

Explaining Architects' Professional Ethics in “the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders”

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Abstract

The civilization and culture of every society are marked by art and architecture. Architects benefit from a particular moral system in their teaching, designing, and implementing. Part of moral teachings and professional etiquette is reflected in writings and codes of ethics pertaining to relevant guilds. This article raises the question of what are the professional moral rules of architects in the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders. Therefore it will describe and analyze the contents of this document so as to infer and expound the professional ethics of architects. It accordingly seeks to make the claim that the heritage, etiquette, and codes of ethics regarding professions and careers (including the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders) involve a sort of professional ethics that represents Islamic Iranian characteristics. In analyzing the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders, one can recognize the following foundations and principles: believing in monotheism and following the patterns of divine leaders, using verses and traditions as primary sources, practicing certain moral virtues, specialism, complimentary course of instruction, skills in managing projects and human resources, being acquainted with senior figures, and showing courtesy as an apprentice. The conclusion is that the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders characterizes a type of professional ethics which is founded upon Iranian-Islamic doctrinal, moral, and spiritual principles.

Keywords

Professional ethics, architects' professional ethics, the Chivalrous Code of Ethics for Builders, traditional architecture.

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