

**Higher Education and Scientific Research
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Urban Prediction - Towards a New Generation to Redevelop the Arabic- Islamic City

A Thesis Submitted to
The Council of the College of Engineering - the University of Baghdad in partial fulfillment
of requirements for the doctorate degree in philosophy in
Architectural Engineering Sciences

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Abstract:

Architecture, beyond its self-discipline has its objective reality when human deals with it according to several well-known scientific methods. However, those methods showed a deficit in some respects. They did not extend to treat many of the moral aspects of the human being, whether the source of knowledge or at the level of integrated scientific method that looks beyond the mind and experience. It was obvious, that the ideas proposed by the Islamic thinking do meet this need, and do fill the knowledge and systematic gap, which architecture dramatically needs in its intellectual, philosophical and moral levels, particularly in how to take advantage of the past intellectual and philosophical treasures all together with the nature of the present, that's to learn, explore and crafting knowledge towards predicting the future of the Arabic-Islamic city.

So, the absence of Islamic civilization model in urban & architectural contemporary production is diagnosed as the **general problem** of this research. The **special problem** of this research will be recognized as the separation or the departure of the architectural contemporary thinking from the Islamic intellectual thesis space (of the Holy Quran and the Biography of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH). Such Islamic thoughts, philosophies and arguments are very much needed to provide a theoretical framework or mechanisms to form urban design theories to achieve urban development. The **research problem** was a lack of urban prediction to (predict) the clear vision to activate the forward-looking approach of the future urbanity of the contemporary Arabic-Islamic city.

The **research hypothesis** is trying to activate the integrated prospective approach as an essential part in the systematic architectural and urban thinking. The integrated prospective approach is a must because it precedes the mono methodologies (the rational or the empiricism methodologies) in dealing with the prediction of the future of the contemporary city, towards the crafting of a futuristic Islamic city. In the other hand the Islamic model is a human model which can migrate over times and can influence other civilizations.

The objective of this research is to put a framework of knowledge about contributing to the revival of the Islamic civilization project model as a global model that adopts human dimension in its intellectual and physical essence of the city of the future. The research also or a mechanism which can emerge from the Islamic aims to investigate a methodology doctrines to diagnose and extrapolate the intellectual features of urban design in the Islamic city of old. And thus access to the mechanisms that can predict the future of the city and the human being it contains, to rehabilitate and reconstruct the physical environment of Arab and Islamic society and the basis of its structure (Human), according to the values that distinguished the Arab Islamic society from other civilizations, and to booting the Islamic humanitarian futuristic city globally rather than regionalism.

To do so, the research represents to develop the use of methods of future studies. The research tries to contribute effectively in developing the public awareness for the importance of exploring and formulating visions and scenarios for the future of Arab-Islamic city, and the city of Baghdad in particular. The research in integrated methodology uses the interaction of the deductive and inductive and predictive approaches, and reached in:

Chapter I to highlight the role of Prospective knowledge to complete Rationalism and Empiricism knowledge, and the possibility of benefit at the level of urbanization **and to present the concept of the Islamic humanitarian urbanism as a world-wide style to serve mankind.**

Chapter II reaches to the need of using the integrated methodology of the comprehensive system (both objective and subjective and intuitive - or predictive) and the emergence of a new role of the human nature and human intuition within the philosophy of the modern science as an important factor to effect architecture and urban design of the city. Architecture, having the ability of balancing between subject and object, can have the ability for intuition, forecasting and predicting. The research points the emergence of competitive behavior in designing the contemporary Arabic-Islamic city instead of cooperative behavior.

Chapter III reveals that the future predictions suggested by this research are not quite realistic and logical calculated forecasts within clear global system, but rather uncertain predictions based on the new methodology proposed by this research. No one can predict exactly the absolute unseen exact future but Allah almighty. This research is only balancing the possible scenarios to choose from according to its methodology. The study of futuristic strategies would become more important than the study of the futuristic city.

Chapter IV has concluded that the commitment to Shari'ah (Islamic doctrines) is a reason for the survival of urbanization, and the gigantism has a negative impact on the urbanism survival. And that heritage has a special value by having a potential energy capable to light up the future through developing possible scenarios in envisioning the future. One of the means to do so is the urban prediction.

While **Chapter V** reaches to the differences between built up cities and manufactured cities, which was that the growth of the built up city is gradual according to the human biological and sensational requirements, while the growth of the manufactured cities was sudden. A human could not accommodate the rapid transformations of this sudden growth, which did not meet the human psychological aspirations.

Thus, research has come in **Chapter VI** to the most important conclusions that give mechanisms to implement the predictive approach in urban output through cities built in eras of Islamic civilization. Such cities share much of the qualities and characteristics with cities built in the European Middle Ages; they all were humanitarian cities met the requirements of their inhabitants. European civilization has been able to transform those traditional urbanities to meet the requirements of the twenty first century. But this research deals with the possibilities to transform the city of Islamic architecture not only in-time to the 21st century, but rather a transformation in-place from local to global, "globally rather than regionalism", to present the humanitarian futuristic city according to the model of Baghdad in year 2050, (a specific model of Muslim urbanism gotten by raising the level of occupiers through improving the containing environment).