

## **The interior spaces of the public baths as talking heritage buildings**

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### **Abstract:**

This study sheds light on the uniqueness of the design of the traditional folk baths from the rest of the architectural buildings, where they are easy to identify, as they can often easily define themselves, whether by their architectural structure and the unique design of their interior spaces, or by the cultural heritage they contained and produced that made those buildings lively and speaking buildings. And a rich historical legacy with a lot of architectural and social culture. However, there is a lack of interest in the public baths and its neglect as a cultural and historical heritage, and a lack of attention or consideration when designing the public baths that are currently being developed to borrow and draw inspiration from the philosophy of designing the interior spaces for it, which formed as one of the pillars of its identity, and we try in this study to highlight some of the design features The public baths, and some of the living heritage they produced, in an attempt to contribute to the preservation of this national and local culture, in addition to recommending that the interior design thought be directed at the present time to be one of the types of speaking formations and have an architectural identity and personality, not repetitive concrete blocks that do not achieve the functional and cultural dimension And the aesthetic of society, in light of modernity and globalization, of deformation, distortion and extinction.

### **Keywords:**

The talking architecture - the traditional folk baths architecture - a living cultural heritage.

### **The Introduction:**

In practice, architecture and interior design of facilities is the design and construction of buildings and various types of them motivated by protection or prevention and meeting the needs of society, while in reality facilities and buildings are not design drawings, floor space, walls, floors, ceilings, bricks, stones, etc. It is formally and functionally different from others, you can distinguish it from the surrounding buildings, you feel that it is buildings that have tongues that speak for themselves and define themselves, their identity, their history, their historical stories and their memories, until sometimes it comes to know the area or the street and sometimes the city because of its origin with a unique architectural identity and personality, and at other times despite the change of its features or the building completely changed, it

remains engraved in the public's minds the stories and memories of this building circulating through the generations and it is told about it and formulates popular proverbs The legends are the fabric of his heritage, culture, customs and rituals, and among the most important and famous architectural buildings that speak and have a well-established identity throughout the different ages are the "buildings of the popular baths".

#### **Research Problem:**

- Lack of interest in the popular bath as a cultural and historical heritage, as its internal spaces are constituted as one of the pillars of identity and related to a history and civilization that has a place that we should not talk about in the past tense and be content with, which requires preserving it and continuing to adapt it from what is happening in light of modernity and globalization of deformation, distortion and extinction.

#### **Research Importance:**

- A study of what the internal spaces of the traditional folk baths that combine the material heritage in terms of the philosophy of the individual design of those establishments of a special nature and requirements in terms of providing privacy, tolerating extreme humidity and heat, providing physical and psychological comfort, and the moral heritage on several cultural images that included poetry, singing, dancing, customs and traditions of the bath, ideas and feelings that were passed down through generations with knowledge, traditions, proverbs and stories, which were shown by the so-called bath literature, which immortalized the memory of the place and its identity being linked to Its oral traditions, social practices, and health and environmental benefits.

#### **Research Hypotheses:**

- The internal spaces of the public baths include the integrated system to achieve identity.

#### **Search goal:**

- Shedding light on some of the features of the design of the popular baths, and some of the living heritage that it produced, in an attempt to contribute to preserving this national and local culture, providing our societies with values that contribute to shaping public awareness and ensuring its continuity as a feature of our national identity, in addition to directing the thought of interior design now to be of the types of speaking formations and have an architectural identity and character, not repeated concrete blocks that do not achieve the functional, cultural and aesthetic dimension of society.

#### **Research Methodology:**

The study used the historical method: in listing the architectural elements of the traditional Islamic folk bath, and some of the poetry, proverbs, stories and legends produced by these facilities, which made it a solid cultural entity to the present time as something developed and changing through the ages and through contact with different cultures.

- I also used the descriptive analytical approach: where this approach aims to analyze the studied phenomenon, and after completing the study of this phenomenon, we make comparisons between it and another phenomenon and then extract a result.

**Results of the study:**

- The public baths occupied a great place in the social life of many societies and throughout the different eras and successive civilizations, and established for itself a distinct architectural identity and personality that distinguishes it from the rest of the architectural establishments. In the cultural aspect of many societies, it is an integral part of the culture of these societies.
- The folk bath culture played an important role in supporting and transmitting the rich intangible heritage of gastronomy, songs and poems, as well as rituals for cleansing and beautifying the body, as it is considered a cultural heritage not only from the historical and architectural point of view, but also in terms of its social and cultural aspects.
- The popular bathhouse is currently affected by contemporary social change and changing living conditions, and this is evident in the neglect of the remaining historical baths, or in the loss of the newly created popular baths of any historical character or architectural and cultural identity..

**Recommendations:**

- The competent institutions in the country should conduct courses or advertising campaigns to educate the community and its members about the importance and role of the public bath in our civilization, our history and its cultural heritage, and how to preserve this civilizational and cultural heritage and work on its development and benefit from it in tourism investment.
- He also recommends encouraging the owners of existing public baths to develop and modernize them to resist time and its innovations and to compete with modern health clubs and beauty centers that are widely spread in prestigious places.
- It also recommends the restoration and maintenance of closed public baths, and the return of their architectural elements that have disappeared, as they are considered among the facilities of heritage value, similar to what is being done in other countries.
- The interior designer should develop design proposals for how to draw inspiration from the existing historical popular baths as a living architectural and cultural heritage, where the unique architectural elements, social traditions and rituals, in the design of popular baths developed in a contemporary way to coexist with the current societal conditions and work on their sustainability.

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