

Interruption of Urban Style of Old Baghdad's Hub: A Case Study of the Urban Fabric of Historic Baghdad- Al Rusafa



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ABSTRACT

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This study examines the role of urban style in preserving the memory, cultural heritage, and social values of a city, with a particular focus on Baghdad. Previous research has primarily addressed architectural styles; however, this paper argues for the importance of studying urban style, a concept shaped by the amalgamation of various architectural styles over time, contributing to a city's unique identity and language. The research scrutinizes the rich historical tapestry of Baghdad, a city with a diverse array of historical structures from different periods, collectively constituting its cultural and artistic heritage. However, the urban landscape has been adversely affected by the multiplication of disparate visual images, leading to a disconnection between historical buildings and urban style within the city's historical axes. Therefore, the research problem emerged (what caused the interruption in the relationship between the historical buildings and urban style within the historical axes). The aim of the research represented in (clarifying the concept of urban style and its relationship to historical buildings within the general urban scene found around those buildings and the old Baghdad's centre). And achieving this aim was through the hypothesis of the research (interruption occurs in the urban style as a result of the sudden appearance of multiple visual images within the urban scene), then the research reached a set of recommendations and conclusions in defining the relationship between the style and the historical structures and spatially adapted it to the urban scene of the region.

1. INTRODUCTION

Many of the previous theses dealt with the architectural style and reached a practical classification of its types through the styles that appeared throughout the history of architecture, while previous studies dealt with the urban style through methods and technique or through urban design architecture, when Moughtin et al. [1] outlined the meaning of and role played by the main elements of urban design discussing, in particular, the form and function of street and square, and dealt in detail with the ways in which the elements of the public domain are embellished. It outlined the general principles for the decoration of: floor plane, or pavement; the façades of street and square; roofline; roof scape; skyline; and street corners, relates the main components of urban design to a general theory of urban structuring, paying particular attention to the city and its form, the urban quarter or district and the street block or insulate. The urban design method dealt with the logic and imperative of sustainable development and then formulated principles of urban design based upon this particular architectural styles of environmental code.

The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) [2] outlined principles applicable to new developments, urban infill, revitalization, and preservation. These principles are rooted in traditional city-building practices: walkable streets, proximate housing and shopping, and accessible public spaces. A human-scaled urban design is at the heart of New Urbanism, focusing

on the creation of streets that accommodate various modes of transportation and public spaces that encourage daily interaction.

Mustafa et al. [3] dealt with urban style through urban design architecture as the process of defining architectural style and the characteristics statement focuses on the specific pattern that considered the most important part in shaping the identity of the city and identify privacy of architectural style. In addition to that, this type of functional lost the privacy as the internal structure has changed dramatically from what was in the past through the advent Western culture concepts, which occurred in early of this century and led to change its features gradually and dramatically. The style has been defined in architecture in the light of the literature and ideas that it is language embodied sense physically, it has the fundamentals and rules of synthetic and formulation basis in the mind and requires them out into the world presence physical means or system to reflect the merits of building materials and construction techniques and other elements of the physical configuration.

Gražulevičiūtė–Vilenišké and Urbonas [4] referred to the encouragement of comprehensive sustainable renewal and the restoration of the historical environment by reusing the values owned by the historical buildings and preserving the cohesion of the precious urban fabric, and that's why the buildings that extend over time are the unique historical urban nuclei with what they achieve of visual integrity and extension from the