Future Heritage
UIA's <u>Responsibility</u>

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Abstract

"ALL THE WORLDS... JUST ONE WORLD" a successful choice to be a theme for UIA2020, because it reflects the state of the world and aims to develop visions to change this situation. This is what motivated me to put forward my vision about the future through this paper entitled "Future Heritage | UIA's Responsibility".

Identity is an intangible, while culture is its expression through their products. Some of these valuable products will be a timeless, and then be a Heritage. So heritage and especially architectural heritage is the product of culture, and it is a witness to the civilization that was at the time of its creation.

The architectural heritage of the world has gone through many stages and has been subjected to a variety of dangers, which has led many to endeavor to prepare studies on how to preserve, conserve and protect it, in a variety ways. But, we are still dealing with what is currently a heritage. So what about our responsibility for the heritage of the future? Which will be a witness to the civilization of our present?

According to studies and applications presented by the researcher, we can define our responsibility as architects or institutions, especially UIA which must work to establish a methodology to work towards achieving the goal "ALL THE WORLDS, JUST ONE WORLD".

This responsibility defines the recommendations that the researcher concluded to move from a state of competition to integration, some are for UIA and others are for the Heritage WP.

"ALL THE WORLDS... JUST ONE WORLD"

This is a successful choice to be a theme for UIA congress 2020, because it reflects the state of the world and aims to develop visions to change this situation. This is what motivated me to put forward my vision about the future through this paper entitled "Future Heritage | UIA's Responsibility". The paper is related to the first and third tracks, and specific the real mean of "Diversity & Inequalities". The main goal of this event is how we can to be a "ONE World", and preserving our mixtures of cultural which expresses the diversity of identities. Therefore we need to focus on the social dimensions of architecture and urbanism, and define our responsibility towards the worldwide challenges in confronting urban vulnerabilities and inequalities.

We have a worlds, and we target the future to achieve our aim that to be one world. So, if we do something valuable today, it will be a Heritage in the future. This is our responsibility, UIA's responsibility.

IDENTITY, CULTURE, HERITAGE & CIVILIZATION

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The architectural heritage of the world has gone through many stages and has been subjected to a variety of dangers, which has led many to endeavor to prepare studies on how to preserve, conserve and protect it, in a variety ways. But, we are still dealing with what is currently a heritage.

So what about our responsibility for the heritage of the future? Which will be a witness to the civilization of our present? In other words, what is our responsibility towards the civilization of the present...?

Future Heritage

A strategic action on developing a new vision for dealing with heritage that transcends the boundaries of preservation or re-use and re-function, to create a good atmosphere and maximize the capacity to produce a heritage for the future.

This strategy works on a number of axes, starting with how to integrate between the work programs, and motivating those working in this scope, to achieve finally our goal.

Do we really want to be one WORLD...?

From here we must begin, we have to study whether the world is managed in a way that could lead us to be one world. We will find that, the most important report which evaluate and ranks around 141 countries, from the economy level of productivity. This report entitled "Global Competitiveness Report". The report relies mainly on competition, through 12 pillars includes 103 indicators (70 % of weight based on hard data and 30% is based on surveys).

Countries are competing in education, services, and all economic indicators. How can we imagine that they could become one world? If we go a little further, we will find that wars and conflicts are basically part of this competition, and unfortunately these things affect all areas of life.

The matter goes beyond the aspects that follow international institutions, and up to the behavior followed by individuals, companies and countries, even in the architectural and urban aspects. The strongest and clearest example is the race for the tallest tower or largest mall...! We compete in every formality, and we strangely move away from value. (Fig. 1)
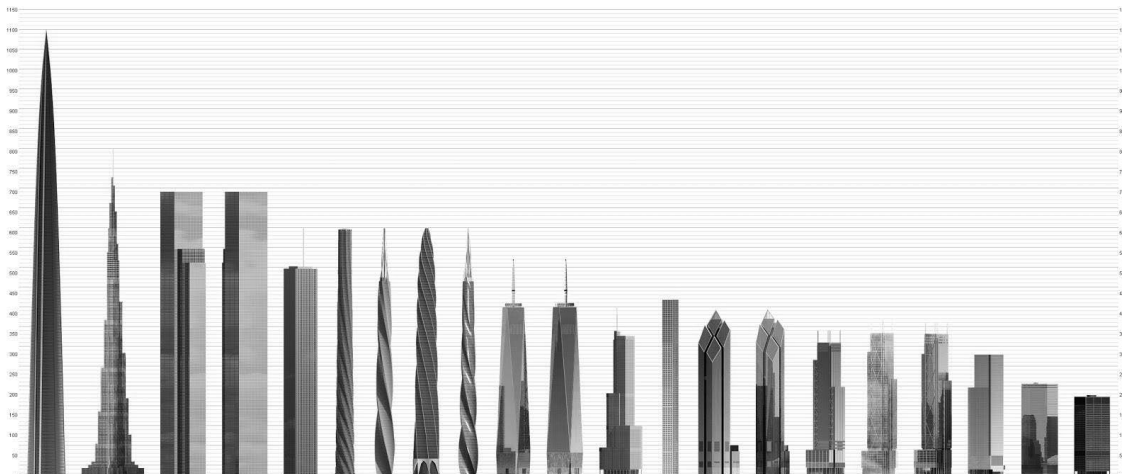

Figure 1. "KINGDOM TOWER, WORLDS TALLEST BUILDING IN THE WORLD."

Globalization and Identity..

A Gap between Concept and Application
Concept of globalization is still straying among two groups. First one claims that this enormous development in science, technology and the spread of culture, would not happen without the act or role of globalization. While the other group accused globalization of destroying national and cultural identities, and fragmenting states and entities of weak and poor countries and the dominance of the consumer culture as well. Now, identity is used as a trading commodity, and becomes a superficial, and sometimes, sarcastic value. Until the gap between the concept and application become deeper than we can imagine.

A dialogue between the concepts of globalization and identity had begun, until it reached conflict level. As globalization seeks towards unity and stereotypes, while identity adopts the defense of pluralism and diversity.

That conflict reached that globalization seeks to eliminate any boundaries and different peculiarities. In contrast, identity seeks to recognize the world of differences and refuses to melt. So, will this conflict continue...? And will it continue to be a collision? Or is it possible to deal with that equation in another way that provides investing the advantages of globalization without blurring privacy that is represented by identity..?

"Architecture of globalization" & "Architectural Globalization"

Architecture is directly linked to globalization, which has many influences, whether professionally or structurally. That link extended to include architectural education. Globalization gave architects the opportunity to practice their profession or design projects outside their own countries, and also to participate in same project at the same time. Moreover, they can use the same techniques and materials in different countries. While in education field, and by developing means of communication, it becomes easy to learn and virtually communicate online, in addition of teaching the same curriculums and accrediting internationally of local certificates, with the opportunity to continue education in other different countries. In the shade of that, an interactive conflict began between developing countries seeking to have benefit of the experiences of civilized countries to develop their countries, and civilized countries targeting to find job opportunities for their citizens and a market for their products, under the claim of transferring their experiences and discoveries to developing countries.

If this phenomenon has begun under the title of "Architecture of globalization", which means, that this kind of architecture is one of the globalization products, and this title has many disadvantages, than is necessary to turn this title to the "Architectural Globalization" to be more precise. It is a completely different; as it depends on skipping the stage of being just a product, to become an approach and philosophy which can lead those around it to other areas that have many of the pros and cons. This needs to be handled very carefully to avoid risks while seizing opportunities, which needs to set a group principles, resolutions and orientations. Means that we need to put a "charter" to find a way to deal with architectural globalization and its tools.

Vision & Experience

Vision depends on how to move from a state of competition to integration, between the fields related to the field of heritage with its broader definition, which goes beyond dealing with it and as a set of effects.

A group of working groups has been identified that are directly related to the production of a cultural product, and how it deserves to be a heritage in the future.

Working groups interact in the form of matrix with four basic classifications, namely, "Identity - Cultural Product - Heritage - Civilization". And the working groups are those that specialize in the fields of (child - education - practice - culture), which can be in cooperation with each other, but we have become an urgent need to move from cooperation to integration.

Researcher has a number of experiments in this file, from which he chose three to present his vision. The idea of how the experiment is one of the four activities and begins to interact to positively affect the various fields as set in the attached figure. (Fig 2)
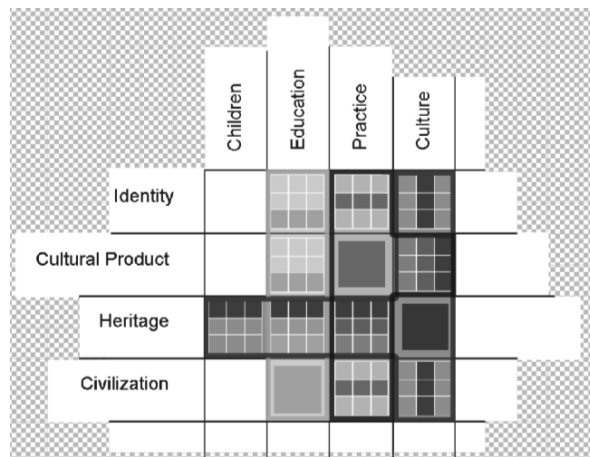

Figure 2. "Author"

1- FAR "Future Architect's Role"
"Education"

It is an educational course, taught by the researcher at the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University. This course is introduced to the students of architecture, urban design and planning. It is an incentive course parallel to the design course and integrated with the others subjects. The course takes a form of interactive training, it aims to discover the importance of architectural education and it is impact on the quality of life. In addition in which how the architect has a responsibility exceeding the architectural dimensions. It is the architectural responsibility to the World, all fields of life and Era challenges. More over how the student can recognize the future role of architect, and to be ready for this through his studies.

The course aims to provide the student with the main knowledge about the bond between architecture and other disciplines, and enhancing the student's scientific skills in learning the architecture and the future direction of the world, to be ready to face era challenges in architectural life.

The course aims to achieve a set of concepts, which help in building the idea of integration, and depends mainly on discussion, and democracy institutionally in the classroom is the method used to manage the course.

The main goal of the course is to build future architects who are able to integrate, and to be step for achieve the aim of "ALL THE WORLDS, JUST ONE WORLD".

The very important in this course is "Future", through knowledge and understanding, students will be able to understand how to shift methodologically from teaching to learning, to know the position of the Dramatic facing the labor markets in the future, especially those who are studying now, and the relationship of architecture (teaching and occupation) to the future of the labor market in the world.

On other hand through intellectual skills, students will be able to define their role and decide how to develop their skills, and Analyze projects problems effectively and be creative problem solvers, with analyzing the evolution and practice of their job.

In the end, the course targets the word civilization, and how the future architectural role is to create a situation that deserves to be civilization.

2- Celebrating World Heritage Day
"Culture in the area of Heritage"

For five years, the researcher organized a celebration with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina for the World Heritage Day. The researcher chose the slogan "Future Heritage" for this year's celebration (2019), which included a group of activities between the fields of (children - education - practice - culture), and the two work programs, the first is AH-CI "Architectural Heritage - Cultural Identity | Egypt, and the second is Architecture and Children | Egypt. The ceremony was included a two of workshops, the first under the title "Future Heritage" and the second is "Heritage for Children". In addition to with a seminar in which specialists in the four fields mentioned before.

The event aims to bring real integration between the fields of children and heritage, and come up with products and recommendations that emphasize the importance of working integrally.

This experience is a good application for the future heritage vision. An architectural project aimed to revive a distinct heritage by restoring this heritage to be a cultural product again. This experience was recognized nationally and internationally, as the initiation of a number of awards took place, including the Baku Prize which was organized by the UIA.

The idea relied on building with the traditional methods used by the people of the region in the past, while developing it with advanced science. We built using pots from pottery, and using the concept of vaults & domes method. In addition to the participation of the local community in all stages of the work, with the aim of working to produce architecture "cultural product" that deserves to be a heritage in the future.

Figure 3. "Using pottery in build the visitor center | Author"

Figure 4. "Interior of visitor center | Author"

Figure 5. "It is my cultural product & it will be a heritage in the future | Taken by Mahmoud Kamel Hassan"

Our Responsibility
Recommendation

From previous studies and applications, we can define our responsibility as architects and as institutions. The most important of these institutions is the UIA which must work to establish a methodology to work towards achieving the goal "ALL THE WORLDS, JUST ONE WORLD".
The question is how..?

The answer of this question is the recommendations that the researcher concluded:
- At a time when many institutions adopt a competitive methodology, researcher proposes that the UIA have to adopt the methodology of integration at all levels. Such as defining files in which work programs and commissions integrate to work on. Like determine a set of SDGs to be the focus of work in successive phases of time.
- Motivating individuals and initiatives that work to achieve this vision, by offering awards to them.

- Heritage WP in the UIA adopt the file of the "Future Heritage" and invite the Architecture & children WP, and the commissions of Education and Practice to work together in an integral way.
- The researcher suggests that the heritage WP adopt the idea of preparing a future heritage charter during the next session 2020-2023. Giving a guidelines to help professionals, academics, students or any other stakeholders involved in the architectural product.
- Researcher emphasizes that charter must be dynamic, so that it has the ability to change in proportion of future. This future that we are building in the present and which takes into account the next future. It must also be flexible to adapt itself from one place to another and from time to time.

Endnotes

1. THE LEARNING GENERATION, 2017, the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity.

2. THE FUTURE FOR ARCHITECTS, 2011, Royal Institute of British Architects.

3. CHARTER UNESCO /UIA FOR ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION. (2017).

4. Global Competitiveness Report 2019, the World Economic Forum.

5. Architectural Globalization – Non- Spatial identity, Hamdy EL-Setouhy, Next Magazine, Oct. 2016.