

Planning In Heritage Conservation Formal And Functional Regions

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FORMAL AND FUNCTIONAL REGIONS

Formal region can be defined as a region that has a distinct identity in terms of one or more characteristics and the region is sustaining majorly on the basis of its own resources. The level of dependency on other regions will be not significant in formal regions. The identity factors of formal regions may be of geographical, economy, culture,

tradition, occupation etc.

Functional regions are the ones that are interdependent on other regions to sustain. There will be number of factors that a functional region depends on. For example, region A will be the nodal center for markets, trade, business, etc and it will be dependent on region B, C, D for various resources. In turn, Region B, C, D will be dependent on region A for economy, Administration etc. So the interdependency always leads to the growth of the main functional zone as well as secondary functional zones.

KODAGU, CHIKAMAGALUR AND MANGALURU IN KARNATAKA-A CASE EXAMPLE OF HARMONIOUS RELATION OF FORMAL AND FUNCTIONAL REGIONS

Kodagu (formerly known as Coorg) is an administrative district in Karnataka. Before 1956, It was separately administered called as Coorg state. Later it got merged to the state of Mysore. Kodava people were basically agriculturists living there from centuries. Even today, coffee cultivation is the major occupation of the people in Coorg. They have a reputation of being warrior people and K.M Cariappa from Coorg was the first commander in chief of Indian army. Indian army has a separate regiment called "Coorg Regiment" which describes the patriotism and warrior nature of the people in the region.

Chikamagalur was the first place in India to cultivate coffee. The Western Ghats which is a part of Chikamagalur district is the source of two

rivers Tunga and Bhadra. This is the region where Hoysala rulers started to rule and spent their early days. Agriculture Is the main source of income for the people. Recent advancement in terms of infrastructure has led to the economy generation in terms of tourism.

Coorg and Chikamagalur are the two districts in the state of Karnataka which is famous

for coffee plantations. Both the districts are the leading coffee production regions in the country. Bababudangiri, named after saint Baba Budan illegally bought coffee beans from Yemen in Saudi Arabia and started coffee culture in India in 1670 AD. Since then, the natural geographical features of these two regions have supported the growth of coffee to the maximum quantum. Two main types like Robusta and Arabica coffee is produced in these regions. The coffee grown in these regions are better in quality which grows in shade rather than coffee which grows in open sunlight.

People of both regions are majorly dependent on economy generated through coffee trading. Coffee beans extracted will be processed to powder which will be circulated throughout the country. Karnataka accounts for about 71% of total production of coffee in the country. Over 80% of coffee produced in the country is being exported. Another feature which is common between these two places are Western Ghats which provide a very fertile land for the cultivation of coffee and presence of dense forest complements the growth of coffee which requires shade and huge amount of water resource to grow.

Apart from coffee production, these places are also well known tourist destinations. With full of green belt surrounding the regions, Tourist activities is one more economy generating factor for two places. These two regions can be termed as Formal regions because these places share many similar features which gives a distinct identity. Though these places has its own identity, it is

dependent on districts like Hassan which is another formal region which is known for the milk production and agriculture. Mysore acts as the major source for these two places in terms of vegetable supply, newspapers, other consumables etc. Administration dependency is on Bengaluru, the Capital city.

One notable city which Coorg and Chikamagalur depends on for the export and trade of coffee in the city of Mangaluru which is predominantly a functional region. Mangaluru harbor is the major port for dealing sea trade in Karnataka. Coffee produced in Coorg and Chikamagalur is exported to other countries from Mangaluru. Mangaluru is the major place where all the major export and import business happens in Karnataka.

Mangaluru can be termed as functional region because the city is interdependent on various factors from other places in Karnataka through which the city functions. Iron ore was once produced in Kudremukh region was exported to other countries through Mangaluru. Mangaluru was also one of the major place apart from Chennai and Vizag which exported the gold which was produced in Kolar gold fields. Mangaluru depends on various resources from other regions for its economy generation. For example, Mangaluru is one of the major educational center in Karnataka. Students from all over the state are getting educated which means that many regions are dependent on education on Mangaluru and students from various regions are the resources for the city to develop as educational center. Coorg and Chikamagalur primarily depends on Mangaluru for petroleum products which gets imported. There is a major interdependency of Bengaluru and Mangaluru in terms of industries and trade. Majority of imported resources are first transported to capital city which has many industries and then transported to all parts of the state.

But Mangaluru has its own identity in terms of fishing and tourism which exist because of the Arabian Sea coast. The majority people are Tulu language speaking people and hence Mangaluru is called as "Tulunadu". The city also has Nethravathiriver which is one of very few rivers in Karnataka which flows west. The culture and tradition in terms of language and food is very unique in the region. "BhoothaAradhane" is one of the very famous worship practice of Mangaluru. Very vibrant religious and cultural practice exist in the region of Mangaluru which gives its own identity as a region which in turn can be called as formal region also due to the existence of its own identity and culture.

Geographically, Mangaluru is placed exactly in between the Western Ghats of Coorg and Chikamagalur and hassan regions. Rainfall in Coorg and Chikmagalur is one of the heaviest in the state of Karnataka and Mangaluru gets rainfall to relatively higher because of thick green belt and mountain ranges of Coorg and Chikmagalur. Transportation to other parts of Karnataka Majorly happens through these places from Mangaluru. Hence Coorg, Chikamagalur can be termed as Formal regions considering various aspects of the regions. The Region of Mangaluru can be termed both as Formal and Functional regions due to the diverse activities and identities of the city. These three regions maintains the very harmonious relations in terms of Trade, economy, ecology, education etc which binds these three regions.

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS (KGF) AND SHIVANASAMUDRA IN KARNATAKA-A CASE EXAMPLE OF DECAY OF FORMAL REGION AND CONTINUITY OF FUNCTIONAL REGION

Kolar gold fields(KGF) is a town in Kolar district of Karnataka which was famous for gold production in the country in the early 19th century. The gold fields of Kolar had produced tonnes of gold which was exported to other countries. The history of Kolar is much older than Bengaluru as it was under Cholas in 2nd century AD. KGF was the first city in India to get the Hydroelectric power to support gold extraction operations in 1905.

Shivanasamudra is a small town in Chamarajnagar district in Karnataka which is famous for two waterfalls of river Kaveri "Gaganachukki and Bharachukki". This region got the first ever hydroelectric power generation station in India in 1902. The power generation station was exactly set up to power the operations of KGF and started operations in 1905. The power station is still active to the present day.

KGF was the formal region since it had a very distinct identity as a gold city of India. This region had all the amenities such as markets, education centers, infrastructure such as train service etc since British generals used to monitor the KGF pre- Independence. As the gold trade gained acceleration, many people from regions of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra got their jobs and settled in the region. For almost a century, the primary occupation and economy generation was the gold extraction for the people of this region. The gold fields got Shutdown in 2001 due to low production of gold. Eventually people started migrating to the city of Kolar and Bengaluru in search of job opportunity which led to

the decay of the once formal region with a very distinct identity. Today, very few people reside in KGF and it has been maintained by government.

Shivanasamudra on other hand was the functional region which was dependent on KGF for its existence at the time it was established. Actually the birth of the city and its identity was because of presence of KGF. Later this place supplied electricity for majority parts of Bengaluru and Mysore. The main feature of this place was the existence of waterfalls and natural terrain and its proximity to Kolar which sparked the development of Hydel power station. Even today this place acts as a functional region due to its dependency on Mandya and Mysore cities for the basic amenities.

But, in this case we can clearly understand the Existence of Formal and Functional regions in terms of their identity. Formal regions may start decaying once with the decline of its identity. But the functional regions, in majority of the cases depends on formal regions for its development, will not decay once established due to its nature of interdependency factor. Eventually functional regions creates the dependency of other regions on it and marks its existence. But, formal regions surviving on few distinct identity will lose its mark once the identity is lost. It might be the case of economy decline, Draught, natural calamities etc which effects the formal regions. Hence we can get a clear idea about the characters of Formal and functional regions and its nature of existence.

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