

# Architectural Photography

**Raheleh ZomorodiNia**

RahelehZomorodiNia@Caroun.com

2006

Sad-abad is in the neighborhood of Golab Dare from the east, Velenjak from the west and Tajrish from the south. The high stature of Alborz Mountain rises from the north. The kings of the Qajar era were dwelling here and stabilized themselves in this place at the summer times. After coup-d'etat of the year of 1920, this area extended to these districts: Shah Mahale, Bagh Mahale, Jafar-abad, Ghasem-abad, Ali Khan hill and Sad-abad and then allocated to the summer residence of Reza Khan (from the Pahlavi dynasty). Some palaces and villas for various occasions and necessities built beside the old aspen trees and cypress trees, distanced of remained Qajar constructions with a ochre covers of exhausted bricks. The numbers of these buildings reached to 18 during those years that each of them had built in a distinctive architectural style.

Human being always see his past, during history with respect, and trying towards future. He always study the past... I was in these thoughts that involuntary I saw the ambiguous pictures in my mind, in which some groups of wandering people traveling in opened fields of history. The lands covered by darkness... and I felt sorrow in myself. The sorrow, which connect all the people of the history!

What the old architects created a day here and what the kings, who intended to establish these palaces and buildings! All of them died, and now I stand here thinking about it. What I can do is to record their works. Hope I have been a good company in recording the history, architecture and my country heritage, not only in the intention of the kings.

If I want to explain about my photographs on Sa'ad Abad Palace, I have to illustrate my equipment first:

I used a medium format camera, Hasselblad with flex body that allows us the tilt and shift movement (this movement is used to control distorting the perspective). This ability is essential in architectural photography, though in medium format camera it is not complete. In most photographs, I used 40 mm lens for its wider view and sometimes 80 mm lens for normal views. Buildings are wide, so for photographing this subject, wide lens is needed. It is necessary to keep the vertical lines of building, so the flex body applied. The garden of Sad-abad is so beautiful, so it was tempting for me to take photo the building from the out door point of view in all season. The appropriate light for northern, southern, western and eastern facades of building are different in every season, so I tried to capture the best light. In my opinion the appropriate light for recording the texture of the north facade of building is in the sunrise. Southern facade has suit light for all season and most of the time

In the time of sunrise and sunset an inclined light, gleam on the buildings and if an obstacle does not make shadow, the light is nice for photography. Morning time has a good light for photography. In the autumn and spring, because of the clouds in the sky, nice views are created. So, I took photos during the periods. The best light for low contrast is the sunset time; the reddish sky makes the picture attractive. Of course, at this time it is needed to light metering for both natural and artificial lights. Because of long exposure photography at the time of sunset, using a tripod is necessary. I used a tripod with 2.5 meter high and in some cases I mounted from ladder for seeing the viewfinder. To obtain sharper pictures, I set the aperture 32 for 40mm lens and 22 for 80mm lens. Also this setting creates stars in some view, which in lamps exist. For out door photography of the palaces, I used Fuji Velvia color slide, Kodak VS special for daylight and for indoor photography I applied Tungsten slide