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[MILAD TOWER]

Dr. Yahyaiy Lecture Report

This report will summarize and elaborate on Mr. Yahyai's lecture on Tehran Telecommunication Center on the March 23rd. In 1995, Bolandpayeh Company established the long-term construction of Tehran Conventional Center, under the ownership and client-ship of *Yadman Sazeh Co.* Perhaps the most significant aspect of this project is the 435-meter high Milad Communication Tower which is now the fourth highest telecommunication tower in the world, and considered the highest in the Middle East. In this report we will discuss this multifaceted project in depth regarding its construction, functions, and other artistic details, all of which reinforce the elegance and status of Milad Tower as the second symbol of Tehran (after Azadi Tower).

In 1995 *Yadman Sazeh Co.* took charge of the project and examined 17 different localities in Tehran in order to find the ideal location for the construction. They finally chose the hills of Gisha in Northern Tehran. This area is secluded on four sides by Tehran's major highways: Hemmat in the North; Resalat (Hakim) in the South; Chamran in the East; and Sheikh Fazlollah in the West.

Of other structures located on site we can mention Milad Hospital and Tehran University of Medical Sciences and Blood Transfusion Organization.

Before examining Milad Tower which was the main topic of Mr. Yahyai's presentation, we shall first touch briefly on some other important aspects of this project. Tehran's International Telecommunication Center consists of *Milad Tower*, the *International Convention Center*, a five-star hotel and the *World Trade Center*.

Tehran's International Convention Center serves mainly as an ideal place to hold many communal activities such as conferences, seminars, festivals, conventions, exhibitions and so on. It consists of seven conference halls with capacities of 2000 each, and an exhibition space with 700 square meters. The Center also features a 5000 square meter lobby.

The five-star hotel provides world-class accommodation, as well as recreational and shopping facilities for guests attending conferences at the Convention Center and tourists. It is estimated that the construction of this hotel will be completed by 2010.

The World Trade Center, also in the phase two of the project, will be featuring two 7-storey building and a parking space. International and national commercials and exhibition centers and offices are only a few of its many functions upon completion.

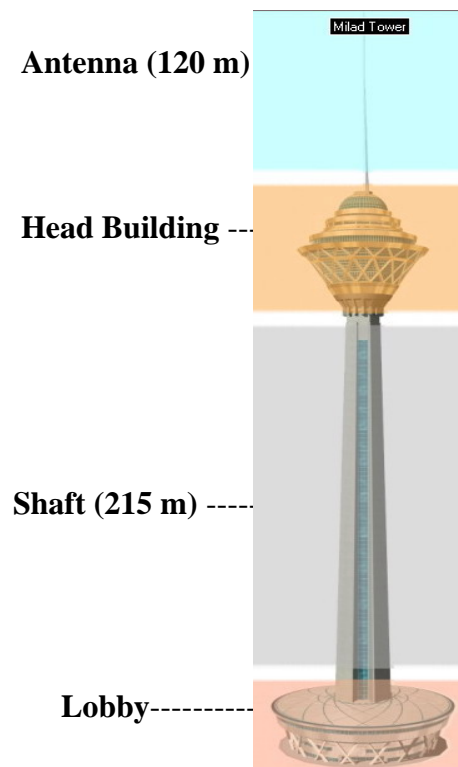
Construction of Milad tower started in 1997. After a 2-year halt, the project was resumed and finished in 2005. When Dr. Yahyaei joined the project about 42% of the cumulative construction of the tower and the Convention Center was completed. Today, 96% of the whole project has been done. Milad Tower is a vertical cantilever structure built mainly of high quality concrete; one that is both earthquake and fire resistant. The Tower can withstand a 7.5 Richter earthquake. According to Dr. Yahyaei, building such towers is challenging and very labor intensive due to the difficulty in handling the initial materials to such heights.

Milad Tower

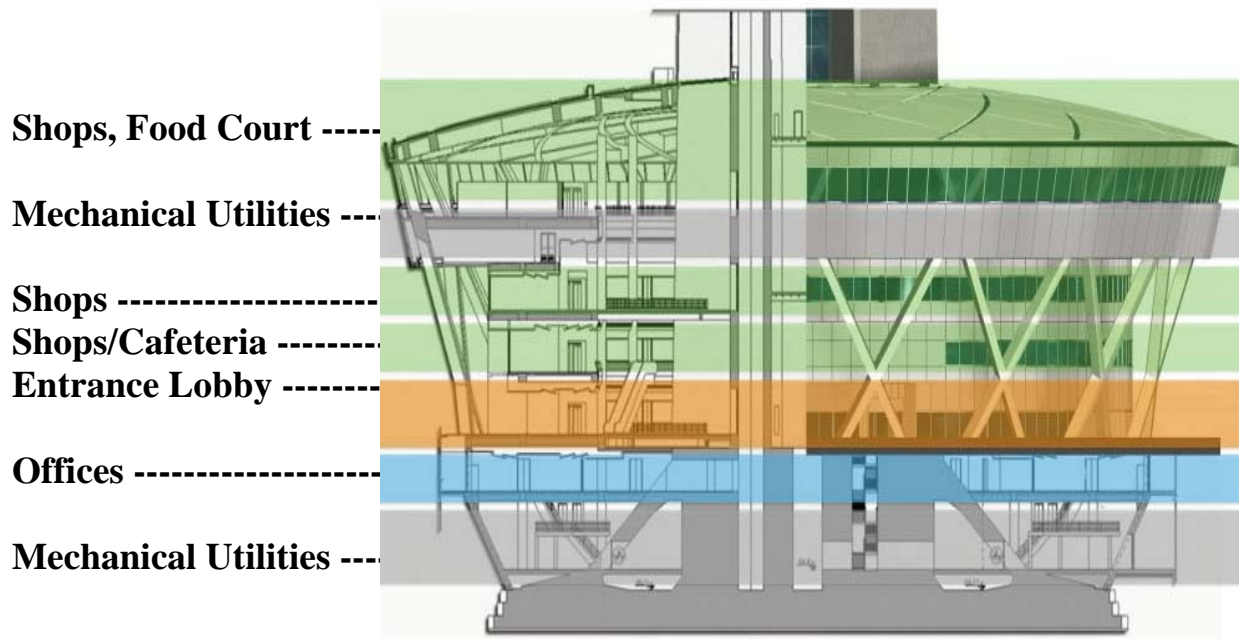
While the idea behind the addition of yet another symbol to the mega capital of Iran, many have opposed Tehran, one can not neglect the great sense of pride with which many Iranians relate to Milad Tower. In fact, Milad means 'birth' in Farsi. Hence, one can argue that Tehran is supposedly reborn metaphorically by Milad Tower, whose rays lighten up the sky at night and magnificent top hides in an arrays of fog and clouds occasionally.

The one purpose of its construction, however, of which anyone can be sure is the improvement of telecommuting in Tehran. The 120-meter antenna provides the whole Tehran with cable and cellular coverage.

As you can see in the picture, Milad Tower has four parts.



Lobby: This part of the tower has 6 floors of which 2 are underground and 4 are above ground.

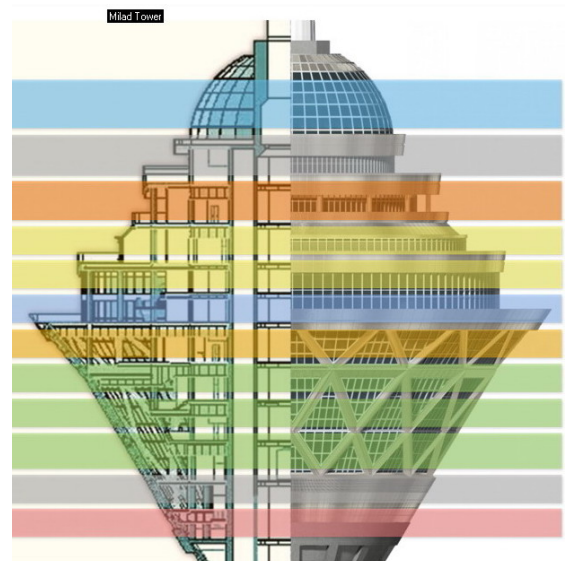


Shaft: With a 28-meter diameter and 215-meter height the shaft is entirely made of concrete in order to maintain and balance the weight of the tower. After the Tower was completed a concrete was cleaned and the shaft was coated with special silicon which would prevent any dusting on the shaft for over 10 years. Four elevators pass through the shaft, with a speed of 7m/s and connect the Lobby with the Head building. In other words, it only takes 40 seconds to reach the top floor from the ground floor!

Head: The head of Milad Tower is the biggest of its kind in the world. Moreover, the largest revolving restaurant (640 square meter) belongs to Milad Tower. On the next page you can see different sections of the Head building.

Head Building

1. Sky Dome
2. Mechanical Utilities
3. VIP restaurant
4. Tele Communication
5. Open Observation Deck
6. Revolving restaurant
7. Open Art Gallery
8. Observation deck Terrace
9. Observation Deck
10. Mechanical Utilities
11. Refugee Zon



Art and Architecture of Milad Tower

Architecture of Milad Tower has been inspired by traditional Iranian architecture, especially the Iranian architecture during the Islamic period. For instance, the plating of the Head building is of a light blue and red color which were the dominant colors of Iranian monuments.

Below is a list of some of the art works inside and outside of Milad Tower:

Water Curtain: This beautiful fountain is 27 meters high and located at the entrance hall.

Shahnameh Myths: Seven curtains of Shahnameh have been engraved in copper fresco with an overall height of 2 meters and a length of 46 meters. This magnificent creation is located in the Revolving Restaurant.

Simorgh Fresco: Designed by Reza Yahyaiy, this fresco turns heads around in admiration in the Sky Dome.

Iranian Monuments: As soon as you enter the Lobby, you cannot help but notice the elegant wall engravings on four different floors. Farishid Mesghali has designed four well-known Iranian myths including the story of Leily and Majnoun and the famous Iranian verse:

ابر و باد و مه و خورشید و فلک در کارند

Arash the Archer: Acquired from yet another famous myth this huge sculpture rises up in the Northern Entrance Square outside the Tower. The stone pillar by itself measures 12 meters and the sculpture on top of it measures about 4 meters. It is noteworthy to state that the Arash's Arch is pointed towards Damavand.

Dancing Flowers: Another beautiful sculpture in the entrance building.

“Shams” Statue: It is located in the Main entrance square and is about 8 meters high.

Ancient Coins: These huge ground-fixed stones represent the actual coin styles of ancient Persian empires.