# Islamic interior design as a Dialogue Between Body-Brain-Space Dr. Aya Lotfy Zakaria Habbak Interior Design and furniture, Applied Arts university, Damietta,Egypt

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# Abstract: -

The Islamic architectural heritage is a source of inspiration for all the pioneers that followed it. It was distinguished by unique aesthetic values that have remained eternal till now. The user's needs, religious beliefs and feelings were of the main drivers of the Muslim architect's thoughts in forming the building internally and externally. If Emotion is the automatic feeling of inclination towards a certain thing. And Design achieves in a person a certain emotion (joy - sadness ... etc.), so person's emotion could be motivated in a positive way through the shape of the space, line, area, texture, symbol, color ... etc. If a person practices his daily life in different spaces. These spaces must evoke certain feelings that may control the person's response.

Hence, the research problem can be summed up in the following questions: How does the user perceive the space around him? How did the Islamic interior design affect the feelings of its users? What are its components that shaped the behavior of the users? From studying Islamic interior design, how to design contemporary interiors that meets the needs of a user and guide their behavior?

Hence, the research aims to find out how the individual perceives the space around him, the effect of Islamic interior design on the feelings of its users, and how the Islamic interior space can be used to increase positive emotions by studying models of Islamic architectural heritage to guide user behavior through a modern design that keeps pace with the times.

# key words:

Islamic interior design –Emotional Design –neuroarchitecture- space perception - Improving behavior.

# Introduction:

Islamic architecture is not related to the physical elements only, but also it takes into account the sensory, spiritual and emotional needs of the user <sup>(23)</sup>. The effective design [emotional or sensual] is a bridge between the internal space and the user in which human emotion plays a prominent role as an influencing factor in the way to deal with the space, it seeks to enhance the emotional effectiveness of things and that is based on the complete understanding of the user and his ambitions. Design seeks to provoke a set of emotional responses that push the user to be attached to the place, accept his idea or move away from it and reject the idea and concept, In order to achieve this, the interiors must include the human values that affect the design, as well as studying and understanding the conditions and behavior of the consumer and the recipient in society, and researching the social and cultural aspects of design, as well as meeting physiological needs <sup>(11)</sup>.

Islamic architecture was famous for its interest in the human being and considered him the center of design, so it was interested in satisfying the spiritual side that saturates his mind and

soul as well as the material side that meets his physical needs, as the elements of interior design represent stimuli for the user's senses that affect his feelings and then guide his behavior.

### **Problem of research:**

#### The research problem is limited to the following question:

- 1. How does the user perceive the internal space around him?
- 2. How does the Islamic interior design affects the feelings of its users?
- 3. What are the elements of interior design that affect the behavior of its users?

4. How can one benefit from studying Islamic interior design and its effect on the user in designing a contemporary interior space that meets the needs of users and guides their behavior?

#### Hypotheses of research:

#### From the previous question, the researcher assumes the following: -

1. Islamic interior design positively considers user feelings.

2. The interior design in general and Islamic interior design plays a big role in refining user behavior.

3. The elements of Islamic architecture and interior design can be employed to produce contemporary models of interior design work that enhance user feelings and develop their positive behavior.

### **Objective of research:**

#### This study aims to:

1. Defining how the user perceives the interior design around him, and the its effect on feelings then the behavior in response to these feelings, how to exploit this in designing a space that enhances the feelings and directs behavior positively.

2. Emphasizing the importance of Islamic interior design as a source of inspiration to produce models for a contemporary interior design that meets the psychological needs of users and works to develop their behavior.

#### Importance of research:

# The importance of research lies in the following points: -

1. The importance of research comes from the importance of traditional Islamic architecture and interior design, which is an important source of architectural inspiration.

2. Emphasizing the importance of studying the psychological aspects of users of internal spaces and its role in improving their behavior.

3. Emphasizing the role of Islamic interior design in enhancing the emotions and feelings of its users.

#### limits of research:

• According to the place limits: Defined in the study of the spaces of the Islamic civilization in Egypt, Syria and Turkey.

• According to time limits:

Study models of Islamic architecture in the Mamluk, Ottoman and Umayyad eras.

# Methodology of research

•Descriptive and analytical approach through describing and analyzing models of Islamic architecture and interior design inside and outside Egypt in the Mamluk, Ottoman and Umayyad eras.

• The critical curriculum through critique and analysis of models of Islamic architecture and interior design inside and outside Egypt in the Mamluk, Ottoman and Umayyad eras.

# First: How the user perceives the internal space around him.



Figure 1 - Topogenetic Interactions (Josep Muntañola, date)

Second: The effect of interior design on user feelings It will be addressed through the following scheme: -



Figure No. (2) Characteristics of the sensory stimuli in the inner space pg. 151





Picture No. (12) of the Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmed Mosque) in Turkey shows the regular rhythms in the ceilings that are shaped like domes and which are amplified to form the peak rhythm in the central dome and then the dimensions of the surrounding domes are graduated, and the interior glass lamps are emphasized by circular rhythms The upper dome in the creativity and integration of architecture, natural and industrial lighting, which highlights feelings of reverence for the Creator, Source (38).



Models of industrial lighting units used to illuminate internal spaces in the Islamic civilization, source (24)

Third: The psychological impact of Islamic interior design on user behavior: -



Figure No. (4) for the types of pleasure achieved by the inner space, based on Patrick's plan for the types of pleasure, the researcher's planning

# 6. Results: -

a) Every elements of the inner space have a psychological and physiological effect on the viewer. Therefore, the designer must take into account these effects on the viewer during the design process, because they have an impact on the individual's feeling of contentment and happiness in order to affect his consciousness and shape his behavior so that the individual turns into a creative energy that elevates himself and his society.

b) By measuring the extent of emotional response, products can be designed to elicit a specific type of emotion.

c) Islamic interior design has the ability to satisfy the psychological, physiological, social and ideological aspects of the user, thus achieving comfort and happiness for the user due to the satisfaction of his needs.

# 7. Recommendations and proposals: -

a) It is recommended that psychological, physiological, social and ideological aspects should be taken into account when designing internal spaces.

b) The symbolic connotations of the interior design elements that are compatible with the user's thought must be taken into account.

c) The design of an internal space that fulfills the psychological needs and enhances its positive feelings has a role in directing the individual's behavior towards creativity.

d) The previous pleasures are achieved and a person feels the fulfillment of all or most of these human needs and generates positive feelings for him to have a mutual dialogue between the body, the mind and the emptiness. This positively affects the skills, intellectual, cognitive and emotional processes, developing creativity and finding solutions skills, and then motivation and creativity.

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