cycle of scenery evolution and the rate of effort to the vocabulary of observation and its reflection in increasing the knowledge and change of this viewpoint is important. Hence, the relation between artist's view and the lanscape concept and the modern thought to it and the matter that how much the artists have had a role in alteration of the view would also be evaluated. And of course, expression of some concepts such as the concept and metaphor of the text in the image is also emphasized in both areas and the unknown and dim aspects according to the variables (which includes a significant number of Iranian artists) would be revealed.

Suggestion of a main question and a secondary question and responding to both could be the solution to the present study. Based on the foretold matter, the main goal of the present study is set to acknowledge the relation between evolution of artists' thoughts to the scenery in the contemporary era in Iran and its secondary goal is that with evaluating their artworks in the scenery area in the recent decades, point out new structural experiences from the foretold areas' artists.

#### DEVELOPMENT.

### Research questions.

- 1- How have the Iranian contemporary artists viewed the scenery and altered it?
- 2- How have the Iranian artists and by what scenery have symbolized the nature in their works?

#### Literature review.

According to the consistency of the author via websites and visiting certified university centers abroad, in terms of the views to scenery in Iran's painting and photography majors, there has not been a foreign research so far.

- Bahram Ahmadi (2013) in an article titled as a review on Qajar era's photography and its effect on painting asserts that in the midst of the Qajar era with support from the court, photography was the superior artistic language; in such conditions, painting was influenced by the photography by a major rate. The painters used photography and photographs for creating their own paintings and hence, a competition between the photographers and painters was started in capturing the smallest details. Following this, in the first painting schools, the realistic painting principles and rules was taught and the apprentices copied the works and images of the renaissance European artists with lithographical and photographical artworks; the approach in which kamalolmolk have had a key role. Since then it was believed that a good painting must be the same as a photograph. A belief which lasted for many years in Iran.
- Maryam khalilzade moghadam in an article titled as the scenically approach in kamalolmolk's artworks in the art month book, number 167, june 2012, has made the effort to present kamalolmolk's efforts facing the Iran's culture and art which has resulted in alteration of painting arts in different aspects briefly and as one of his work's formation characteristics to evaluate part of his art in the scenery area as a taboo breaking and passing a traditional view and custom in creation of artworks.

### Materials and methodology.

The method used in the present study is descriptive analytic, data collection is of library method, and also for completion of the chapters' subjects the effort was made to analyze the scenery art's principles in the Iranian painting and photography in four different historical eras, and then, to evaluate its systematic structure and its alteration route from the viewpoint of the artists. According to our point, the type of the present study is goal-oriented and not artist-oriented, hence the mentioning of the names and artworks of numerous artists has been repressed, and in order to evaluate the artworks, only the significant artists' works has been used.

# Theoretical principles.

Lanscape and scenery have started existing when there was a distance made between the human and the nature which were used as the major subject of scenery. Meaning that, the confirmation of scenery and lanscape idea belong s to the situation of after alienation with the nature; meaning the time that an exterior viewpoint and with a distant to the nature was formed. Each lanscape which has had human interference or not, prior to being a subject of an artwork is a raw material which the artist should form it. Based on the foretold matter, when we see a thing, we form it in prior and we describe it. Perhaps, the lanscape would never be represented in the photography or painting frame; though when we shape the earth as a scenery; then, we can say that an important occurrence has happened.

The taste of painting or photographing a part of the earth is aroused in our minds and we call the result as painting or photography. But the artistic recording of natural lanscape does not mean that the earth has become a scenery. Even though we are an artist or not, we have done the alteration process in our minds for centuries. This habit is part of the human relations' history with his/ her surroundings and the visual representation of the scene has had a leading role from the first beginning in this relation. In this chapter of the present study the effort was made to define lanscape

and scenery and also different viewpoints about the scenery area and also the nature's relation from the manner of different religion viewpoints and also the effective factors on the scenery process in Iran is evaluated.

Based on the moein dictionary for lanscape, there lies two meanings: a) view, sight b) place of viewing (moein, 2002: 4398).

Lanscape is described in the dehkhoda dictionary as follows: place of viewing, whether pleasant or not and anything which is viewed and it located in the looking location, is lanscape, location of view and viewpoint (dehkhoda, 1954: 1292).

The lanscape word, is used in the common vocabulary books with such similarities: view, viewpoint, sight point and sight spot and also in the Amid dictionary, the concept of lanscape is described as follows: a) location of viewing and sighting b) what is occurred before the eyes (Amid, 1964: 1126).

It should be noted that in the Persian language, the landscape word is equivalent to landscape word which is not suitable for this concept and vocabulary such as view, viewing, landscape painting/photography, etc. are all equivalents for this word. This meaning does not apply to any one of its cultural, natural and social characteristics of it and does not intimidate any one of them. The landscape word in the Persian language is a vague world for the experts and implies the surroundings and perspective (seyed kalal, 2012: 18).

The appearance of photography and spreading its different methods in Iran has happened with a 3-year difference with its appearance in France. The photography industry on sensitive paper was founded in 1839 and glass plaques was invented for photography in 1841 and according to the historical facts, this invention and its complete equipment has reached the king of Iran as a gift after 2 or 3 years of its invention (afshar, 2000:18). The photography industry has had a significant expansion with the creation of social media. In different court art forms in Iran, a type of continuity

in utilization of some concepts and principles including custom appliance is visible. This continuity has resulted to alteration of ranks and customs to the principal rules in the ranked Iranian visual custom. The hypotheses asserts that the evolutional process of photography in court atmosphere has caused the phenomenon in the arrangement of individuals, from the court protocol with organization of postures in Iranian sculptures and pursuing this matter in a similar representation in pictures from the Naseri era.

The difference aspect of landscape in Iranian contemporary painting and photography

Table 1: difference aspect of landscape in Iranian contemporary painting and photography

(resource: author)

Late Qajar era until 20's		20's to 50's		50's to 70's		70's to midst of 80's	
Photography	Painting	Photography	Painting	Photography	Painting	Photography	Painting
Landscaping	Landscaping	Prevalence of	Landscaping	Creating	Creating	Start of	Modernism's
with the goal	with the	landscape	with the view	landscaping and	symbolic	postmodernism	readout in
of	European	imagery and	with modern	nature artworks	artworks	in landscape and	landscape and
documenting	naturalist	beautiful	European	with the tribal	with	nature	nature
and depiction	tendency in	perspective	schools and	and	emphasis on	photography.	painting.
of different	order to portray	among	examining	anthropological	Islamic and	Development	Development
areas in Iran,	the nature's	amateurs with	different	subjects.	theological	and prevalence	and prevalence
the	beauties.	the entrance of	methods from	Prevalence of	aspect in	of digital	of painting
geographical	Landscaping	simple, small	impressionism	photography	landscaping.	photography	fairs and
and climate	with replication	and cheap	until cubism	book	Artist's	and creation of	galleries in the
status,	of nature's	cameras.	and	publications	approach to	different	area of
different court	beauties under	Replication of	imaginations	from the Iran's	concepts	photography	landscape and
ceremonies,	the influence of	raw nature and	of surrealism	nature	such as:	websites in the	nature.
hunt and	impressionist	repetition for	and abstract	perspectives.	identity,	area of	Rapid
king's trips.	belief.	creation of	formations.	Reaching	tradition and	landscape	expansion of
Landscaping		images from	Landscaping	photography	modernism	images and	modernist
as a secondary		the Iran's	in painting	education to	in art.	landscapes from	painting
major in		beautiful	with	higher levels of	Antibes with	the nature.	especially
portraying		nature and	criticizing the	education and	modernist	Prevalence of	abstract
images in		prevalence of	west and	placing natural	painting and	conceptual and	painting from
anthropologica		urbanized	turning to the	photography as	western	creative	the youngster
1 and		images.	Iranian	one of the	abstract in	photography by	painters
architectural		Prevalence of	identity	photography	the	youngster,	
fields		landscape and	subject and its	major. Tending	landscaping	educated and	
		nature	reflection in	to modern	art	modernist	
		imagery for	Iran's	photography		photographers.	
		magazine	contemporary			Lack of	
		covers.	painting.			creational	

Evading the		criticism to the
replication of		nature and
nature and		landscape
repetition in		photography
creation of		process. Daily
abstract		prevalence of
artworks		professional
based on min	i	photography
experiences.		books in the
		area of
		landscape and
		nature

Late Qajar era until 20's	20's to 50's	50's to 70's	70's to midst of 80's
Portraying natural	Accepting modernism in the	Appearance of political	Globalization process
landscapes and	modernist application and banning	tendencies in the	through familiarizing
perspectives as an	traditional and old foundations and	landscaping art.	with technology and
order by the court.	following the western culture.	Appearing social and	electronic
Landscaping with the	Landscaping in order to portray the	realistic arts and its	communications.
realist and replicating	beautiful landscapes and	combination in	Development of
approach. Adding	perspectives.	photography and painting.	visual spaces,
brief detail and	The start of criticizing wave about	Placing the revolutionary	cheering and
description of the	landscapers' works in press	and religious art instead of	supporting the
portrayed locations	Holding fairs about landscape and	aesthetic arts in	formation of NGOs
	nature	landscaping	

Table 2: common aspect of landscaping in Iran's contemporary photography and painting (resource: author).

# CONCLUSIONS.

Based on the foretold data:

1. Scenery was formed in Iran meaning the representation with a repetition thought and the modernism era was started with fondness of the west and repeating them. Confrontation of classic painters with modernist painters caused criticism and eventually the omission of the classic method and based on this, the modernist landscapers was set to find a new method.

- 2. The modernist landscapers' experiences were integrated with imagination and search for the lost identity. In other terms, in the copying from European modernism, first it was repeated and then it was edited.
- 3. The artist has prosecuted the three approaches of fondness, repetition and criticism and eventually the systematizing of landscape structure and the foretold approaches have caused the evolution of landscape.
- 4. With the protest of some artists such as jalal al ahmad, have caused an independent world from replication and concepts such as identity and return to customs. The reflection of this change of thought caused the creation of landscapes which did not intend to record replication.
- 5. The landscaper after the Islamic revolution did not intend to record replication or a bed for structural or fundamental experiences no more but found the landscape as a field for symbolism and the nature's elements as a symbolic conceptual expression.
- 6. In the fourth period, the artist's approach to the nature was not rare landscape but it changed to urban landscapes. The artist is facing the imbalance between the modern and traditional basis and the landscaper in this period is after expressing meaning and metaphor from the nature. The artist intends to express the modernism again and the concept of modernism has created an unbreakable bond with urbanization.
- 7. In the 60's and midst of 70's we face with tribal photography until the point that the landscape photography in that period is limited and innumerous. The audience is still facing a descriptive view from the photographers in showing the economic-social status of the society in different parts of Iran. In the manner that the landscape and the nature would enter the picture's frame. The photographer intends to transfer his thought and mind concerns to the audience through portraying landscape and nature. In these terms, he/she doesn't take photographs from every landscape or angle.

The important point, we could assert about photography and photographer's view is that until this decade, the self-returning concern did not exist in addition to deep cultural thoughts and determining the rate of identification and the rate of transition to landscape and analytic study in the nature is reflected poorly. Perhaps one of the main reasons is the lack of historical background of independent photography in Iran. But in the 80's with appearance of a few Iranian photographers, the path for evolution of Iranian landscape and nature with a deep viewpoint was smoothened and photographers same as Iranian painters with affectivity from the Iranian society's cultural elements and intelligent effect from the western art's alterations, some visual patterns are adapted and were viewed with a new method. Perhaps through the last decades, the alteration of view to landscape and nature is more sensed in painting rather than photography but the truth is that even though the professional photographers have a limited number but have found their path for evolution and a deep view.

8. In total, landscaping in Iran would resume a type of subject coordination with social and political content and this shows the tendency of artists to the unity of form and content.

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**RECIBIDO:** 5 de octubre del 2019.

**APROBADO:** 17 de octubre del 2019.