

THE RIGHT TO THE CITY & SAFE LIFE AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM GOVERNING THE SAFETY OF BUILDINGS IN IRAN

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Today, cities face a variety of natural and human hazards, from fire and building down to terrorist attacks, nuclear accidents and natural hazards such as climate change, flood, storm, earthquake and tsunami. Therefore, urban safety is a matter of challenge and attention. Therefore, one of the important goals and plans of urban planning is urban safety. In fact, urban safety brings comfort and calm to citizens. On the other hand, the current complications of urbanization in Iran, especially in the metropolis of Tehran, and sketch of topics such as sustainable urban development, emphasize to social justice, environmental protection, resilient city development, safety life in urban, and ... that change management of city and urban management faces new responsibilities. But with all the efforts made in the country, the construction industry in Iran has not been consistent with international standards and technologies and unfortunately, there is no comprehensive and efficient system in the field of building safety. Therefore, one of the inefficiencies and challenges of urban management is the rules and regulations governing this category.

The existence of damage to the regulatory system, the ineffectiveness and inconsistency of the laws with the current needs of the community, the lack of adequate due diligence mechanisms on the implementation of laws, parallel work and the multiplicity of legislative authorities, the dispersion of structural laws and regulations in the rule of law and civil rights, neglect of the implementation of laws by the relevant authorities, etc. has caused the legal structure related to the safety of buildings issues seriously damage and the safety and security of urban life are at risk. In other words, the legal structure governing the safety of buildings in Iran represents this issue that the emergence of some incidents in urban buildings is rooted in the lack of modern legal system governing the safety of buildings, the existence of ambiguities in rules and regulations, the dispersion and heterogeneity of rules, parallel work and the multiplicity of legislative authorities, the lack of effective supervision and mutual cooperation of Executive bodies, lack of transparency and accountability, lack of custodianship and integrated management of urban safety issues.

This has caused the vulnerability of cities and citizens to face more challenges and problems. On the other hand, regardless of the deficiencies and gaps in the current legal system, and even with the capacity created by the laws, the relevant legal bodies in carrying out their duties and assignments and the implementation of the law did not proceed in a desirable manner, and this issue is more than the citizens have been protested beforehand.

Therefore, in this article, we will review the legal system governing building safety in Iran with a descriptive analytical approach to the shortcomings and deficiencies of these criteria. In this context, the author has tried to answer the following questions by discussing the right to city life and safe living in cities, the legal structure of building safety in Iran and its shortcomings:

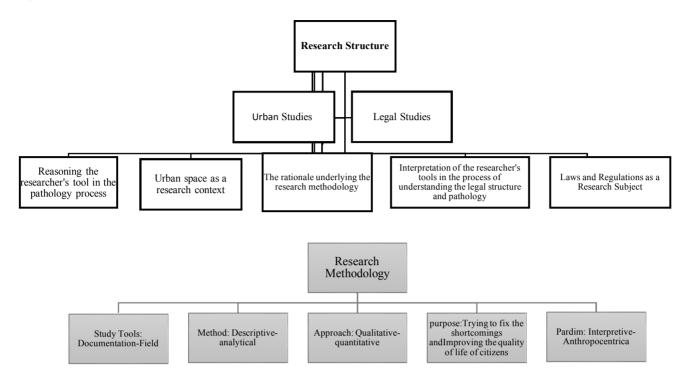
- 1. Why did not the responsible authorities establish a safe city and prevent construction accidents and reduce the damage caused by it in enforcing laws and performing their duties properly?
- 2. What is the cause of the lack of accountability and weakness of these institutions vis-à-vis citizens and their clear accountability to actions?
- 3. What are the gaps and shortcomings in the legal system of Iran that lead to accidents or reduce the level of safety of cities and even the inability to prevent and deal with such incidents?
- 4. What are the solutions to deregulating the challenges of the legal system governing building safety?

 The main goal of this paper is to understand the concept of right to city and safe life in cities and the pathology of



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Iran's legal system in the field of building safety and transferring it to the experts of the field of urban studies and the attempt to eliminate the shortcomings.



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