

The importance of saving Built spaces in the regional environmental concepts¹

Nadia Muhammed Basir²

Summary

-Separation between the housing and industrial space in the Sixties of the 20th century and growth of luxury have caused an increase of traffic means as well as extension of roads between the two spaces to a large extent. This, in turn, has led to a tremendous pollution in the air. The increment rate exceeded in the seventies the acceptable levels, applying immense pressure on the environment and natural resources. That caused the emergence of environment protection thoughts, and later, a Law has been issued (UVPG)(Umweltvertraeglichkeitspruefung); it was extended by adopting construction regulations including an item for Earth protection; these regulations refer to economy in the utilized areas of the earth and to protect them confirming protection and development of natural life basics .

Since housing is the greater part of construction which leads to those environmental problems, the writer conceives that one of the main causes for this phenomenon is the overwhelming of materialist concept of life and mastery of the shape of the modern house which depends on many spaces for the purpose of material luxury of individual and his spontaneous requirements. The Solution lies in returning to the big family house pattern and the concept of space recycling.

The aim is to create rules to be followed by architects for economical compound building designs. This aim is to be achieved by confirming economy houses pattern within new environmental planning and joining them to Islamic concepts, and confirming the concept of economy in internal Spaces, through a comparison between new houses and traditional ones.

¹ For the paper in Arabic see pages (75-114).

² Adrss. Department of Building Construction, Damascus Uneversity.