A Study on the Role of Park as Urban Regeneration in Korea and its Direction and Strategy for Success

Hosung Won *1 and Youngho Yeo 2

1 Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, Dong-Eui University, South Korea
2 PH-D Course, Department of Architecture, Korea University, South Korea

Abstract

It is the urban regeneration craze. In recent years, urban regeneration has become one of the topics of our country. Seoul, as well as municipalities, have been desperate to regenerate the city and spend much of its budget on urban regeneration. However, most urban regeneration projects in Korea are introducing indiscreet cases of urban regeneration in the western world. But there is something that is overlooked. Indeed, for whom should urban regeneration be done? Urban regeneration is for local residents. In other words, the subject of urban regeneration must be a local resident. However, it seems that the current situation is not local residents but local governments based on budget and performance. This is because it applies overseas cases that do not fit the region. Since the subject of urban regeneration is a local resident, the unique culture of the region, geographical environment, local history and identity should be considered. That is, in other words, the method of urban regeneration and program setting must be changed for each region. Urban regeneration, in particular, must build a strategy for the region. In other words, the method of city regeneration should be derived through the strategy by grounds and standards. Currently, municipalities are mainly planning parks as an element of urban regeneration. However, it is disappointed that there are more failed cases than successful cases. If people do not find it, it is hard to say that they have succeeded. The purpose of this study is to find out the direction and strategy for the success of park in urban regeneration in Korea. This study adopted a case study method and collected data through case studies for case study. The purpose of this study is to derive the direction and strategy for the park’s success in urban regeneration of Korea based on stimulation theory. In the future, it will focus on examples of successful parks in urban regeneration in Korea and present basic directions and strategies for urban regeneration in Korea. The city constantly changes. It meets every moment through natural selection and adaptation like organism. Cities are disappearing and prospering after repeated growth, decline and regeneration after birth. In order to get sustainable growth, it depends on the implementation of urban regeneration to plan and implement desirable urban change. Currently, Korea tries to solve all the cases of successful urban revitalization abroad. But they are just one of the urban renewal options. The paradigm that emerged according to the demands of each age is determined according to the acceptance and execution of the demands of the times. Now, the means and methods for realizing regeneration in each region should be very diverse, and the strategy of urban regeneration in Korea should be considered. For example, the effects of urban parks and suburban parks are clearly different and different. In other words, it is not appropriate to plan the park as a method of regeneration anywhere.

Keywords: Park, Urban Regeneration, Stimulus Theory, Urban Structure, Strategy of Urban Regeneration

* Contact Author: Hosung Won, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, Dong-Eui University
176, Eomgwang-ro, Busanjin-gu, Busan, Republic of Korea
Tel: +82-51-890-2810 Fax: +82-505-182-6886
e-mail: dnjsthdnjs@hanmail.net
1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Purpose
It is the urban regeneration craze. Seoul and municipalities have recently been interested in urban regeneration projects. In recent years, urban regeneration has become one of the hot topics in South Korea. Municipalities, as well as Seoul, have become obsessed with urban regeneration. Much of the budget is devoted to urban regeneration. But there is something that is overlooked. Indeed, for whom is the urban regeneration to be done? Urban regeneration is for local residents. In other words, the subject of urban regeneration must be a local resident. However, it seems that the current situation is not local residents but municipalities based on budget and performance. This is because most urban regeneration projects in South Korea are introducing indiscreet cases of urban regeneration in the western world.

Since the subject of urban regeneration is a local resident, the unique culture of the region, geographical environment, local history and identity should be considered. That is, in other words, the method of urban regeneration and program setting must be changed for each region.

Urban regeneration must build a strategy for the region. In other words, the method of urban regeneration should be derived through the strategy that meets the basis and standards.

1.2 Scope and Method of Research
The purpose of this study is to analyze the planning factors necessary for successful urban regeneration. These factors include sustainability, local identity and placeness, urban stimulation & human-scale and publicness. These factors will be covered in the future, focusing on the successful urban regeneration in South Korea. The purpose of this study is to suggest the plan elements, basic directions and strategies of urban regeneration. In this study, several case studies were adopted, and for case studies, data were collected through literature review.

2 Theoretical Considerations and Background

2.1 The Definition of Urban Regeneration
Urban regeneration is the regeneration of urban centers that have declined due to changes in the industrial structure and expansion of new cities and new urban centers. And then restore the urban competitiveness and to introduce or create new functions. Ultimately it means re-activation or revival of economic and socio-cultural, physical and environmental aspects.

The city constantly changes. It meets every moment through natural selection and adaptation like organism. The city is disappearing and prospering after repeated growth, decline and regeneration after birth. In order to keep sustainable growth, it is important to implement urban regeneration to plan and implement desirable urban change.

3. Selection and Consideration of Planning Elements of Urban Regeneration of South Korea

3.1 Sustainability
If people do not find it in the urban regeneration plan, the plan is a wrong project. This is because the area declines because people do not find it. On the other hand, a lot of people look for well-planned urban regeneration plans. The gathering of many people means that there is a place identity. And it means that the area will develop because it can cause people's economic activity. In other words, it can be the beginning of sustainable growth. Figure 1 shows no users, while Figure 2 shows many users. A large number of users means that the local commercial area is revived by economic activities. That is, the area is activated. In other words, it can be beginning of sustainable growth.
3.2 Local Identity and Placeness

Identity refers to the tendency of individuals or groups in the human environment to have a true identity. For example, 'A city is like a city' means local identity.

When this identity is combined with the continuity of the temporal flow along with the identity of the spatial reality and the human interaction, it shows a certain personality and symbolism. It is a concept of universal socio-cultural character, which is called placeness. In other words, the place contains the intangible space, the historical life, the memory, and the identity of the area. Regenerating the placeness and injecting the placeness can be said to be recovery of placeness and become the standard of urban regeneration.

In Fig. 3, Seonyudo Park was recycled as an eco-friendly city park with functions such as related exhibition, publicity, education, and resting at the water purification plant in 2004. Especially, the concept of utilizing the memories and traces of the place emphasized the meaning of the continuity of time by planning the trace of existing facilities and new materials coexistence.

3.3 Urban Stimulation and Human-Scale

In general, there are overstimulation in the city center because artificialities are excessive compared to nature. On the other hand, the local small towns have under-stimulation because of lack of artificialities compared with nature. If stimulation is excessive, humans will find nature because they feel uncomfortable. And if you do not have stimulation, you lose interest and you want to satisfy the stimulus. That is, humans always try to pursue Optimal Level of Stimulation (OLS).
The functions of Figure 4 and Figure 5 are parks for residents. However, as shown in the picture, the number of users is comparable. Figure 4 is located in Jeju. Although Jeju is not a city with many stimulation, it is not appropriate to add the function of nature. On the other hand, Figure 5 is located in Seoul. Because Seoul is a city with a lot of stimulation, parks with natural functions can be well utilized.

![Fig.4. Jeju IUCN Memorial Park](image1)
![Fig.5. Seoul Forest](image2)

In many municipalities, urban regeneration plans parks, squares, and cultural facilities. For example, the effects of urban parks and suburban parks are clearly different and different. In other words, it is not appropriate to plan the park as a method of recycling anywhere.

3.4 Publicness

'Publicness' is closely related to 'open' in modern English. It implies the character of the 'public', which means that everyone is visible and accessible and indicate areas of public life and interest and it means to aim for public value as distinguishing from private interest.

As mentioned at the beginning, the subject of urban regeneration is the local residents. That is, urban regeneration should have publicness. And this should be through a program of public character.

![Fig.6. Cheonggye Waterside Park](image3)
![Fig.7. Culture Station Seoul 284](image4)

The Cheonggye Waterside Park in Figure 6 is a restoration project for the Cheonggyecheon area, which was initiated by the Seoul Metropolitan Government from 2003 to 2005 to restore Seoul's history, culture and environment and to promote balanced development between Gangnam and Gangbuk. This regeneration project will (1) eliminate the safety problems of the Cheonggye high cost due to aging, and (2) provide safety...
and clean environment for the citizens by creating environmentally friendly city space that is natural and human-oriented, and (3) And restoration of the cultural heritage of the Cheonggyecheon area such as Gwanggyo, and 4 development of the Cheonggyecheon area.

Culture Station Seoul 284 of Figure 7 is a place where various cultural arts are created and exchanged after restoring the old Seoul Station which was the main stage of modern Korean history and the gateway of traffic exchanges. As a place to connect culture and citizens together, it was a regeneration project to create a space where all citizens can communicate and enjoy each other, a space where past and present coexist and become the base of cultural production for the future. It is a cultural center connected with the railway network, which is a production base of various living culture, and it is composed of programs such as alternative and experimental exhibitions, performances, lectures, and researches and provide various services to the citizens.

Cheonggye Waterside Park and Culture Station Seoul 284 is an open space that provides a variety of services to local residents and is a sample of urban regeneration projects with public function.

4. Conclusion

Recently, there have been many problems in Mullae-dong Art Village. Mullae-dong Art Village was formerly a place where iron factories were located, but as the functions declined, it was regenerated as an art village. However, existing factories and art centers are having an uncomfortable symbiosis. In fact, this is a place where benchmarking has become a lot like the regeneration of Soho Street in New York from the fact that the existing factory site tried to regenerate it as an art village. However, the difference is that the function of the factory is completely lost and then it is regenerated as an art village, and the arts village of Mullae-dong is that the factory and art workshop coexist. We cannot help but point to the introduction of indiscreet overseas cases here. No matter how successful overseas cases should be applied to our reality.

Moreover, as mentioned earlier in this paper, for successful urban regeneration in South Korea, planning elements such as sustainability, local identity, placeness, urban stimulation & human-scale and publicness should be considered in the area where regeneration is to be practiced.

At present, South Korea tries to resolve all the cases of successful urban regeneration abroad. But they are just one of the urban regeneration options. The paradigm that emerged according to the demands of each age is determined according to the acceptance and execution of the demands of the times. Now, the means and methods for realizing regeneration in each region should be very diverse. And we should consider the strategy of urban regeneration in South Korea.

References