BAZAAR: AMENITY

ISFAHAN

The bazaar is the commercial "backbone" of the city. In Isfahan, it is a prominent and central feature of the urban fabric. It is a "street" in the sense of people, activity, and commerce.

The area surrounding the bazaar includes not only commercial but also residential and other religious buildings, forming a dense network of interconnected streets and lanes. This network of streets and lanes creates a fabric-like quality that is unique to Isfahan.

The bazaar is a vibrant and bustling area, with people coming and going, engaging in various activities such as shopping, eating, and socializing. The narrow streets and alleys are filled with vendors selling a variety of goods, from fresh produce to handcrafted jewelry.

The architecture of the bazaar is characterized by a mix of traditional and modern influences, with many buildings featuring intricate tilework and wooden carvings. The bazaar is a key location for locals and tourists alike, offering a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of Isfahan.

ASPECTS OF FORMAL STRUCTURE:

The layout of the bazaar is carefully planned. The central square is surrounded by a grid of narrow streets and alleys, creating a sense of order and symmetry. The streets are usually two to three meters wide, allowing for easy movement and access.

The main axis of the bazaar runs north-south, with smaller streets branching off to the east and west. This layout allows for efficient circulation and easy navigation.

The spacing between buildings is designed to provide sufficient room for pedestrians, with a focus on creating a pedestrian-friendly environment. The narrow streets also provide shade and cooler temperatures during hot summer months.

VISUAL SEQUENCE FROM BAZAAR TO MOSQUE:

The visual sequence from the bazaar to the mosque is a fascinating example of how design can enhance the experience of space.

As a person moves from the bazaar to the mosque, they are drawn into a series of small, intimate spaces, leading to a larger, more open area. This transition allows for a gradual change in scale and ambiance, creating a sense of anticipation and discovery.

The visual path is characterized by a series of arches and columns, which frame the space and guide the eye. The use of light and shadow is also an important element in this sequence, with sunlight filtering through the arches and creating patterns on the ground below.

The mosque is reached after a series of narrow passages, which gradually open up to reveal a large, airy courtyard. The courtyard is a focal point, with a central fountain and garden area.

The overall experience is one of transformation, with the bazaar's busy, commercial atmosphere giving way to the serene, contemplative space of the mosque. This sequence is a testament to the importance of design in enhancing the human experience.