

Study of Islamic Values of Architecture and Interior Design of the Mosque between Heritage and Contemporary

Dr. Amara Elsayed Abd Alazeem Elsayed

Lecturer in interior design and furniture department - Faculty of Applied Arts - 6th of October University

Eng.amera.elsayed@gmail.com

Summary:

The mosque is the center of spiritual and scientific radiation and the starting point of the call for the religion of the righteous God. Since the Prophet of God laid the stone of his foundation. The architecture of the mosque is the memory of the nation and its cultural history, in which the hearts of Muslims are united to worship God alone and have no partner. In its framework, there is a focus on morals and data that determine the behavior of Muslims religiously, morally and socially. It is from this point of view that the construction of mosques has been taken into account, considering the importance of architecture that reflects Islamic civilization. This led to the development of the building of the mosque to meet requirements and needs of the era, the front of the mosque which contains the school and the center of the memorization of the Quran and the hospital as a result of trying to meet requirements of the era. The spread of Islam in the West played its part in producing a distinct architecture for contemporary mosques.

Also emerged in the contemporary period new directions and patterns in the architecture and interior design of mosques, which differ from the traditional mosques, whose model was influenced by a set of Islamic contents and values that contributed to its final crystallization, which is the source of Islamic architecture, hence the problem of the research is in asking several questions, including: Has contemporary architecture been able to maintain the achievement of Islamic contents and values for the construction of mosques? The research aims at discovering contemporary trends and the extent to which they achieve Islamic values affecting architecture and design. The research concluded that our Islamic religion did not reject development, also Islamic architecture was a model of flexibility and assimilation of many different civilizations and cultures.

Keywords:

Islamic values - contemporary trends - contemporary mosques.

Research problem:

The lack of the original architectural identity of the mosque, which is governed by the contents and values stemming from Islam - which cannot be overlooked - in some modern architectural models of the mosque, which also have an impact on its interior design, as a result of contradictory contemporary intellectual trends in the design process. The research raises several questions:

- 1- Can contemporary design trends preserve the Islamic contents and values of the mosque's architecture and interior design?
- 2- How can bridges of communication be extended between the origins and contents of our Islamic values and contemporary design trends?

- 3- What is the extent of continuity of the architectural and design concept of the traditional mosque, with its elements and functions?
- 4- What are the most important values and principles governing the inspiration of Islamic architecture to design a contemporary mosque?

Research goal:

Discover the contemporary trends and the extent of their realization of the Islamic contents and values affecting architecture and interior design of the contemporary mosque.

Research hypotheses:

Integrating Islamic values and contemporary trends and applying them in designs that can express our Arab-Islamic identity as they are characterized by renewal and innovation.

Research Methodology:

The research follows the descriptive and analytical approach to study Islamic values, as well as the most important contemporary trends in design and analysis of contemporary mosque models.

Introduction:

Intellectual pluralism and acceptance of the other is the human goal, and since prayer is the mainstay of the Islamic religion, and the mosque is the physical entity that contains the rite of prayer; The mosque architecture throughout history - with its diversity, uniqueness, and compatibility with the requirements of life through the diversification of the architectural elements of the mosque - has represented a clear example of the concept of intellectual pluralism. Thus, the architecture of the mosque is a precursor to adopting this concept, which is evident from tracking the historical and contemporary development of mosque architecture in various countries of the world.

And one of the most important issues facing architects and designers in Islamic societies is the issue of renewal and rooting in architecture and interior design, especially the architectural formation of the mosque with all its concepts of heritage, contemporary and civilized continuity. In order for the designer to be able to root his new work, there is no escape from development to respond to the changing and renewed needs of societies, and if time does not stop at a certain limit, it moves with various technical and living variables, then this must be balanced and linking heritage with contemporary in support of its continuity. It is never possible to be satisfied with life inside the ancient past separate from the present. Likewise, man cannot grow outside his origins without an identity, and therefore it was necessary for the Islamic civilization to live its present relying on its original identity in a contemporary spirit, hence the role of the architect and the interior designer in extending bridges of communication among our heritage, and Islam, with all its values, contents and contemporary trends, as our Islamic religion is suitable for every time and place, as well as our Islamic architecture, which is characterized as a flexible and open architecture that has been absorbed by many civilizations and cultures and harmonized with it, preserving the values of Islam stemming from them.

2- The most important considerations to keep in mind when designing a mosque:

2-1 The rectangular horizontal plan is considered one of the best projections in general, and it is predominant in most built mosques, and it is generally noted that the longest side of the mosque is parallel to the qiblah wall, because it gives it confirmation of the direction of the qiblah.

2-2 The prayer house is directed towards the direction of the qiblah (the Grand Mosque in Makkah), while the rest of its elements are directed according to its purpose, so that it does not affect the design efficiency of the mosque. Also, consideration must be given to emphasizing the direction of the qiblah using various architectural means, while clearing the qiblah wall of any openings at the level of view of the congregation.

3-2 Simplicity and the realization of the meaning of serenity, tranquility and impartiality shall be taken into account in the internal formation of spaces, as well as the external formation of the mosque, with an emphasis on the meanings of height, sublime and sovereignty in the general formation of the mosque.

4-2 Provide the number of entrances and doors appropriate to the area of the mosque, and to choose their places where entry and exit is easy, and without leading to the worshippers' necks, as well as completely isolating the entrance of women from the entrance of men.

5-2 The worshiper needs a net area of 1 square meter, and the total area of the mosque varies according to the type of service it provides, and thus it is estimated by the number of worshippers, in addition to the level of services required.

3- Elements of the mosque:

Among the most important architectural elements of the mosque that clarify the meaning of the word mosque are: the qibla wall, the pulpit, the ablution, and the minarets




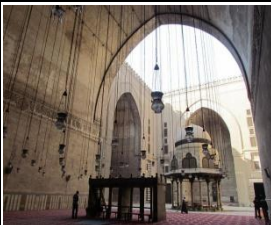


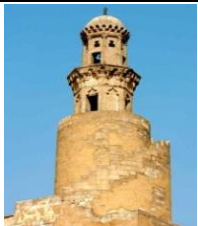
Elements of the mosque		
 <p>Photo 1: The main elements of the mosque</p>	<p>The main prayer hall - the minaret - the pulpit - the qibla</p>	<p>Major components</p>
 <p>Photo 2: The main elements of the mosque</p>	<p>Mosque nave - ablution places - toilets - women prayers</p>	<p>Complementary items</p>

Table 1: Mosque elements. At the discretion of the researcher

4- The most important Islamic values affecting the architecture and interior design of the mosque.

4-1 Islamic values

Values differ according to the different civilizations that adopt them. The Islamic civilization has fixed values and does not change. "Islamic values" are the values derived from the Qur'an and the Prophet's Sunnah, and within the framework of these values the standards of behavior and etiquette between people are defined, and relations between them are organized on the basis of cooperation, brotherhood, consultation, equality, respect and good manners. The Brothers of Purity say: "All beings are of two types: physical and spiritual, so the physical is what is perceived by the senses, and the spiritual is what is perceived by the mind, and imagined by the thought." These are values that are intangible but perceived by the mind [2].

The Method Of Realizing Value			Explain The Value	The Value
 <p>PICTURE 5: (THE MIHRAB), WHICH IS A SYMBOL OF THE SACRED PART, THROUGH WHICH THE MUSLIM CAN CROSS INTO THE HIDDEN WORLD.</p>	 <p>PICTURE 4: "MADRASA AND MASJID OF SULTAN HASAN" (AL-MIDA'AH) TOPPED BY A DOME CARRIED BY EIGHT PILLARS, AND IT SYMBOLIZES (THE ANGELS ARE THE EIGHT BEARERS OF THE THRONE)</p>	 <p>PHOTO 3: THE DOME IS FROM THE INSIDE OF THE DOME OF THE ROCK AND IT BEARS SPIRITUAL CONNOTATIONS OF CONTAINMENT.</p>	<p>Muslim Architectural Use Of Architectural Elements That Carry Spiritual Meanings (The Design Of The Minaret And The Domes, The Outer Lines Of The Dome And The Minaret Suggest Sublime And Height As Well (The Exposed Courtyard And Its Emphasis On The Absence Of A Screen Or A Barrier Between The Servant And His Lord).[1]</p>	The Value Of Spirituality
<p>PHOTO 8: AL-RIFAI MOSQUE. THE ENTRANCE WAS USED IN THE MAMELUKE ERA AS A SYMBOL</p>	 <p>PICTURE 7: THE UNIT OF ARCHITECTURAL FORMATION AND INTERIOR DESIGN OF THE</p>	 <p>PHOTO 6: THE MINARET OF THE MOSQUE OF AHMED IBN TULUN POINTS</p>	<p>Unity Is A Dominant And Clear Feature In Islamic Architecture, In Which The Unity Of God Comes, And Through That Unity The Achievements Of Islamic Architecture Emerged. "Islamic Architecture Is Being Called The Term (Unity</p>	The Value Of Oneness



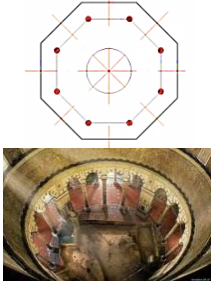



 <p>FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE FORMATION</p>	<p>QALAWUN GROUP (SCHOOL - THE MAUSOLEUM - THE BIMARISTAN), WHICH IS DERIVED FROM THE DOCTRINE OF MONOTHEISM.</p>	<p>TO THE SKY IN THE GLORY AND SUBLIME TOWARDS THE UNITY OF THE CREATOR.</p>	<p>Architecture).</p>	
 <p>PHOTO 11: THE ABLUTION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE HORIZONTAL PLAN OF THE MOSQUE OF AMR IBN AL-AAS.</p>	 <p>PICTURE 10: THE MEDIAN VALUE IN THE DESIGN OF THE MOSQUE PLAN. THE SACRED ROCK IS THE CENTER OF THE DESIGN.</p>	 <p>PHOTO 9: THE OPEN COURTYARD OF THE SULTAN HASSAN SCHOOL AND MOSQUE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ABLUTION.</p>	<p>Moderation In Plastic Values In Architectural Work. The Mediation Between The Extravagance Of Complex Architectural Falsifications And The Absolute Abstraction Of Forms.</p>	<p>The Value Of Moderation</p>

Table 2: The most important Islamic values for mosque design, at the discretion of the researcher

5- An analytical study of the most important contemporary mosque architecture models and the extent to which they achieve the most important values and contents of Islamic architecture.

Central Mosque	Algeria Mosque	Basona Mosque
		
<p><u>The value of oneness:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The architect took two of the basic elements of the mosque and tried to create his architectural idea and forgot that the mosque's elements are complementary to each other and act as one unit, thus an architectural formation similar to another architectural building was resulted. 	<p><u>The value of oneness:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unified the entire formation of the mosque with all the annexes of the mosque in terms of the center of events and social life. [6] ▪ The pointed arches indicate the transcendence and presence of the Creator. 	<p><u>The value of oneness:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unit of formation: Design the mosque as a single engineering object, to be appreciated from the inside and the outside. [5] ▪ Minaret: The design of the minaret that points to the sky is an indication of the existence of the One Creator.
<p><u>The value of spirituality:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The architect tried to preserve the spiritual and moral content of the mosque, but the shape was modern and does not resemble any shape of the early Islamic mosques. ▪ The dome has a completely 	<p><u>The value of spirituality:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All religious elements such as the qibla wall, the mihrab and the pulpit have been incorporated into a hall with modern aesthetics. Similar to the architecture of traditional Islamic houses of worship. The central dome, which indicates 	<p><u>The value of spirituality:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mihrab: The mosque's mihrab was designed in a contemporary way, but preserved the existence of the mihrab that achieves the spiritual meaning by moving the soul from the material world to the spiritual world

different shape from the traditional mosque dome, which symbolizes containment.	containment and tranquility. ▪ The use of color tones in the interior design that have spiritual connotations.	to prepare for prayer. ▪ The central dome, which indicates the containment and its center, indicates the unity of the Creator.
<u>The value of moderation:</u> ▪ The use of modern building techniques and materials and their inclusion in the design of the mosque to make it clear that it is beneficial to use technology, but on the condition that it conforms to the architectural content of the mosques.	<u>The value of moderation:</u> ▪ Not to exaggerate or to be excessive in the decorative elements or in the design elements. ▪ Moderation in choosing material materials, as the outer cover of the mosque is made of natural stone.	<u>The value of moderation:</u> ▪ The central design, we find the central dome, which is in the middle of the horizontal plan. ▪ Moderation in the use of raw materials.

Research results:

1- The Muslim architects respected the requirements and Sharia regulations that were brought by the Islamic Sharia regarding the architecture of mosques because they are the houses of God on earth, and dealt with them while looking at the content and the realization of Islamic values in design. Therefore, the architects' search for content and values was the basis for the search form, and not the other way around.

2- One of the most important values that had a great impact on the architecture and formation of the ancient mosque are: the value of spirituality - oneness - moderation, and their realization in contemporary models of mosque design has led to the continuity and sustainability of the architectural and design concept of the traditional mosque, but with a contemporary spirit that keeps pace with the developments of our current era.

3- The value of moderation is keen not to exaggerate or not to become manifestations of extravagance, as well as not to exaggerate asceticism, whether it is in the design thought - the decorations - the economic cost - the used materials.

4- Realizing the value of pluralism, creating a positive relationship with history and heritage, and making use of it in achieving designs that bear the characteristics and contentions of the Islamic heritage and its values. The most important characteristic of Islamic heritage is flexibility and openness, and from here it is possible to extend bridges of communication between our heritage values and contemporary trends.

5- According to the most important contemporary trends, some contemporary architectural models of the mosque succeeded when they adhered to the Islamic content and values and tried to express them in a contemporary way, but some of them came far from the identity of the mosque and did not express the connotations of the mosque, in order to ignore the true content of Islamic architecture and rely on the form only.

Recommendations:

- 1- Colleges and institutes specializing in design studies - inculcating the values of Islamic heritage in their curricula, and training students on how to reconcile the constants of the heritage content, the requirements of the intellectual and technological era and contemporary trends.
- 2- Consolidation of Islamic principles and values for the design of the external and internal spaces of mosques in design laws and regulations, in order to ensure their application, within the contemporary design process, to preserve the Islamic identity of the mosque.
- 3- At the level of the designer and researcher, Islamic architecture in general and mosque architecture in particular must be dealt with as a historical heritage for documentation, analysis and development, and work on its extension across the ages to link it to the present and the future in a contemporary form for every time and place, and each of them has to be aware of the importance of the role of Islamic heritage values and contemporary values and how to integrate them in the design process.

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