

An inspection of the Athletic and Rehabilitative Center of Foundation of Martyrs and Veterans Affairs, Sari 2015

Khadijeh Rabiei¹, Mehdi Golestanibakht², Mehran Mojtahedzadeh³, Mehrnosh Kosaryan^{4*}

¹ MD, Sari, Iran

Email: mprabie@yahoo.com

² M.A candidate in International Law at Tehran university (Pardis), Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance,
Tehran, Iran. (Wheelchair user)

Email: mg1360p@gmail.com

³ PhD in architecture at the Bauhaus university Weimar

Email: mehran_mojtahedzade@yahoo.com

⁴ Thalassemia Research Center, Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, Sari, Iran

* Corresponding author: Mehrnosh Kosaryan

Email: mekowsarian@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This article assesses the Athletic and Rehabilitative Center of Foundation of Martyrs and Veterans Affairs for the disabled according to international and governmental standards in Sari, Iran. The study focuses on the shortcomings of the design in order to meet the international standards for the wheelchair users. Given the fact that this center is the second existing facility of its kind in the entire province of Mazandaran, it is of particular importance to analyze and evaluate its performance and to see whether it meets its initial goals as a center that would cater to the needs of the disabled people of this region. The article shows that the cultural sport center in question does not meet the international standards.

Keywords: Architectural design, Environmental design, Case study, wheelchair users, Sari

Short title: An inspection of the Athletic and Rehabilitative Center

1. INTRODUCTION

Human beings should have the required condition to enjoy life with the due recreational facilities in order to work and live better. All people have equal rights to utilize facilities in society. Authorities should provide these conditions for all and respect the independence of everyone. The International Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) was a landmark to recognize the demands of the disabled and understand their rights and appreciate their capabilities at international, regional and national levels [1]. One of its important results was the formulation of the World Program of Action (WPA) concerning the disabled persons, adopted by the United Nation general assembly on December 3rd, [2-3]. Because they should not be treated in isolation in the context of normal community services, equalization of opportunities is one of the main aims of the WPA for the achievement of full participation of the disabled persons in all aspects of social and economic life [3]. The Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons (General Assembly resolution 3447) and the International Covenants on Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200), along with the Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons (General Assembly resolution 2856) in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights