

The role of the ethical act in the structure of typological and deconstruction architecture¹

Akram J. Al- Akkam²

Abdullah S. Salman Al-Maamory³

Abstract

The importance of the ethics concept in architecture as human act has emerged in the second half of the twentieth century through the philosophy of ethical values. It didn't take enough attention in the studies and researches in the theories of architecture. As the curricula philosophy of the Arab-Islamic which is rich in ethical concepts, did not provide a mechanism of simulation and application of those concepts in the architectural product in spite of the keenness of Arab-Islamic architecture to attend such Innately values, including a reflection of the values of the Muslim community in architecture as ethical act, but in a narrow and simplified way. While many of the contemporary western philosophical approaches, such as structural, poststructural and deconstruction had an effect in architecture by activating the West's ethic standing Western philosophical sense. In the absence of a clear vision of the concept of "ethical function of the architecture" in the architectural proposals, research problem has been identified in the need of scientific point of view to determine the role of the ethical act in the structure of the typological and deconstruction architecture.

Current research aims to explore the foundations of the role of ethical act in the structure of the typological and deconstruction architecture. It hypothesized that the structure of the typological and deconstruction architecture influenced by the ethical act.

In order to resolve the research problem and achieve its aim and hypothesis, hypothetical framework of ethical act and the structure of architecture of the typology and deconstruction was built. The research depended upon the descriptive analytical method, the observation check list as testing way, six projects as a research setting, and three phases of survey that lasted six months approximately. The semantical scale and T- test program by applying SPSS statistical tool were used.

Results showed the effectiveness of variables of the rational ethical act in the structure of the typological architecture that represented by; formal elements derived from historical types, the adoption of local materials which are sustainable and recycling, privacy by increasing the proportion of solidity for walls, unity, coherence and harmony between the architectural elements of the formal composition, historical or heritage standardized, architectural formal references, abstraction mechanism through minimizing and formal Shorthand, the average ratio guidance of the orientation and the formal proportion of horizontality and verticality, simplicity and clarity in the axes of movement and spatial zoning, and cohesion of formal building with the environmental skin and the building structure.

¹ For the paper in Arabic see pages (297-326).

² Ass. prof. of architecture Dept. of architecture, college of engineering Applied science university, Amman

³ lecturer in architecture Dept. of architecture University of Technology, Baghdad.

Also, the results demonstrated the effectiveness of the variables of irrational non-ethical act on deconstruction architecture represented by; using twisted, irregular, and unfamiliar forms, non-hierarchically and inhuman scale in building the formal elements, restless, unstable and inexact formal relations, challenging unity, harmony, order and stability between the architectural elements of formal composition, heterogeneity, deconstructing and asymmetry, non-harmony with nature and beaten the spatial dimensions, depending the abstraction mechanism by minimizing and modification, ambiguity and complexity of the movement axes and spatial zoning, deconstructing and isolated of the formal building from the skin and structure.

The conclusions revealed that the commitment of ethical act in dominance of fundamentals of the historical formal rules, relations and references in order to achieve the continuity and communication in typological architecture, and to free non-ethical act by striking rules, relationships and formal historical references of deconstruction architecture.

To sum up this investigation, the role of ethical act in architecture varied between rationality of the adoption of positive ethical values that represented by the elements, relationships and the formal rules of the structure of the typological architecture, and irrationality of the adoption of the immoral and negative values that freedom from all forms of formal or a functional commitment of the structure of deconstruction architecture.
