

Cultural Landscape Values of Antalya From Historical and Cultural Perspectives

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Introduction

Landscape is defined as a pictorial representation of a section of the earth surface. Landscape is cultural and natural qualities of an area. According to European Landscape Convention 'Landscape' is an area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors (Council of Europe, 2000).

Coleman (2003) remarked that cultures and landscape are interdependent, in a sense, culture has taken root from landscape, shaping our beliefs and values and providing resources to human livings. Hereby, culture, from the Latin "*cultura*" stemming from "*colere*" means to cultivate, take care and conserve (Naveh 1995). In linguistic terms culture is defined as "the sum of all physical, traditional and moral values created in the process of historical and social evolution

Cultural distinctions that shape the territories to a greater extend play a crucial role in the landscape identity. The term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment. According to International Council on Monuments and Sites that Cultural Landscapes are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time (ICOMOS, 2009). Cultural landscapes represent the "combined works of nature and of man".

Cultural landscapes have become recognized as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity. Therefore, there is a clear need on how to deal with historical landscapes, urban landscapes or rural landscapes by means of cultural heritage.

In this paper cultural landscape values of Antalya will be evaluated in an order of historical landscapes, urban landscapes, rural landscapes, agricultural landscapes and industrial landscapes including tourism.

Cultural Landscape Values of Antalya

Inhabited since the very early times, Antalya holds higher antiquity and rich cultural diversity from prehistoric times to Romans, Seljuks, Ottomans and to our modern times. Archaeological footprints, ancient towns, coastal settlements, agricultural areas of citrus, olive, banana cultivation are some examples of the Mediterranean cultural landscapes in Antalya where major economic activities that shape nature of the territory are tourism and agriculture. Combination of tourism, agriculture and urbanism is usually interesting, but also contradictory in the rural part of the region.

* The content of this education material is based on the article;

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Historical Landscapes

Due to its accessible location, coastal position, natural characteristic, fertile soils, rich natural forests and mild climate, Antalya has been home to many civilisations since the prehistoric times. A historical chronology is given in the Table 1 whereby four main time series starting from ancient times will be indicated.

Table 1. Historical Chronology of Antalya Province with Regard to Cultural Assets (adjusted from Mansel, 1967; Güçlü, 1997; Antalya Valiligi, 2000; Antalya Valiligi, 2006)

Period	Occupation	Important Cultural Assets
..... BC	Very early human footprints “Homo Neandertshalis”	Karain and Beldibi Caves, stone tombs
Before 700 BC	Native Anatolians	Side
700 BC	Arrival of Greeks
547-460 BC	Persian rule
336-301 BC	Greeks	Klebessos, Lyrbotae,
180-65 BC	Pamphylia	Aspendos, Perge
65 BC- 200AD	Romans	Hadrian Gate, Hıdırlık Tower,
300 AD	Recognition of Christianity	Side, bishopric centre
395 AD	Byzantine	Santa Claus,
1206-1390 AD	Seljuks	Old Town, Yivli Minaret,
1390-1923	Ottomans	Alanya Castle, Old Town
1923 onwards	Republic of Turkey	Modern landscapes

Landscapes from Ancient Period

The ancient period in Antalya starts in 150 BC when the Pergamon king Attalos II found the city around 159-138 BC. Named after its founder, Antalya was named Attelia, Satalia or Adalya (Güner, 1967; Antalya Belediyesi, 1990; Güçlü, 1997; Yılmaz, 2002).

Due to location advantages, Antalya was a useful harbour in ancient Pamphylia “*land of all tribes*”. The city was taken by Persians in the 6th century BC and broken down by Great the Alexander and had its most brilliant times between the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC. One distinct footprint is the Hadrian Gate, symbol of Antalya, built for welcoming emperor Hadrianus. Today, major ancient cities regarded as cultural heritage in Antalya are Xanthos, Patara, Antiphellos, Kyaneai, Trysa, Simena, Arykanda, Lymra, Myra, Olympos, Phaselis, Olbia, Magydos, Perge, Sillyum, Aspendos, Selge, Side and some others.

Landscapes from Seljuks Period

Owing to its commercial value, Antalya was invaded by Arabs, Rhodian and Venetians since the 8th century and taken over by Seljuk Turks in 1207. Between 12th and 13th centuries, Antalya was a trade and commerce centre and a bridge for moving goods, mines and materials from the West to India, Egypt and Syria. At that time, Antalya became very prosperous by merchant shipping around the Mediterranean. It was the centre of administration and culture during Seljuks with many cultural buildings; typically stone carved facades, while the province was connected to central Anatolia and Black Sea by caravanserais.

Landscapes from Ottoman Period

Antalya had become the Ottoman territory in 1390. All the social monuments were renovated and new ones were built. In 15th and 16th centuries, Antalya city started to enlarge towards the north maintaining its commercial value. Around 15th century, a new challenge was put forward in the architectural style of the city while buildings from Seljuks were functionally reconstructed and integrated into the urban texture.

Urban Landscapes

Today, Antalya is one of the most rapidly growing provinces of Turkey with an annual population increase of 4,4 % and 1.720.000 people. It is also tourism capital of the country since 1980s and experiencing the urbanisation phenomenon induced by tourism. Second house developments and immigration from other parts of the country for employment is another crucial factor in urban development. Recently emigrants from north and central Europe have become another fact further building developments in rural areas.

Rural Landscapes

Rural landscapes are usually blended with village form settlements, orchards and gardens surrounded by natural forests. There are 545 villages with a population of 733.421 people around Antalya. Remote villages are quite rural, but the villages located along the coast are under rapid transformation from rural into urban face due to tourism developments. The phase of change in rural landscapes is usually twofold. The first phase includes the conversion of natural forests around the villages into agricultural land. The second phase is the tourism-driven urban developments on agricultural lands.

Agricultural Landscapes

Agriculture is the second major economic activity in Antalya after tourism. Citrus, vegetable, olive, pomegranate, grape and cut flower are major agricultural products. Antalya is the leading producer of greenhouse vegetable crops, which was first started by the 1940s. Low taxed credits given by the Agricultural Ministry for the improvement of vegetable production by the 1980s speeded up greenhouse developments and, consequently, such agricultural landscapes. Today 37 % of greenhouse production of Turkey comes from Antalya region (Tarım ve Köyişleri Bakanlığı, 2005).

Industrial Landscapes

The first industrial development in Antalya was started with the foundation of 3 main factories of textile, electricity and ferrochrome by 1950s (Antalya Valiligi, 2006). Although there are industrial infrastructures such as harbour, industrial zone, Antalya region has rather gone towards tourism which is considered as white industry since 1980s. Basic industrial activities as main drivers of industrial landscapes in the region can be lined up as mining and material extraction, hydroelectricity and tourism in particular.

Tourism: Tourism is the main economic activity in Antalya known as the tourism capital of Turkey. There are more than 1000 accommodations with over 300.000 bed capacity and around 10 million visitors per year (Antalya Kültür ve Turizm İl Müdürlüğü, 2010). Recently large number of new tourism development areas is dedicated by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture to increase tourism income and to extend tourism activities to the whole year.

Mining, Material Extraction: Surface mining have more destructive impact on natural environment creating hard landscapes. Material extraction for construction works is an extensive activity in and around Antalya with operation licences of 5.492 (Antalya İl Özel İdaresi, 2007).

Hydroelectricity: Hydroelectricity power plants influence natural rural landscapes. There are 5 hydroelectric power plants in Antalya region with the capacity of 4288,3 Gwh/year (Antalya Valiligi, 2006).

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