

“Conservation of Architectural Heritage, CAH” 23-27 November 2015, Luxor

Heritage Planning: Adaptation of the “Old & New Approach”

Towards establishing conservation areas in Metropolitan cities

Mai A. Hawas^{a,*}, Mohamed A. Hawas^b

^a*Ph.D, LEED AP BD+C – Architecture Dep. - Faculty of Engineering - Cairo University – Senior Architect at Dar Al-Handasa ltd.
28 Mohamed Ezz El Arab, El Mounira, Cairo, 11461, Egypt*

^b*Ph.D Candidate, LEED AP ND – Architecture Dep. - Faculty of Engineering - Cairo University – Urban Designer
28 Mohamed Ezz El Arab, El Mounira, Cairo, 11461, Egypt*

Abstract

The conservation of historic buildings and areas is important to enhance urban fabric, as the overall deterioration of the urban environment in old cities, is due to the decline of traditional activities, the deteriorated housing condition, and the emergence of metropolitan areas due to foreign influences. As a result, the sense of belonging is losing its basic source which is the image of the city, as modern cities cannot maintain a well-defined identity of their fabric, while historic buildings and sites should act as vivid tourist attractions. Consequently, a new approach has to emerge to deal with such chaotic status.

© 2016 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Peer-review under responsibility of IEREK, International experts for Research Enrichment and Knowledge Exchange

Keywords: Conservation; Urban Development; Chaos; Freedom; Perception; Wholeness; Self-organization; Critical Regionalism; Systems.

Introduction

The dilemma that we face to sustain existing human communities and new urban developments with the surrounding natural environment, is a major step towards sustaining all habitats & life forms. In order to do that, we need a concept that corresponds dynamically to each variable, corresponding to all habitats –variables serving the sustainability objectives. This concept should address the fact that communities & cities need smarter planning methods. Therefore, it is essential to embed a smart system into theoretical & traditional planning systems, a system

* Corresponding author. Tel.: 00201225673390.

E-mail address: mai.hawas@dargroup.com, oceandream145@hotmail.com

that could do a real-time reforming of emerging variables that needs to be reconfigured within any urban or regional planning context that strengthens the decision maker with the power of dynamism. In order to change the fear of chaos as a negativity, and accordingly deal with it and utilize it. Accordingly, we should be able to interpret the energy transformation between development and chaos as a relation of correspondence, and by means of qualitative and functional tools.

In light of that, Urban deterioration and global expressions for chaos are often perceived as constant negativities, dealt with as unconstructive elements, for this, they are being feared, and they continuously threatens inner and outer stability, the tangibles and non-tangibles in our world. This should change as development is only complemented by the intensity of development, which corresponds to the intensity of deterioration; consequently, we can choose to make use of the raw energy within deterioration, instead of choosing to wholly transform it into development. Deteriorated neighbourhoods and deterioration-motivated mobility could be positive nodes for development if perceived as ones, if we embrace chaos and dismantle our attachment to modes of tangible developments and places. This is to leave spaces for attachments to our inner non-tangibles and our inner development, for instance, we are always chauvinistic and dogmatic with the fact that built environment and its progression are linked and based on our inner development; as the link stays within notions and oblivious stones. Even Bedouin's lifestyle that is based on travelling for resources unbounded by boundaries, mobility rights and limitations of infrastructure and urban forms, is criticized and limited by the very claims of human rights in mobility and territories. Moreover, People go through their lives, with feelings of fear, for their critical attachment to physical settings and surroundings; people themselves - in their existential status on planet Earth - are mostly considered and appearing in physical entities. Their bodily attachments and their possible wholeness attachments are consequently easier to be made to tangibles than non-tangibles. Predominantly, flaws, greatly turns their world into turbulence, a temperamental situation, where mind cannot bear possible fluctuations within the ordinary urban status. This research project involves further investigations for integrating a radical urban development tool, en route for extending the efficiency and arbitrary of urban planning interventions, to harmonize with the nature of human beings. This is because urban development has been overvalued by the very same ideas of excessive and total development approaches, achieving perfectionism by perfect tools, while forgetting that flaws are found at every aspect of our existence, as part of it. However, the perception of chaos is overemphasized as well, it's often perceived as an undesired situation, which is a legitimate notion; still, the foreground implications exclude anarchism or chaos from development/conservation concepts. Even the chaos theory is systemized:

"The study of nonlinear dynamics and chaos theory introduced a new set of underlying assumptions and models to describe the behaviors of unpredictable and uncontrollable systems in the physical universe" [1, p. 5].

This, along with emerging disciplines such as deterministic chaos, is an excessive expression for systemization attempts for naturally made non-systemized matters and definitions. Such concepts are functional on the physical level, yet still delusional on the psychological level, as they don't solve the root problem of perceiving opposites as not necessarily contradicting the same cause of satisfying needs. Intervention methods depend on talking directly to human needs, mostly without looking back to their original roots and the historical storage of psychological energies, as people go through life with their tendency to evolve and act through beliefs of monotheistic religions or thoughts for personal growth [2], which consequently allows, guides and sometimes, advises them, to develop and/or un-develop occupations and connections. Our planning intervention tools are archaic as they won't recognize and confess the following points: a) Chaotic urban places are less developed urban places. b) Individual and group perceptions of populations in less developed urban places, share uniformity in the sensation of underdeveloped status with the sensation of forming a standalone psychological region with certain properties mostly expressed by their self-organizing patterns. Consequently, on long term assessments, excessive development activity that underestimates the value of self-organizing communities; is mostly not appreciated by targeted residents, which risks the development into possible vulnerability of deterioration and chaos on the cultural level. Still, this excessive physically oriented development mostly succeeds on the short term, yet leaving the targeted inhabitants no inner spaces for other kinds of nonphysical attachments. Therefore, this helps a relatively higher degree of attachment to development made on the ground, and risks higher influence by flaws in the development activity. In this context, urban planning could be considered as a set of judgments, made of a bias to righteousness while controlled by morals, regularities and scientific approaches, differentiating between a right judgment & a wrong one. However, the passing time might break the righteousness of this set of judgments into a wrong one, according to the community's status at the time when the planning judgment was called, as expressed in

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1107659>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1107659>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)