

The Egyptian Identity in Interior Design & Furniture on the River Nile Waterfronts park

(case study el Qanater el khayria city)

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Abstract

Al-Qanater Al-Khayriya is one of the most important heritage cities which located on the Nile River banks in Qalyubia Governorate, which has a distinctive historical architectural character, as its inception dates back to the era of Muhammad Ali Pasha, although it is one of the tourist cities that visitors resort to on holidays and official holidays, in order to take a stroll in its vast gardens that contain rare trees. However, it suffers from a lack of interest in developing the waterfront areas, and also suffers from a lack of interior design elements and furniture in its parks for the cultural identity of the city. Where the research deals with the inductive study of activities and uses of waterfronts in European countries in order to study the extent of the impact of those countries' interest in developing areas bordering water on humans and on tourism. The field study of Al-Qanater Al-Khayriya Nile River Waterfront, and the analysis of it and their gardens interior design elements and furniture, both from the void of the river itself, land spaces extending inside it, land spaces Alignment it and analyzed from the functional and visual aspects, to reach the possibility of the city's waterfronts developing. The principles of interior design elements, street furniture, and the urban character of the city were also studied to study the possibility of designing furnishing elements which have cultural heritage to the River Nile waterfront parks of El Qanater El khayria City. A section of the Nile River was raised in the city, a design proposal has been drawn up to develop this Riverfront by using the interior design elements and furniture that bear the Egyptian and heritage identity of this heritage city. This is to revive the architectural heritage and history of the city through its waterfronts.

Keywords:

Identity, Waterfront, Interior design, Parks.

Introduction

The river Nile is one of the natural fortunes that Egypt is characterized by, as it is considered as a longitudinal water void that is extended from the south of Egypt to its north, and many cities are located either on its east or west banks. Many capitals of the country across history were built on its banks since the Pharaonic era as many of other capitals of ancient or modern

countries as they were sources for culture along ages. From the Egyptian urban perspective, the river Nile is having a high privacy regarding the cities it passes through, in particularly touristic and archeological areas, as Nile tourism is considered one of its anchors with all its economic, social, cultural and civilized aspects which greatly rely on the Egyptian heritage and identity. Despite the increasing world care with developing and innovating waterfront for what such places has of high significance that matches its privacy and its uniqueness regarding the functional and optical sides, but some developing countries such as Egypt are facing major problem in not caring about such areas and subjecting such an important touristic and entertaining resource at many Egyptian cities to be wasted and misused. That's how the role of creative designer comes up, as designer is only a human with cultural background of his/her community that has showed up and was formed somehow through his/her identity that sprang out the inherited or gained cultural and social environment. The designer use of heritage and merging it with contemporary designs is one way to show up his/her personality. That's why this research is subjecting one of the most significant subjects that the country cares about and is tightly connected directly to designer and indirectly to nature as it documents cultural and historical values of design and architecture and invitation for their revival and using them in developing the River Nile waterfronts that are considered of the most important areas for tourism in Egypt.

The research problem

- Lack of caring about elements of interior design and furniture for the River Nile waterfronts in Egypt which is negatively affecting the aesthetical and optical sides of the River Nile.
- Lack of clarity of the Egyptian identity in interior design and furniture of the amusement parks of the River Nile waterfronts.
- The unavailability of places for people to walk around the river banks in Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah (The Khayriyyah Barrages) city.
- The Nile Cornish of the barrages has no green landscape.

The research goals

- Revival of the Nile Cornish of the barrages which is considered one of the most touristic cities in Qalyubia governorate.
- Emphasizing the Egyptian identity in elements of the amusement parks of the River Nile waterfronts, as it has a role in increasing the Nile tourism in the city.
- Create places for picnics parallel to the Nile in Qanatir Al Khayriyyah without using private clubs which acquire a huge amount of money.

The research methodology

The paper follows field and inductive methodology.

The research hypotheses

- The possibility of confirming the identity in waterfronts.
- Caring about waterfronts parks in Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah (The Khayriyyah Barrages) city will have a positive and social and entertaining payoff for the people of the city and visitors who go there in Easter or summer holidays.
- Confirming the Egyptian cultural identity in elements of interior design and furniture for the river Nile waterfronts parks in Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah might have a significant role in

increasing the Nile tourism in the city as it is considered as a mean for spreading the Egyptian and historical culture of the city on the river banks.

The applied study

The research is based on studying the areas of the river Nile waterfronts through determining the current situation and advantages and disadvantages in order to reach a perfect design for the river Nile waterfronts at the area of study (Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah).

The river Nile ranges

The current situation has been monitored of the longitudinal ranges that are parallel to the current of the river which are influenced and interactive with the Nile functionally, kinetically and optically which are 4 longitudinal ranges connected and influenced by the Nile from functional, optical and kinetic aspects (as in figure 16) which represents:

The riverbed: where movable and fixed touristic floating boats and floating hotels were monitored as well as river bus stations, picnics boats, ferryboats and anchors for tourism and fishing trips.

The surface: where entertainment areas, social and sportive clubs and plantations were spotted.

The Nile fronts: various sectors and uses were spotted such as service, industrial, countryside and residential sectors with their different levels.

The urban depth: it includes the rest of the urban sectors whether residential, commercial or entertaining.

The aim of the applied study:

It aims to reviving the Nile Cornish for Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah (The Khayriyyah Barrages) city which is considered one of the most significant touristic cities at Qalyubia governorate and confirming the Egyptian identity in elements of the river Nile waterfronts parks for what they have of increasing the Nile tourism in the city, that's could be achieved by realizing a design with perfect elements of interior design and furniture for the river Nile waterfronts parks in a way that carries the Egyptian identity of Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah city as this city carries an archeological style that goes all the way to the age of Mohamed Ali Bash in order to realize the best investment for the river Nile on the functional and optical levels. The field of the applied study is concerned with making field study for the river Nile fronts in Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah and analyzing elements of interior design and furniture for the river Nile waterfronts parks, also analysis of the void of the river itself and the extended lands inside of it, also the voids of the parallel lands that can be combined (squares-gardens) or longitudinal such as (car ways-footpaths). They will be analyzed through 4 main sides that cover both functional and visual levels which are the use of space and the general ratio of spaces, the possibility of reaching the river and clarity of optical vision and the quality of designing elements of interior design and furniture for the river Nile waterfronts parks at the city particularly.

The methodology used in the applied study

It could be summarized in analyzing and evaluating the area of the study through 4 main sides which are the use of waterfronts voids, the presence of enough general and connected voids, clarity of optical vision and quality of designing elements of interior design and furniture. Those sides are being divided into many secondary points that represent the most significant elements of analysis and design at each one of them. The analysis process is being done at both levels of surface and Cornish.

The results

First: results of field search

- Lack of enough places for picnic on river banks at Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah city.
- Rarity of green landscape parallel to Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah city Cornish.
- Lack of elements of interior design and furniture for parks of (The Khayriyyah Barrages) city of heritage identity that is being carried by the architectural style of the city.
- Absence of sidewalk parallel to the river Nile at some sectors of the river banks which are being dominated by the main paths for cars.

Second: results of the design treatment that could achieve the goal

- Creating enough places for picnic on the river banks.
- It is possible to use the river Nile fronts economically by building booths for selling handmade products which are being manufactured by the raw material produced by the areas over the Nile, which is considered as a spread for the popular handicrafts of such regions.
- The river Nile is one of the important fortunes that can be used in increasing the cultural and Nile tourism of The Khayriyyah Barrages city in addition to entertainment tourism that this city is known for (gardens and parks) through the realization of cultural and urban identity to design elements of interior design which include (seats- pergolas- lighting units- fences- etc.).
- Optical and formative determinants that urban spaces are made of, have a strong impact on confirming the national style and the cultural identity to design waterfronts parks for Al Qanatir Al Khayriyyah city.
- Longitudinal sectors of the Nile parallel to the water stream are being affected and interactive with the river Nile functionally, kinetically and optically.

Recommendations

- 1- The researcher recommends for the specialists of the river Nile to add some restricted laws and disciplines to protect it from pollution, being one of the Egyptian fortunes that can realize progress in the sector of cultural tourism.
- 2- The researcher recommends confirmation of the Egyptian identity on the river Nile banks for the possibility of turning it into an open museum that shows the history and identity of each city that overlooks the Nile through its waterfronts.

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