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Bazaar and the Interiorization of the territory

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Title of Paper: Bazaar and the Interiorization of the territory

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Through a re-thinking of the architecture of the *bazaar*, this paper intends to introduce a more encompassing, complex and heterogeneous reading of the architecture and territory and thus, inside and outside. Here bazaar is discussed as an architecture of interiorized territory where the various relations inside the city and between inside and outside were managed. As an architectural entity, bazaar has been developed through the constant necessity of a city for establishing relations with its territory and other settlements. These relations concerned the very primary need for managing production relations, exchange, contact and contract through the organization of institutions and public inhabitation as well as infrastructures within and without the city; this means the necessity for a territorial knowledge which was embodied as a form of life. In this way, bazaar became the 'place' as an 'infrastructure' where the different ways of life met and collapsed in each other.

To construct a proper discursive background, *imprimis*, the notion of territory in unfolded through addressing the geological condition of Iranian Plateau and the necessity of road system and their tight relation to the cities as being the result of a 'geopolitics of in-between'. Departing from that later two sorts of territoriality are addressed (i.e. *nomadic* and *dehqani* [settled]) which are embedded as ways of life in Iranian Plateau where the relations between life and architecture, inside and outside are managed differently. For this I refer to two paradigmatic Persian paintings: firstly the '*Camp scene*', Mid-17th century, attributed to *Mir Sayyid 'Ali*, part of the courtesy of the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Harvard University Art Museums and secondly '*Sheykh Sanaan beneath the Window of the Tarsai Maiden*', folio from '*Mantiq Al-Tair*' (Language of the Birds) by *Farid al-Din Attar* (ca .1440-1520), Calligrapher: *sultan Ali Mashhadi*, part of Metropolitan Museum of Art

Eventually, the aim of this paper is to propose the bazaar as a territorial entity for managing various relations inside and outside the city, embodied as the conjunction of various ways of life. In fact, here the inside and outside are not excluding each other, but rather they are reflected and represented (i.e. superposed) on each other.

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