Abstract:

Windmill (As-bad in Persian) meaning a machine to grind wheat and other grains has various types in between can mention hand mill, donkey mill, ox mill, watermill and windmill. Searching for the origin of the word leads us to alternative Persian words such as Asiab-badi and Asiaye-badi which are used as the word As-bad (windmill) and are incorrect. Windmills are mills working by wind and its history dates back to the early A.D centuries in Iran and Persians are the first to achieve this technology. Windmills in Europe appeared with a 800-year delay but the Persian and western windmills are different in structure.

Geographical distribution of windmills is the east and south east of Iran; in regions that wind has the required power to turn the wind-wheels (the area of 120-day winds). Khaf town is in the end of south- eastern Khorasanrazavi province located in the east of Iran.Nashtifan village is located 20 kilometers far from south- east of the mentioned town. There is a series ofwindmills in the village which are unique in all of Iran in terms of number and soundness. The components of windmill in this region can be divided into some groups: wind-wheel components, mill-wheel components and architectural components.

Siah-bad (120-day winds) lasts more than 120 days and the average duration of these winds in five years reaches to 132 days. Power of winds is increased day to day In the middle of May and in July reaches to its power peak and lasts up to the beginning of autumn. Regarding to the practical aspect of the windmills, the restoration to be considered for them is accounted as a type of repair so that their using can be restored. To revitalize the windmills, the causes of theirabandoning should be considered. Research in this field has indicated that one of the most important causes is the monopoly policy of wheat trade and flour production by government in the early decades of this century which has lasted up to the recent years. Studying the trading cycle of wheat from production to consumption has been specified that one of the most important problems was the policy of rural cooperation in functioning as a brokerin purchasing wheat from villagers and delivering to the cereal organization and to revitalize the windmills must be tried to change the policy by regional counseling.