

## Cultural Resilience Management and its factors to Effect on Natural Disasters and Accidents: A Review of the Literature

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**Abstract:** This article aims to present and elucidate the influential factors in the management of cultural resilience towards natural disasters and accidents in Iranian cities through a literature review. The research methodology employed in this study is qualitative, with a descriptive objective. It serves as a compilation of concepts and theories pertaining to cultural resilience and relevant research literature. Furthermore, the research has practical implications and outcomes. The findings indicate that the concept of resilience, in terms of developing capacities that enable a return to pre-disaster conditions, is closely linked to the cultural resilience approach. This approach encompasses various cultural factors, including the environmental dimension, which involves elements such as environmental culture, supportive social relationships, participation in community activities, and the human dimension, which encompasses functional achievements, vicarious experiences, verbal persuasion, and physiological states. The results demonstrate that given the susceptibility of Iranian cities to accidents based on historical experiences and the growing urban population, it would be a prudent measure to identify the cultural indicators specific to each province in order to effectively manage cultural resilience in the face of natural disasters and accidents. This approach is expected to contribute to the mitigation of both financial and non-financial consequences.

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**Keywords:** Resilience, Natural disasters and accidents, Urban resilience, Cultural resilience management.

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### Introduction

In contrast to early man who sought stability solely through physical tools, contemporary man has developed intricate psychological functions to confront various challenges. The modern world presents a multitude of tensions, ranging from natural disasters to the repercussions of war and economic issues (Cutter et al, 2008). It is important to recognize that vulnerability should not be seen as a weakness. Additionally, it is crucial to understand that no one is completely immune to challenges, but individuals can possess the capacity to bounce back from them. In simpler terms, resilience refers to a person's overall ability to maintain a state of physical, psychological, and spiritual equilibrium when confronted with risky circumstances (Connor and Davidson, 2003). Moreover, it encompasses the notion of positive adjustment in the face of unfavorable conditions (Wernner and Smith, 2001). Conversely, the exponential expansion of urban areas and the swift rise in the global urban populace have resulted in a surge in the world's population, surpassing 6 billion individuals (Croce and Vettorato, 2021). This unregulated and rapid pace of population growth has transformed urbanization into one of the most intricate human endeavors, perpetually encountering numerous hazards (Nowrozi et al., 2019). To put it differently, cities, despite being hubs of diverse economic and social activities, are highly susceptible to natural hazards (Sasanpour et al., 2016). Various threats such as climate change, disease outbreaks, environmental catastrophes, and natural disasters have prompted an increasing focus on the concept of

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resilience within urban areas (World Bank, 2019). Failure to acknowledge and adequately prepare for these challenges can result in irreparable damages across multiple aspects of human life, encompassing residential, social, economic, environmental, and psychological domains, particularly in urban settings (O'Brien et al., 2004). The occurrence of various crises, disasters, and environmental accidents in urban areas, which are characterized by their unpredictability, can lead to significant detrimental effects on the sustainable development of human societies. As a result, addressing these challenges has become imperative, prompting the need to prioritize the development of resilient cities (Mirza ali et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019). In the span of a decade (2010-2020), the United Nations report on occurrences reveals a staggering toll of over 1.1 million lives lost and a financial burden exceeding 138 billion dollars due to natural calamities. Furthermore, it is worth noting that the Rudbar earthquake in 1990 alone resulted in damages amounting to 8 billion dollars. Interestingly, during that very year, Iran's revenue from oil stood at approximately 12 billion dollars (UNISDR, 2013). Given this context, it becomes evident that the majority of urban settlements face the risk of experiencing tensions and future shocks due to climate change, energy shortages, and global population growth (Faraji et al., 2019). These factors have already brought about various transformations. Notably, there has been a significant shift in the perception of risks, whereby the prevailing perspective has transitioned from solely focusing on reducing "vulnerability" to emphasizing the enhancement of "resilience." This concept pertains to an individual's capacity to maintain normal psychological and emotional well-being during and after traumatic events (Adams et al., 2021), as opposed to merely adapting to changes (Cutter et al., 2008). In the interim, it is crucial to elucidate the correlation between resilience and natural calamities, as it sheds light on how various aspects of societies such as social, cultural, economic, institutional, political, and executive capacities are impacted. Understanding the multifaceted nature of resilience is of utmost significance (Bagheri Maragheh et al., 2022). A resilient system in urban knowledge, crisis management, and the lives of individuals not only possesses the ability to absorb disruptions (Yazdi, 2016), but also has the potential to capitalize on change, thereby creating opportunities for development, innovation, and advancement. Furthermore, it is imperative for such a system to exist (Saeidi and Darabi, 2013).

Resilience, as a potent concept, extends its influence beyond the realms of natural and social sciences, progressively becoming a fundamental principle guiding policy formulation in governance (Seeliger and Turok, 2013; Ingalls and Stedman, 2016). In light of this matter, it is crucial to recognize, enhance, and direct the utilization of cultural attributes inherent in diverse societies and nations when confronting both natural and human-induced crises. Adopting a managerial perspective, these capacities should be identified, fortified, and guided to ensure their effective integration into crisis response strategies. By doing so, these capabilities can be efficiently harnessed, coordinated, and ultimately implemented through the formulation of forecasts and scenarios aimed at effectively addressing crises. Throughout history, numerous cultures have demonstrated their ability to adapt and thrive in response to the interactions they have had with their surrounding ecosystems. These interactions have shaped their actions and allowed them to develop effective strategies for resilience against environmental changes. As a result, these cultures have provided valuable models for success in navigating and overcoming challenges. However, the primary ambiguity lies in determining which cultural characteristics should take precedence in this domain. To be more precise, what does it entail to possess knowledge of the traumatic characteristics versus understanding the cultural traits that foster societal resilience in the face of diverse incidents? However, it appears that culture and its various elements and factors can greatly influence the comprehension of accident and disaster consequences, as well as the management of psychological aftermath. Nevertheless, the values and cultural identity of societies play a crucial role in shaping the collective values, beliefs, and convictions of local, national, and even international human groups. These groups' perceptions and reactions, as highlighted by Masoudi et al. (2023), exhibit significant disparities in terms of risks and encounters, both in historical contexts and contemporary events. Researchers have discovered notable variations in the manifestation of symptoms resulting from stressful events, etc.

## **Theoretical Literature**

### **Accidents and disasters**

In academic institutions, research facilities, administrative bodies, and military establishments, diverse literature is employed to delineate the terms "accidents," "traits," and "disasters," resulting in varying interpretations. This disparity in conceptualization is further compounded by the utilization of different terms such as calamity, crisis, emergency, disaster, accident, and incident by the respective organizations responsible for managing such events. To mitigate this confusion, the definition provided by the Secretariat of the "International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction" (ISDR), an entity affiliated with the United Nations, is regarded as the primary reference for defining accidents, incidents, and disasters in this particular study. According to Shamsuddin (2020), accidents and disasters are characterized by a significant disruption in the operation of a society. These disruptions are a result of the interplay between risks and the specific conditions and attributes of the society in question. Factors such as the extent of exposure, vulnerability, and existing capacities contribute to the severity of the damages and detrimental outcomes experienced, which can affect human beings, capital, and the environment. The World Health Organization acknowledges accidents and incidents as unforeseen or anticipated events that are of significant magnitude, requiring external assistance to effectively respond and handle the situation. This scenario gives rise to a conflict between the available resources and the extent of damage and devastation, resulting in a demand that surpasses the existing capacities within the affected society (Ardalan, Rajaei, & Azin, 2012).

### **Catastrophic event**

Hazards encompass a diverse range of events, including geophysical natural occurrences, man-made technological incidents, and social events resulting from human behavior. It is important to note that the term "natural hazards" specifically refers to natural or geophysical events, as these events become more familiar due to their inherent nature. Natural hazards are characterized by the sudden or imperceptible emergence of phenomena that originate naturally and are inherent to the Earth's characteristics. As a result of their interaction with human settlements and infrastructure, they can cause fatalities, destruction, and both direct and indirect damages. These hazards manifest in various dimensions, as highlighted by Nazmfar and Pashazadeh (2017). There are five distinct subcategories of natural disasters, originating from different sources. Geophysical disasters, such as earthquakes, landslides, and volcanic eruptions, are one subgroup. Another subgroup is meteorological disasters, which include various types of storms. Hydrological disasters, such as floods, form another subgroup. Climatic disasters, such as droughts and spontaneous forest fires, constitute a separate subgroup. Additionally, there are biological disasters, specifically viral disease epidemics. Lastly, extraterrestrial disasters, such as electromagnetic storms, form their own subgroup (Barjali et al., 2017).

### **Disaster management**

As per the United Nations Development and Development Program's definition, disaster management encompasses the formulation of policies, decision-making processes, and implementation strategies aimed at mitigating the detrimental impacts, providing timely responses, undertaking necessary repairs, and facilitating the reconstruction of the adverse aftermath resulting from both natural and human-induced calamities (Hatami et al., 2018). According to the United Nations International Disaster Risk Reduction Secretariat, crisis management encompasses the coordination, strategizing, and implementation of measures aimed at preparing for and responding to disasters. As per this delineation, the primary objective of disaster management is not to avert or eradicate threats entirely, but rather to concentrate on establishing and advocating preparedness initiatives and other schemes that mitigate the detrimental impacts of calamities. Disaster management encompasses a broad spectrum of theoretical concepts and practical measures that extend beyond the time of crisis. It encompasses various dimensions such as policy making, planning, organization, coordination, leadership, employment, and control. These dimensions are applicable before, during, and after the occurrence of disasters, with the aim of preventing their occurrence or minimizing the loss of life, financial resources, environment, and other detrimental consequences they may bring ([www.undrr.org](http://www.undrr.org)). In recent times, there has been a shift in preference towards the term "disaster risk reduction management" instead of "disaster management". This shift is attributed to the fact that the traditional approach in disaster management is reactive in

nature. On the other hand, disaster risk reduction management adopts a proactive approach by implementing a range of measures aimed at mitigating risks associated with disasters or preventing their occurrence altogether. By implementing these measures, society can enhance its resilience and work towards achieving sustainable development (Boton et al., 2006).

### **Etymology of the concept of resilience**

The term "resilience" originates from the Latin word "resilio," which translates to "to retreat suddenly." However, there is still ongoing debate regarding the exact etymology of this word. Some argue that its popularity in the field of ecology emerged after the publication of Halving's seminal work, "Resilience and Sustainability of Ecological Systems," in 1973 (Ramzanzadeh Lesboui and et al 2015). Conversely, others contend that its roots lie in the realm of physics (Ledesma, 2014), where it pertains to the elasticity or flexibility of a material and the ability to bounce back (Kausar et al., 2018). Furthermore, the dictionary definition of resilience aligns with the notions of returnability and elasticity (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023). Resilience, a characteristic that varies among individuals and can be acquired through learning, is a novel aspect in the examination of disaster phenomena, lacking a universally accepted definition (Bujones et al., 2013). Assuming the acceptance of the aforementioned definition, it can be asserted that resilient individuals possess the capacity to recover and endure. They exhibit the capability to withstand and surpass adversities (Hosseinzadeh Delir et al., 2018). Resilience empowers individuals to triumphantly navigate through unfortunate circumstances, enhancing their social, academic, and professional aptitude, even in the face of severe pressures.

### **Terminology of the concept of resilience**

Resilience, as a descriptive term in ecology, was initially introduced by a Canadian ecologist named Holling in the 1970s. Holling is widely recognized as the father of resilience in ecology. Since its introduction, the concept of resilience has gained significant traction and has had a profound impact on various scientific disciplines, including disaster management, psychology, and ecology (Leon and March, 2014). In the field of disasters and hazards, Timerman (1981) was the first to propose the concept of resilience (Maguire and Hagan, 2007). Following the acceptance of Hugo's working framework between 2005 and 2015, the concept of resilience has been extensively utilized (Usamah et al., 2014). According to Hugo, resilience refers to the capacity of a system, society, or affected community to effectively confront risks, by being able to cope, absorb, adapt, and recover within a given timeframe. It serves as an effective approach to safeguard and restore the essential functions and fundamental structures of a society. Resilience, according to some scholars, encompasses the system's capacity to swiftly recuperate from disruptions and alterations, along with the organization's agility in promptly addressing them (Rousseau, 2018). By withstanding external pressures, a resilient system can effectively operate during periods of crisis, ensuring optimal performance (Pishnamaz zadeh et al, 2020). Folk argues that resilience should not be solely understood as a return to the past or a state of balance, but rather as the extent of adaptation and transformation within the current circumstances. It also encompasses the ability to survive and navigate future changes. This perspective is supported by Ranjbar et al. (2021) and Saidi and Zakarian (2021). Carpenter, on the other hand, defines resilience as the capacity of both environmental and social systems to absorb disruptions and subsequently reorganize in order to maintain their functions. This notion is emphasized by (Bastaminia et al. 2016). Ergun and Dewaele further contribute to the understanding of resilience by highlighting its dynamic nature, wherein environmental and personal factors interact with one another (Ergun and Dewaele, 2021). Furthermore, international organizations have also highlighted the concept of resilience in table (1), in addition to the aforementioned items.

*Table(1): The concept of resilience by world organizations ( Ghasemi et al 2018)*

<b>Global Organizations/ Institution</b>	<b>Definition of the Term Resilience</b>
UN-HABITAT	Resilience denotes the capacity of a system to endure and promptly recuperate from various adversities and strains, thereby ensuring the uninterrupted provision of services. <a href="https://www.un.org">https://www.un.org</a>

ICLEI	Version 1: A resilient system, while upholding its fundamental functions, structures, and essence, demonstrates the ability to adjust and advance amidst ongoing transformations, and remains prepared to confront any unforeseen disruptions. The resilience of a structure necessitates the recognition and evaluation of potential risks. Mitigating vulnerability and exposure to risk, enhancing stability, adaptive capacity, and preparedness in unforeseen circumstances constitute the key attributes of resilience. <a href="https://iclei.org">https://iclei.org</a>
UNISDER	The capacity of a system and society to withstand risks, overcome obstacles, adjust, rebound from the consequences of risks promptly and effectively, including preserving and reinstating its fundamental structures and operations through the implementation of risk management. <a href="https://www.unep.org">https://www.unep.org</a>
World Bank	Resilience can be defined as the capacity of individuals, societies, and nations to bounce back from adverse shocks. Simultaneously, it encompasses the capability to sustain optimal performance even in challenging circumstances. <a href="https://www.worldbank.org">https://www.worldbank.org</a>
USAID	Resilience refers to the capacity of individuals, households, communities, nations, and systems to mitigate, adjust, and rebound from unexpected events and pressures, with the aim of diminishing long-term susceptibility and promoting comprehensive development... <a href="https://www.psi.org">https://www.psi.org</a>

Overall, it is evident that resilience is a concept that is defined differently across various disciplines, such as safety engineering and psychology (Moghdisi et al., 2021). However, these definitions share a common thread, which is the notion of "ability" and the capacity to regain stability after experiencing a crisis (Bhara, Danny and Bernard, 2011). In essence, the underlying similarity among all these definitions is that resilience signifies the capability to adapt effectively in the face of challenges and adversities (Hartwig et al., 2020).

### **Morphology of the concept of resilience**

The morphology can be comprehended by examining the concept of resilience, which is delineated through three distinct stages or waves:

The initial phase of resilience research, known as the first wave, primarily focused on discerning the capabilities of individuals. Resilience, as a trait, is characterized by the belief that people possess inherent abilities that enable them to persevere and thrive in spite of challenging circumstances (Keshavarz, 2013). Researchers have also explored whether resilience is a learned behavior or an innate aspect of an individual's genetic makeup. Notable contributions during this period include the works of (Wright and et al 2013), and (Werner and Smith 2001). Through the first wave, resilience characteristics were identified, which aid individuals in navigating adverse situations unscathed (Khodamoradi and et al, 2021).

The concept of the second wave revolves around the process of resilience and how it is acquired. It is widely believed that resilience is attained through a series of failures and subsequent reintegration. In their study, delved into the various factors that contribute to resilience, both consciously and unconsciously. Richardson proposed a linear model that encompasses biological, psychological, and spiritual interactions. The primary focus of this model lies in the urgency of life, where dissociation is initially experienced, followed by a process of preparation and selection for cohesion. This movement from dissociation towards balance is crucial in the journey of resilience. Tension arises when there is a lack or a perceived need, leading to the formation of fluid energy. This energy enables individuals to strive for equilibrium and attain a state of balance (Maddi and Khushaba, 2005).

The third wave: Resilience Theory - Resilient reintegration necessitates the allocation of energy towards personal development, as resilience theory posits it as a spiritual and inherent asset. The conceptual framework of resilience emphasizes the significance of prioritizing constructive objectives. Encouraging transformation and fostering competence are equally crucial, if not more so, than solely focusing on averting problems, as they ultimately yield comparable outcomes (Amiri et al., 2017).

**Table (2): Resilience waves (Khodamoradi and et al, 2021).**

waves	qualification	consequence
First	Phenomenological accounts of individuals' resilience attributes and safeguarding mechanisms that forecast individual and societal accomplishments.	A compilation of caregiving attributes and elements that facilitate personal development amidst challenging circumstances (e.g., self-worth, self-assurance, etc.).
Second	Resilience refers to the ability to effectively manage and adapt to stress and challenging circumstances, ultimately leading to the recognition, reinforcement, and enhancement of protective elements.	The process of achieving the desired characteristics of resilience, as outlined in the initial wave, involves a cycle of destruction and reintegration. This model assists individuals in selecting between the reintegration of resilience arousal and the reintegration back to the point of encounter.
Third	Identifying various motivational factors within individuals and groups and designing experiences that enhance the stimulation and utilization of these factors.	It assists individuals in uncovering the force that propels them towards achieving their full potential and bouncing back from devastation.

### Urban resilience

Urban resilience is a multifaceted concept that encompasses the capacity of a city to effectively address challenges under diverse circumstances (Behzadfar et al., 2017). Specifically, it refers to the ability of urban systems to withstand and recover from the strain imposed by unforeseen events, such as accidents, and subsequently rebuild at a rapid pace (Khosravi et al., 2022). This capacity encompasses both the inherent capabilities and the prevailing conditions of the system, enabling it to absorb the impacts of crises and effectively manage disasters (Shafiei Dastjardi et al., 2022). Urban resilience refers to the capacity and capability of urban systems and communities to endure and recover from stress, crises, and disasters, ultimately returning to their original state (Gudarzi, 2019). It encompasses the ability to withstand and adapt to various challenges, ensuring the sustainability and functionality of urban environments. Resilient cities can be defined as communities that possess the capacity to endure and withstand potential hazards without succumbing to accidents or detrimental consequences (Namjooyan et al., 2016). Moreover, these cities possess the capability to recover and restore their normal functioning during and after such incidents, while also exhibiting the potential and flexibility to transform and adapt in the aftermath (Rafiyan et al., 2019). In order to assess a city's ability to withstand natural disasters on a global scale, a range of indicators are established and employed. These indicators encompass trustworthiness or credibility, effective leadership, collective efficacy, collective resources, social cohesion and awareness, social participation, criteria, and attitudes. The origins of these indicators can be traced back to different perspectives, namely existence, communication and information. These perspectives can be further classified into three primary categories: resilience, resistance, and adaptive response to pressure or change (Mubarak and Alwani, 2021 and Heydari Far et al., 2017).



**Fig (1): Process factors of urban resilience (Rashidi, 2022)**

Hence, based on the fundamental elements of resilience encompassing physical, social, political, economic, organizational, and ecological aspects, it becomes feasible to choose specific indicators for assessing the level of urban resilience in the face of natural hazards. These indicators serve as measures of a city's capacity to withstand and recover from natural calamities (Karimi Razkani et al., 2019).

### **Cultural resilience**

Hetrov (2018) provided a comprehensive definition of cultural resilience, which encompasses the capacity of a cultural system to assimilate incompatibilities, adapt to change, and persistently evolve. Moreover, this concept encompasses a range of elements including customs, beliefs, behaviors, norms, and values. Cultural resilience delineates a society's worldview, knowledge, awareness, history, heritage, and religion, all of which enhance its ability to endure, prepare for, and recover from adverse circumstances, ultimately striving towards a more favorable state expeditiously. According to the definition provided by [www.resiliency.ir](http://www.resiliency.ir), cultural resilience encompasses both continuity and change, acknowledging that disruptions are not adversaries to be evaded. Instead, they contribute to cultural stability and foster a form of cultural adaptation. Consequently, the cultural heritage of various ethnicities and nationalities plays a significant role in shaping individuals' psychological resilience and capacity (Naghi Lu et al., 2022). Indeed, cultural resilience can be defined as a dynamic and interactive mechanism through which individuals navigate and overcome stressors by drawing upon a blend of personal attributes, cultural heritage, societal values, and influential factors within their socio-cultural surroundings. Moreover, cultural resilience exerts a profound influence on the structure and backdrop of a community, encompassing an exploration of the impact of culture on resilience. Essentially, cultural resilience implies that the more robust an individual's cultural identity is, the greater their capacity to effectively manage and adapt to adversities. Resilience of this nature encompasses various dimensions, encompassing advancements within a cultural context characterized by norms, familial systems, and interpersonal connections. The primary objective of such resilience is to equip individuals, social collectives, and institutions at all levels with the capacity to navigate through post-crisis periods, mishaps, and calamities. Furthermore, within the realm of cultural resilience, the ability to adapt assumes paramount significance. Additionally, the role of identity and the significance of anthropology are also acknowledged in the context of cultural resilience (Azizpour, 2021). Hence, one can argue that the significance of cultural resilience as a conceptual framework pertains to the cultural function and cultural setting. It is crucial to underscore in the discourse on cultural resilience that the manner in which cultural elements contribute to the achievement of adaptation success is of utmost importance. This is achieved through a network of reciprocal actions, responsibilities, and resources, which accentuate the dynamics of adaptation. Several scholars have explored the ways in which individuals navigate and engage with the intricacies of change in the modern era, and how they can endure and thrive amidst such adaptive processes (Plieninger and Bieling, 2012). However, it is crucial to emphasize the significance of cultural resilience in ensuring the long-term sustainability of a society. Local communities strive to preserve their culture in the face of challenges by mobilizing and effectively managing their resources. Cultural resilience, in essence, involves fortifying cultural values and traditions as a means to withstand livelihood vulnerabilities. From this perspective, cultural resilience encompasses the adaptive strategies employed by a culture to navigate through changes. Each society employs its unique set of strategies to achieve this objective (McCubbin, 2005). Conscious or unconscious, strategies can be categorized into two distinct types. Conscious strategies are the result of deliberate choices made by individuals or groups. On the other hand, unconscious strategies stem from cultural roots and are often enacted without conscious awareness. In communities that have experienced accidents or disasters, these unconscious strategies are deeply influenced by their specific cultural, ethnic, and anthropological behaviors. This concept of cultural resilience refers to the ability of individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds to adapt and thrive in the face of adversity, such as accidents or disasters. It encompasses various aspects, including livelihood, environmental considerations, and other opportunities. Additionally, cultural resilience extends beyond emergency situations and also applies to non-emergency circumstances (Patterson, 2002; Smith and Ward, 2000).

### **Patterns of cultural resilience**

Based on the cited instances, cultural patterns can be identified within the domains of "socio-cultural frameworks" and "ecological-livelihood frameworks", as evidenced by the afore-mentioned cases.

- The socio-cultural framework refers to the capacity and capability of a culture, community, or group to effectively adapt and respond to the pressures and transformations brought about by modern conditions. It encompasses the ability to sustain, develop, transform, revitalize, restore,

and regulate itself in a more favorable manner through the management of content, utilization of references, and cultural resources (Flemming and Ledogar, 2008).

- The ecological-economy framework, situated within the realm of culture-environment, pertains to the resilience and adaptability of a community or group in the face of disruptions, threats, changes, and pressures. This framework encompasses the capacity to adapt, enhance, restore, and manage both their livelihoods and environmental resources. Achieving these goals is made possible through the utilization of cultural, social, historical, and political references and resources within their environment. Social sources and references encompass elements such as social capital, social learning, social awareness, social networks, and social creativity. Simultaneously, cultural sources and references include traditions, history, cultural content, values, and norms. These concepts have been explored by Wilson (2012) and Strauss and Reeser (2013).

### A conceptual framework illustrating the influential factors of cultural resilience.

Culture can be defined as a collection of human values, perspectives, attitudes, and behaviors (Azizabadi Farahani and Masoudi, 2019). Consequently, in a practical sense, culture encompasses two fundamental elements, namely "environmental factors" and "human factors". In simpler terms, any notion or understanding within the realm of culture necessitates the consideration of these two aforementioned categories in the context of cultural practices or investigations

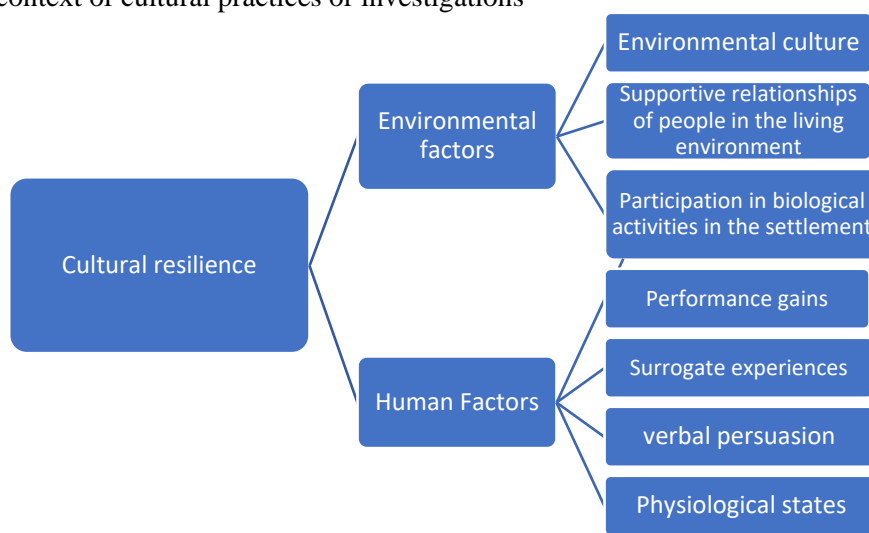


Fig (2): The influential factors that contribute to cultural resilience in accidents and disasters (ref: author)

### The environmental factors in cultural resilience

Certain environmental factors play a crucial role in fostering the growth and maturation of individuals with resilience. These attributes encompass:

1. Environmental culture refers to the set of values, perspectives, attitudes, and behaviors that are considered as standard indicators of behavior within a city or living environment. It encompasses the knowledge and actions of individuals residing in that particular environment, shaping their overall way of life and urban identity. This concept has been acknowledged by (. Shokri Khobestani et al.2022) as an essential aspect of understanding and evaluating the dynamics of a community's relationship with its surroundings.
2. In the event of accidents or disasters, the presence of a cohesive network of individuals residing in a particular urban or regional setting, who offer mutual support and assistance, plays a crucial role. This network fosters supportive and complementary relationships, wherein attention is given to the needs and well-being of each member (Hosni, 2017).
3. Collaborative endeavors conducted within residential settings encompass a range of actions, such as implementing precautionary measures prior to an unfortunate incident, if feasible, or providing aid and fostering cooperation in the aftermath of accidents and disasters (Ramin Azad et al., 2021).

### **Human factors in cultural resilience**

1. Bandura (1986) posits that performance expectations are influenced by an individual's past experiences and proficiency in a particular domain (Nasranian et al., 2021). Notably, successful experiences tend to foster high-level expectations, while failure experiences tend to generate low-level expectations. Once individuals develop strong and high efficacy expectations, temporary failures are unlikely to significantly impact their self-perceptions of ability. Conversely, when individuals hold low and weak efficacy expectations, occasional successes have limited effectiveness in shaping their judgments of their own capabilities (Azizi Abarghoei, 2009). However, low-level expectations can be altered through repeated and numerous successes. Consequently, individuals interpret the outcomes of their actions in various endeavors and utilize these interpretations to shape their beliefs and opinions regarding their ability to undertake subsequent tasks and activities. Successful outcomes are perceived as enhancing self-efficacy, while unsuccessful outcomes are perceived as diminishing it (Pajarez, 2020).
2. Vicarious experiences play a significant role in shaping individuals' beliefs about their own effectiveness. Apart from evaluating the outcomes of their own actions, people also rely on observing the actions of others to form their beliefs. Although these sources of information are not as strong as personal achievements, they hold greater importance when individuals are uncertain about their own abilities or lack previous experience. Vicarious experiences become particularly influential when observers identify similarities between themselves and the individuals they are observing. Witnessing the success of others in similar situations helps instill confidence in one's own abilities. Moreover, having a prominent role model in one's life can greatly influence personal beliefs, ultimately impacting one's way of life (Alai Khuraim and Narimani, 2011).
3. Verbal persuasion plays a crucial role in shaping individuals' beliefs and fostering their personal growth. Through social support and encouragement, people are motivated to put in more effort and maintain the necessary perseverance to achieve success. This, in turn, facilitates the continuous enhancement of their skills and overall effectiveness. By receiving verbal suggestions and being assured of their capabilities, individuals can significantly boost their efficiency and strive towards accomplishing their goals (Barjali et al., 2017).
4. Physiological factors: The physical and emotional states of individuals, such as anxiety, stress, motivation, and mental conditions, play a significant role in determining their beliefs regarding efficiency. When individuals experience psychological stress and tension, it is often perceived as an indication of their readiness for failure. Additionally, an individual's temperament can greatly influence their beliefs about their own efficacy. Optimism and a positive mood tend to enhance efficacy beliefs, while feelings of hopelessness and depression diminish self-efficacy beliefs (Mojdehi, 2012). Based on the findings from these four sources, it can be inferred that behavior regulation is achieved through the establishment of predetermined and conscious goals. These deliberate attributes demonstrate that resilient individuals possess a set of skills that have been cultivated and honed over time:
  - Feeling of worth: Embracing one's own worth and demonstrating self-respect, while acknowledging and appreciating one's abilities, are essential aspects of self-acceptance. Furthermore, loving oneself unconditionally entails the recognition of positive attributes and nurturing them, while simultaneously acknowledging and not concealing one's weaknesses. Moreover, individuals strive to confront these limitations with a realistic approach and effectively manage these characteristics (Dosti and Hosseini, 2019).
  - Problem-solving skills: Resilient individuals possess a cognitive disposition characterized by analytical and critical thinking towards their own capabilities and prevailing circumstances. They exhibit adaptability when confronted with diverse situations and demonstrate an extraordinary aptitude for devising various solutions to address specific situations or problems (Hossein Khani et al., 2021). Moreover, they possess a unique capacity to objectively assess personal challenges and promptly identify both immediate remedies and long-term strategies to tackle complex problems that are not easily or swiftly resolved (Dawai et al., 2021).

- Social competence: This particular cohort of individuals has acquired exceptional proficiency in the art of communication. They possess the remarkable ability to uphold their morale and wit even in the face of challenging circumstances. Furthermore, they possess the capacity to foster strong bonds with their peers, and during moments of adversity, they can rely on the unwavering support of their community.

### **Research Hypothesis**

through a literature review It seems there are different cultural and non- cultural elements in process of management of cultural resilience towards natural disasters and accidents in Iranian cities through a literature review.

### **Research methodology**

The research methodology employed in this study is qualitative, with a descriptive objective. It serves as a compilation of concepts and theories pertaining to cultural resilience and relevant research literature. Furthermore, the research has practical implications and outcomes.

### **Research Findings**

As matter of fact, the principles of planning and management of cultural resilience of accidents and disasters in Iranian cities can be considered as research findings. Elaborately, based on the analysis conducted on cultural resilience and urban resilience, it is feasible to explore the planning principles of managing cultural resilience and addressing accidents and disasters in relation to the geographical aspect of Iranian cities, particularly Tehran, which is characterized by its high population density and continuous growth. The recognition has been made that, initially, the incorporation of practical measures to reduce the risk of disasters must be taken into account during the entire planning procedure. Additionally, efforts should be focused on actions that can be accomplished using local resources and capabilities, thereby yielding tangible outcomes within a short timeframe. This approach serves as a catalyst for all parties involved and fosters an understanding of the significance of disaster risk reduction within the urban setting. Once the city achieves a comprehensive consensus on this matter, numerous sustainable opportunities will arise to implement further actions. In this manner, it ought to be.

- Promoting the adoption of management practices by responsible organizations and institutions in the realm of crises, accidents, and disasters is crucial for enhancing local capacity and ultimately attaining resilience.
- In order to enhance the social cohesion within the city, it is imperative to employ participatory approaches and ensure the active involvement of historically marginalized groups, such as children, indigenous communities, individuals with disabilities, and the elderly. By incorporating their perspectives and experiences into the planning process, the social fabric of the city can be reinforced.
- The application of the principles of rights and duties of both men and women should prioritize flexibility, transparency, and responsibility.
- A precise delineation of duties and the establishment of attainable objectives and strategies for every pertinent governing entity and organization.
- Applying the concepts of sustainability (economic, environmental, and social) and resilience.
- To enhance consciousness and foster a collective sense of responsibility towards the program, it is imperative to raise awareness among the entire populace (Ghahramani, 2023).

**Table (3): Research Background**

Researcher(s)	Subject	Findings and Results
Montazeral Qaim et al (2021)	Cultural resilience strategies with an emphasis on Iranian Islamic lifestyle	The results of the research show that culturalization and education of virtual media, strengthening of the Supreme Council of Cyberspace and headquarters and operational communication with city planners and managers, as well as training elites in the field of virtual space, should be at the top of strategic priorities in style planning. Iranian-Islamic life
Sadegh Khodamoradi (2021)	The Conceptualization of Cultural Resilience	cultural resilience is the capacity and ability to cope with the crisis with the help of historical methods, myths, customs, and group beliefs. In addition, its components include dependency, trust, commitment, the feeling of pride, and collectivism
Sayed Qasim Hosni (2018)	An analysis of the challenges and vulnerability of cultural resilience in the indigenous community	Although many communities could not withstand external developments and changes and adjusted themselves based on the resulting changes and lost many social, economic, cultural and ecological relationships, there were communities that despite the changes made in the process of modernization, modern urbanization and development factors have been able to endure and perpetuate themselves by using their strategies and managements which are from their cultural, social and historical structures.
Liu et al. (2021)	Investigating the increase of urban cultural resilience capacity	Three aspects including the natural structure, resident community and government activities are investigated and there is an increase in the capacity to bear and absorb pressure in each aspect as a factor in increasing resilience.
Miro and Nowell (2021)	Urban resilience for whom, when, where and why? emphasizing cultural values	When planning, discussing and implementing plans, schemes and projects, develop critical reflection on urban resilience policy because resilience planning decisions affect outcomes in space and time, it concludes, often with consequences. It is significant for equality.

## Discussion and Conclusion

The purpose of this article was to provide an introduction and explanation of the key elements of cultural resilience management in urban areas of Iran, specifically focusing on Tehran in the year 1402. The approach used in this article was descriptive and review-based. Given that urban life has become the prevailing form of human existence in the present century, it is projected that by 2050, approximately 75 percent or three-quarters of the global population will reside in cities, as indicated by predictions from public policies and governance (Economist, 2011, cited in Ghasemi and et al., 2018). On the contrary, based on empirical knowledge and historical records, the cities in Iran are susceptible to various accidents and natural calamities due to their geographical and geophysical positioning. (For instance, Ardabil, Bam Kerman, Rudbar, and Manjil have experienced earthquakes, while Gilan and Tehran have also faced seismic activities. Additionally, Golestan and Shiraz provinces in Fars, as well as Tehran, have encountered devastating floods in recent years). Hence, the matter of resilience, which involves establishing and overseeing the ability to revert back to the normal state and routine in the presence of such occurrences, holds significant importance and warrants serious consideration. Specifically, the growth in urbanization capacity can be viewed as a drawback due to the potential escalation in both the quantitative and qualitative magnitude of financial and non-financial repercussions and losses. However, it can also serve as a favorable benchmark when adopting preventive strategies aimed at minimizing the impact caused by these natural calamities and mishaps. With two underlying assumptions, namely the implementation of preventive measures through educational and scientific methods, disseminating information in an academic fashion, and fostering skill enhancement among various segments of urban dwellers, their resilience can be enhanced. Additionally, it is crucial that these skill-building efforts are tailored to the specific cultural and urban attributes of each residential area. Despite the overall alignment and complementarity of Iranians' cultural identity at the national level, variations in attitudes and cultural perspectives based on ethnicity and place of residence give rise to diverse responses when confronted with risks. To put it differently, the primary emphasis in managing

cultural resilience amidst urban natural disasters and accidents lies in leveraging the value capacities, cultural identity, and social capitals of urban territories, all of which are rooted in human capital capacities. For instance, certain behaviors stemming from cultural traits in the northern regions of the country are deemed commonplace, whereas in areas inhabited by nomads and Illyrian tribes, these same behaviors may be regarded as taboo, and vice versa. Hence, understanding the anthropological traits of inhabitants and citizens is crucial for proactive urban disaster and accident management. This holds particular significance in large cities like Tehran, where the research variable of location is also considered. Tehran exhibits a diverse population with numerous subcultures, which at times congregate in specific areas of the city and at other times disperse across various urban regions. Consequently, addressing this diversity necessitates tailored approaches. The initial step in understanding and quantifying this information is to engage in urban social and cultural activities, which should be undertaken by urban management across various urban regions and areas. By doing so, it becomes possible to establish proactive operational strategies for enhancing resilience in the event of urban accidents and natural disasters. These strategies can then be continuously reviewed and updated. To achieve this, a novel management paradigm known as cultural citizenship management must be adopted, which emphasizes the integration of cultural and urban strategic management principles in the governance of urban affairs.

### Abbreviations

ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UN-Habitat	The United Nations Human Settlements Programme
ICLEI	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
WB	World Bank
USAID	United State Agency for International Development

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