



Extended summary

The Foundations of Gardens Design, and environmental effects on Landscape In Cities between east and west, Analyzing and studying the green spaces in Aleppo city

*Curriculum: Analisi e Progetto dell'Architettura e del Territorio*

Author

Ahmad Nezam Tabakh

Tutor

Prof. Fausto Pugnaroni

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**Abstract.**

Must be maintained within green areas in the cities, and work to increase acreage to achieve a balance between population grown and the green spaces. The decrease and neglect of green areas causes negative effects on the social ties to the people of the city.

That environmental degradation increases with continued urban growth in urban areas; so that the proportion of random areas of growth areas in the cities of provincial centers amounted to 20%, home to about 32.45% of the population of these cities. The cities in Syria are gradually exposed to the risk of loss of identity and environmental, social and urban sprawl unfair to urban areas greenery.

It should be known that one of the most important problems facing the residents of Aleppo city is the lack of children playgrounds and gardens.

And in a deeper looking, we find that children gardens and playgrounds are one of the most important factors which effect on the awareness completing for the child and to satisfy his desires, while there are majority of Aleppo children who belong to the poor class spend their time sprawling streets and places that are filled with dirt and dangers.

Furthermore there is no model or a special style of the gardens in the big city which is the oldest in history, according to many international Statistics. A country that is considered as the cradle of civilizations and witnessed a lot of changes and cultural variations throughout history that made it a pretty similar to a mosaic panel contains many of the arts and colors.

The cultural heritage of Islam has long been evident in European science, art, literature and architecture, and Islamic gardens have played their part in this dynamic. Andrew Watson goes as far as to argue that botanic gardens may not have been a European invention, as was previously thought, Despite this, most of the existing gardens (not only in Aleppo but also in Syria) are made of unusual design that lack the beautiful Syrian traditional character.

**Keywords.** Landscape, History Of Landscape, Environment, Green space, Operating and maintenance of Gardens, Factors, public gardens, Climate, Water, Afforestation, Design Systems In Cities, Foundations, Urban land parks, Islamic Gardens and Environmental Ethics.

### **Objectives.**

Study and analysis of parks and green areas in the city and proposing solutions and recommendations

Put a Solutions and proposals by make a study for Conversion slums To environmental housing includes a lot of green spaces, and Rehabilitation of existing parksand the Gardens of the Western Region in the city.

After i have studied about the Syrian civilizations, i had a board background about the Syrian traditionals and cultures and thats will be the base which will help me to summarize all this knowledge in a garden design with the Syrian character par excellence and collect the rich heritage of this country with modern lines and materials.

### **Research planning and activities:**

First need to make an overall study on the landscape and the green spaces include all the aspects (definition, history, value of green, design systems, elation to mankind, factors impacts, afforestation, basis of design and planning, the uses of plants, vegetal totals, structural elements, watery elements, children's playgrounds, general services, Gardens types, operating and maintenance work, sustainably, what are the environmental problems and what is the role of the landscape) In addition to some examples of the world's Landscapes.

Perhaps the most important two civilizations that Syria have been affected by until the present time is the Islamic and Ottoman civilizations, so I made an overall study on the Islamic Gardens and the islamic environmental ethics, basis of islamic garden design, gardens elements, and reviewing some old and current examples of it.

### **Sources of study:**

I took this study information's from the following sources:

First: The primary sources : It is the data Surveys and my field study, in addition to the capital Secretariat data, and data of the High Commission for the Development of Damascus and the Publications of the Ministry Municipal and Rural Affairs.

Second: secondary sources: includes books, periodicals, journals, research, and University messages , in addition to the websites available on the Internet.

### **Conclusion**



To improve the current conditions of the gardens in Aleppo under the given circumstances and to raise the awareness of its importance. The improvising of these decisions will provide suitable ground for the expansion of the gardens under the sponsorship and cooperations of both the city council and the citizens. Also, a long lasting appreciation to the importance of the trees in life considering the fact that everyone dreams of seeing Aleppo the way it was before with its orchards and groves that have influenced many poets and lovers. This dream is not impossible specially when it is taken in consideration that there are many areas in Aleppo that were named after the flower gardens and the vineyards that it contained before all this urban expansion occurred, such as: Bustan Al Kassr, Bustan Al Zahra, Bustan Al Basha, Karm Aldadaa' and Bustan Kol Ab. The translations of these names are: The Palace Orchard, The Orchard of the Flower, The Basha Grove, The Vineyard of Aldadaa' and the Grove of Every August. To encourage the cultivation and to revive and spread the civilization and protection of Jazmine flowers and roses considering the fact that it is an important part of popular memory stored and a tourist attraction.

With regard to the basic elements to improve the situation of green areas and parks, many elements should be provided, of the most important is the method of planning as well as the topography and the slant of land that have a very large impact in the choice of planning method. The other point is the formation which can be organic formation stemming from some natural forms that commensurate with the natural lines of the land and in harmony with its materials or to be an exemplary symmetrical geometric or asymmetrical where geometric shapes clearly intersect with other important elements to form green areas such as color, movement and touch and its differences and space and contrast in its sizes. In any case, planning of green areas should fulfill one of the most important principles of diverse planning such as proportionality, balance and rhythm. If this speech is compared with the true reality of gardens in Aleppo, it can be argued that this does not correspond with reality properly.

### **Societal Cases:**

The Gardens in residential areas have a strong role in strengthening the social ties and connection between the population which fulfills the emotional belonging of the population towards the community and the common ownership of the place.

However, the current situation of the gardens that are being studied indicates that there is a huge gap between theory and application of urban spaces where they did not achieve their goal objectives and did not provide the opportunity for optional activities such as having a picnic, playing a sport and having social interaction.

The City of Aleppo contains a lot of ancient ruins treasure and is characterized by rich culture and has always been the forerunner to provide arts and scientists. Even with all the harsh living conditions Aleppo's inhabitants are known to be friendly, good and loving people. However, in the end of the day they can not find the place that meets the needs of a walk or a family reunion during the holidays. Therefore, they resort to the outskirts of the city and sometimes they end up sleeping on the streets and putting their children at risk. In addition to that, this results in harm to public property and leads to chaos and visual pollution in those areas. Unfortunately this scene keeps increasing on a daily basis specially during the weekend these roads become overly crowded which leads to noise pollution and air pollution and dumped waste.

Usually the majority of those who come to the outskirts of the western areas of the city are residents of the poor eastern areas. Here we find the need to rehabilitate these areas

and to make new plans for these areas with the consideration of the addition and the distribution of green spaces, which accommodate the needs of residents.

All this clearly calls for the formation of an inter-ministerial committee by each of the Ministries of Local Administration and State for the Environment , Agriculture and Agrarian Reform , Cultural and Tourism Administration and The Higher Education within the province of Aleppo to take action to transform a region into the first national natural park and to announce the area to be under natural and cultural protection just like the many of the capitals of the world .

#### **Commercial and crowded areas:**

As for the regions that lie from the old city and commercial areas, which is the lifeblood of the city, towards the western part of the city which is a very crowded and populated area. This makes it impossible to increase green space and fields in those areas, however it is possible to create a solution by increasing vegetation and green spaces within urban cluster using the idea of mobile gardens. Mobile Gardens are gardens designed using groups of plants planted in removable pots, which allows its direct use while still being able to transfer it at any time. This type of gardens can provide green areas in difficult circumstances by the use of fixed plants. Difficult circumstances could be: poor soil quality, lack of existence, in places where water is scarce, and in the regions under bad weather conditions in which plants cannot bear or in shady areas

#### **Other Recommendation:**

- To re-examine the subject of replacing the green bars on the main roads and the emphasis on the necessity of the existence of these green tapes.
- Develop an executive program to connect the gap between green areas which are contained in the organizational charts and the ones that are actually being preformed. This ratio of the previous implemented scheme in aleppo was only one to five of what was planed for individual.
- The province of Aleppo and Sheikh Najjar Industrial City should work to reduce the negative environmental impacts of the industrial city and the implementation of all phases of the proposed green belt on the charts around the industrial city during a specified period of time .
- To consider that the continuance encroachment of green areas and the silence about it is a crime against the environment which cannot be tolerated. It should be noted that it has been recently observed an increase in violatory activities, specificall in the area of Rabweh. Any observer can easily point out the dozens of violations that are currently being implemented, and the tender concrete walls in which its prepetrators are left without supervision or any accountability.
- Establish a national secretariat for the establishment and management of nature reserves and the protection of environmental and historical heritage along the lines of The National Trust and The Civilian Conservation Corps in the United Kingdom in which both protect what is considered a national asset on an environmental level, a natural heritage and the local life style .
- Record all natural sites inside and outside the cities to determine the detailed regulations in order to protect the animals, plant patterns and styles. Also to distribute environmental information which provides documents that monitors the subtle changes on the environmental balance. .

- To immediately cease all of the building permits on agricultural land until there is a final definition (not subject to misinterpretation) of rural house by both the Ministries of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and the local administration in order to adjust the urban activities over agricultural land in general.
- To benefit from the experiences of European countries in order to adopt the foundations of urban planning and take into account the strict environmental requirements that should be applied to all urban expansions in the country.
- To make a serious study based on the international experiences and expertise about the possibility of replacing the violating harmful buildings (such as the workshops and polluting industries) with agricultural areas similar to that which was originally located there. Replacing the violating buildings with new agricultural areas and building organized buildings that fit specific descriptions in other areas such as the suburbs since there are no green areas there.
- Adopt a policy of paid entering the city center, like International similar experiments. And focus on improving an eco-friendly public transport.

### Final word

It can be concluded from all above that the issue of green space in Aleppo is not a problem, but it can be solved if objective and scientific visions were adopted and was addressed urgently before it is too late and before it escalates and becomes more complex. By increasing the green areas in such city and adopting and proceeding with the directions of regional planning of Aleppo, which is Aleppo-centered, it is possible to raise the aesthetic value of the city, and to mitigate - if not say eliminate - the effects of extreme environmental pollution, and upgrading of Aleppo to be a medium city and centralized transport complex of the country and its neighbors, attracting more numbers of tourists and for its residents to enjoy a healthy life with less burden of diseases, cancer and birth defects and to become among the "good cities".

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