

Muhallah Bazi” Problems of Shah Jamal Katchi Abadi

“Muhallah bazi” is an approach to urban development. Kamil Khan Mumtaz is popularizing this approach. This term refers to the high density neighborhood. The approach urges for understanding people’s point of view, needs and demands to provide a kind of solution that can eradicate their problems. It also means helping people in using their spaces more wisely and do their things through a proper planning by asking some planner or architect but using their own resources.

This forum was another effort of PURC to solve problems of community by involving citizens included academia. The speaker was a student of National College of Arts having specialized degree in Architecture. He selected area of Shah Jamal Katchi Abadi situated near Ferozpure Road and Shah Jamal’s Shrine for his final thesis. The selected low income settlement is very old and has its history. He explained following problems of the Shah Jamal Katchi Abadi.

- There are also low density areas with high density areas.
- Commercial areas are situated in residential areas.
- There is no public space for community.
- Living conditions are not according to standards. There are small multi-story buildings with rare ventilation.
- Water sources are contaminated.
- There is no school for girls in surroundings.

After analyzing the problems, Mr. Nauman also purposed solution. In his opinion, the whole area can be elevated through proper planning which will give a lot of spaces on ground floor to create public spaces, parking and play areas. He said that this is the only way to adjust school dispensary and community centers in dense areas. Throughout his discussion, he emphasized on proper planning and to involve good architects for its severe solutions in order to upgrade deprived areas in the city. This Forum helped PURC understand that alternative and low-cost solutions are very important if we want to address the issues and problems in deprived or high density areas so we need to adopt this model as per condition because it is very hard to use the space for commercial, communal, services and recreation purpose because most of the densely populated areas are ill planned and has no space for all these things that’s why some new community based architectural solutions are important to solve issues.