**Bazaars and Caravanserai - possible sources of inspiration for modern buildings in Dobrogea**

însurățelu nicoleta

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**Abstract** The issue of this work refers to the concept of promoting historical architectural values in the contemporary urban texture of Dobrogea by applying in the concept of modern buildings some valuable elements that constituted, at a given moment, the architectural characteristic of the Dobrogea area. Replication/inspiration from the beautiful and elegant forms is a proactive conservation of heritage. The construction of new buildings, neighborhoods, cities or even entire areas can be inspired by the forms of the old ones and adapted to the modernity and to the functional needs of our days. In the Ottoman times trade was conducted in bazaars and travelers found shelter in inns and caravanserais. A bazaar was a building or complex of buildings intended for commerce, real temples of the commerce, comparable in size, functionality and commercial concept to today's malls. Also in the Ottoman times a karavanserai = palace for caravans, was a complex of medieval buildings consisting of rest rooms, dining area, kitchen, storehouses, stables, smithy, farriers and other workshops, and most importantly, sources of drinking water . In the Ottoman Dobrogea, many caravanserai were large, sometimes even one storey. Bazaars and caravanserai were characterized by horizontal development and individual entrances. This type of building can be a true source of inspiration for the functional organization of modern buildings. The recent pandemic situation has shown the functional efficiency of flag hospitals, residential and accommodation units, kindergartens, schools, shops, markets, etc. with individual entrance. Even if horizontal development is not typical of buildings in modern cities, we must not forget that people feel more comfortable in an individual living/working/recreational space. Thus, there is a need to find solutions that combine the requirements of vertical urban development with the advantages of horizontal development.

**Keywords:** urban history, Dobrogen buildings, heritage, urban texture, architectural values, inspiration, replication

