

## Abstract

The Shahrashb village is located at one kilometer to Abarkouh on flat plain with hot and dry climate, built with the same name in rural areas. Shahrashb is one among the ۱۲ villages in Abarkouh. Often solar months are used to name the villages in Abarkouh, where Shahrashb is the Shahrastar village. Abarkouh is located in the business route and critical government area in different time period, especially Afshar and Zand and the in-security of this range is one of the reasons of shaping and plurality of many castles in this area. Shahrashb Citadel has two concentric rectangular walls with an area of ۱۸,۰۰۰ m<sup>۲</sup> and a total of ۱۴ towers and half-tower built with tall gateways which are built with concern to the late Safavid era. During the Kajar period with increase in population, the outer wall was added to the Citadel. Baths, government stable, collection of governor's seat, provision storage, chief house and private place are index element located in the central nucleus of the Citadel.

Aqueducts are used to supply water to Shahrashb residents. In emergencies, well excavation provides the required water to the residents. The pattern of many houses of Citadel is in four platform shape and the material used to build them are sun-dried bricks, mud and conglomerate stones which are found in the natural bed of Abarkouh. Bricks are used in the construction of the collection of governor's seat and these structures according to central courtyard and the rich ornamentation are distinct from other Citadel structures.

What is discussed in this paper as the aim of the present study is to introduce the structures and answer to the following question: What are the architectural features of Shahrashb Citadel? Therefore, an attempt is made as a descriptive – analytic method and using library and field study to gather extensive information about this structure; such as spatial interactions, manner of water supply, provision storage, materials used, building ornamentation and defense elements of the Citadel. The reason to select Shahrashb Citadel is to study and research its active parts and the household living within them, which distinguishes the accurate understanding and original manner of living and the performance of architectural spaces of Citadel plains.

**Keyword:** Shahrashb Citadel, Abarkouh, stability, most biological nucleus